

November 19, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Biweekly Notice Coordinator

FROM: Brian Benney, Project Manager, Section 2 */RA/*
Project Directorate IV
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PUBLICATION IN BIWEEKLY FR NOTICE -
NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT
TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO
SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION,
AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING (TAC NO. MB6684)

Energy Northwest, Docket No. 50-397, Columbia Generating Station, Benton County,
Washington

Date of amendment request: October 22, 2002

Description of amendment request: The proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications (TS) to change TS Section 5.0, "Administrative Controls," to adopt Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) -258, Revision 4. The proposed changes would: (1) revise TS Section 5.2.2, "Unit Staff," to delete the details of the staffing requirements and delete the requirements for the Shift Technical Advisor (STA) as a separate position while retaining the function, (2) revise TS Section 5.5.4, "Radioactive Effluent Controls Program," to be consistent with the intent of 10 CFR Part 20, (3) revise TS Section 5.6.4, "Monthly Operating Reports," to delete periodic reporting requirements for main steam safety/relief valve challenges to be consistent with Generic Letter 97-02, "Revised Contents of the Monthly Operating Report," and (4) revise TS Section 5.7, "High Radiation Area," in accordance with 10 CFR 20.1601(c). A new TS Section 5.3.2 would be added to incorporate regulatory definitions for the senior reactor operator (SRO) and reactor operator (RO) positions.

Basis for proposed no significant hazards consideration determination: As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. The proposed change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change is an administrative clarification of existing TS requirements which clarifies and modifies administrative controls in the areas of operator staffing requirements, working hour limits, STA position, Radioactive Effluent Controls Program, periodic reporting requirements for relief valve openings, and radiological control requirements. These changes do not impact the operation, physical configuration, or function of plant equipment or systems. These TS revisions do not affect analysis inputs or mitigation for analyzed accidents and transients. Therefore, the proposed amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

2. The proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The proposed change does not involve a physical alteration of the plant, add any new equipment, or require any existing equipment to be operated in a manner different from the present design. The proposed change does not introduce any new modes of plant operation or make any changes to system setpoints. Therefore, the proposed amendment does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. The proposed change does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The proposed change is administrative in nature and does not involve physical changes to plant structures, systems, or components (SSCs), or the manner in which these SSCs are operated, maintained, modified, tested, or inspected. The proposed change does not involve a change to any safety limit, limiting safety system setting, limiting condition for operation, or design parameters for any SSC. The proposed change does not impact any safety analysis assumptions and does not involve a change in initial conditions, system response times, or other parameters affecting any accident analysis.

For these reasons, the proposed amendment does not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.

Attorney for licensee: Thomas C. Poindexter, Esq., Winston & Strawn, 1400 L Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20005-3502

NRC Section Chief: Stephen Dembek

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