

January 9, 2003

Mr. J. V. Parrish  
Chief Executive Officer  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968 (Mail Drop 1023)  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT  
RE: DELETION OF PHYSICAL SECURITY PROGRAM REDUNDANT  
REPORTING REQUIREMENT (TAC NO. MB6685)

Dear Mr. Parrish:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 183 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 for the Columbia Generating Station. The amendment consists of changes to the operating license in response to your application dated October 22, 2002.

The amendment deletes the reference to Section 2.E in Section 2.F of Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 relating to the physical protection program reporting requirement.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Brian Benney, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 183 to NPF-21  
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

January 9, 2003

Mr. J. V. Parrish  
Chief Executive Officer  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968 (Mail Drop 1023)  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT  
RE: DELETION OF PHYSICAL SECURITY PROGRAM REDUNDANT  
REPORTING REQUIREMENT (TAC NO. MB6685)

Dear Mr. Parrish:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 183 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 for the Columbia Generating Station. The amendment consists of changes to the operating license in response to your application dated October 22, 2002 .

The amendment deletes the reference to Section 2.E in Section 2.F of Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 relating to the physical protection program reporting requirement..

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Brian Benney, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 183 to  
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC GHill (2)  
PDIV-2 Reading VOrdaz  
RidsNrrDlpmPdiv (WRuland)  
SDembek  
RidsNrrPMBBenney  
RidsNrrLAEPeyton  
RidsOgcRp  
RidsAcrsAcnwMailCenter  
WBeckner  
BJones, Region IV

**ACCESSION NO.: ML030100189**

OFFICE	PDIV-2/PM	PDIV-2/LA	NSIR/MTW	OGC	PDIV-2/SC
NAME	BBenney:rkb	EPeyton	GSmith	AFernandez	SDembek
DATE	12/11/02	12/10/02	12/19/02	01/07/03	01/09/03

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

Columbia Generating Station

cc:

Mr. Rodney L. Webring (Mail Drop PE04)  
Vice President, Nuclear Generation  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Mr. Dale Atkinson (Mail Drop PE08)  
Vice President, Technical Services  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Mr. Albert E. Mouncer (Mail Drop 1396)  
Vice President, Corporate Services/  
General Counsel/CFO  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Thomas C. Poindexter, Esq.  
Winston & Strawn  
1400 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Chairman  
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
P.O. Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

Mr. Bob Nichols  
Executive Policy Division  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 43113  
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

Mr. D. W. Coleman (Mail Drop PE20)  
Manager, Performance Assessment  
and Regulatory Programs  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Ms. Lynn Albin  
Washington State Department of Health  
P.O. Box 7827  
Olympia, WA 98504-7827

Ms. Christina Perino (Mail Drop PE20)  
Manager, Licensing  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Harris Tower & Pavilion  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Chairman  
Benton County Board of Commissioners  
P.O. Box 69  
Prosser, WA 99350-0190

Senior Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
P.O. Box 69  
Richland, WA 99352-0069

ENERGY NORTHWEST

DOCKET NO. 50-397

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 183  
License No. NPF-21

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by Energy Northwest (licensee) dated October 22, 2002, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment.

3. The license amendment is effective as of its date of issuance and shall be implemented within 60 days from the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*/RA/*

Stephen Dembek, Chief, Section 2

Project Directorate IV

Division of Licensing Project Management

Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Operating  
License

Date of Issuance: January 9, 2003

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 183

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21

DOCKET NO. 50-397

Replace the following page of Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 with the attached revised page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains vertical lines indicating the areas of change.

REMOVE

10

INSERT

10

- D. Exemptions from certain requirements of Appendices G, H and J to 10 CFR Part 50, are described in the Safety Evaluation Report. These exemptions are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and are otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, these exemptions are hereby granted pursuant to 10 CFR 50.12. With the granting of this exemption the facility will operate, to the extent authorized herein, in conformity with the application, as amended, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission
- E. The licensee shall fully implement and maintain in effect all provisions of the Commission-approved physical security, guard training and qualification, and safeguards contingency plans, including amendments made pursuant to provisions of the Miscellaneous Amendments and Search Requirements revisions to 10 CFR 73.55 (51 FR 27817 and 27822) and to the authority of 10 CFR 50.90 and 10 CFR 50.54(p). The plans, which contain Safeguards Information protected under 10 CFR 73.21, are entitled: "Columbia Generating Station Physical Security Plan," with revisions submitted through July 5, 2001; "Columbia Generating Station Guard Training and Qualification Plan," with revisions submitted through July 5, 2001; and "Columbia Generating Station Safeguards Contingency Plan," with revisions submitted through July 5, 2001. Changes made in accordance with 10 CFR 73.55 shall be implemented in accordance with the schedule set forth therein.
- F. With the exception of 2.C(2) the licensee shall report any violations of the requirements contained in Section 2.C of this license within 24 hours by telephone and confirm by telegram, mailgram, or facsimile transmission to the NRC Regional Administrator, Region V, or that administrator's designee, no later than the first working day following the violation, with a written followup report within 14 days.
- G. The licensee shall notify the Commission, as soon as possible but not later than one hour, of any accident at this facility which could result in an unplanned release of quantities of fission products in excess of allowable limits for normal operation established by the Commission.
- H. The licensee shall have and maintain financial protection of such type and in such amounts as the Commission shall require in accordance with Section 170 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to cover public liability claims.

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 183 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21  
ENERGY NORTHWEST  
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50-397

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated October 22, 2002, Energy Northwest (the licensee) requested changes to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 for the Columbia Generating Station (CGS). The proposed changes would delete the physical protection program reporting requirement from License Condition 2.F.

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

The changes proposed by the licensee will modify License Condition 2.F to remove the burden of duplicate reporting requirements. Specifically, this proposed request will delete the reference to License Condition 2.E from License Condition 2.F.

License Condition 2.E identifies the plans which describe the NRC-approved program for physical protection of CGS. These are the Columbia Generating Station Physical Security Plan, the Columbia Generating Station Guard Training and Qualification Plan, and the Columbia Generating Station Safeguards Contingency Plan.

Included in License Condition 2.F is the requirement to report violations of the requirements contained in License Condition 2.E, the license condition for the physical protection program. The physical protection program has specific reporting requirements located in Section 73.71 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) and Appendix G of 10 CFR Part 73. The reporting under License Condition 2.F is duplicative and not specific to the physical protection program. To remove this duplicate reporting requirement, the proposed change deletes the referral to License Condition 2.E from License Condition 2.F.

3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION

Deleting the reference to License Condition 2.E from License Condition 2.F eliminates the reporting requirement under License Condition 2.F for violations of the physical protection program plans. The physical protection program has specific reporting requirements located in 10 CFR 73.71 and Appendix G of 10 CFR Part 73. The reporting of violations of the physical

protection program plans under License Condition 2.F is duplicative, and consequently, unnecessary. The deletion of this reporting requirement will not affect the requirements for maintaining the physical protection program in accordance with the NRC-approved physical security, guard training and qualification, and safeguards contingency plans. Therefore, the staff finds the proposed change acceptable.

#### 4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Washington State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

#### 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment relates to changes in recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

#### 6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: Brian Benney

Date: January 9, 2003