

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 5, 2003

Jerry North, Esq. Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt Pacwest Center, Suites 1600-1900 1211 Southwest Fifth Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204-3795

RE: <u>Durabrake Company, L.L.C. v. Energy Northwest</u>, Case No. 02-2-00857-4,

Benton Co. (Wa.) Superior Court; NRC File No. TR-03-04 (Declaration);

NRC File No. TR-03-05 (Testimony or Deposition).

Counselor:

The Office of the General Counsel has received your letter dated May 2, 2003, seeking both the testimony of and a Declaration by Mr. George Replogle, an NRC employee, for use in the above-captioned litigation. This Office has assigned two processing numbers to your request: "TR-03-04" to your request for Mr. Replogle's Declaration and "TR-03-05" to your request for his testimony at trial. Please refer to the appropriate number in any future correspondence regarding this matter.

As we discussed last week, the General Counsel has approved Mr. Replogle's signing a revised Declaration as worded in the attached copy. Accordingly, this letter closes NRC action on File TR-03-04.

Mr. Replogle has advised me that he has a vacation scheduled for late June, either the week of or the week before trial. In addition, the General Counsel does not routinely give permission for employees to testify at trial. However, the General Counsel may approve a deposition in lieu of an appearance at trial if the requesting party agrees to the conditions that (1) the deposition be conducted at or near the employee's duty station, and (2) you provide the NRC a copy of the deposition transcript at no cost. If the matter is continued for trial and you still desire Mr. Replogle's testimony, please so advise me at the earliest possible date. The General Counsel will then review your request.

Charles E. Mullins Senior Attorney

Enclosure: As stated.

cc: George Replogle Karla D. Smith, Esq.

1 2 3 4 5 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON 6 FOR THE COUNTY OF BENTON DURABRAKE COMPANY, L.L.C., (formerly known as DURAMETAL BRAKE 8 COMPANY, L.L.C.) a Washington limited No. 02-2-00857-4 liability company, 9 DECLARATION OF Plaintiff, GEORGE REPLOGLE 10 11 ENERGY NORTHWEST (formerly known as WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY 12 SYSTEM), a municipal corporation and joint 13 operating agency of the State of Washington, Defendant. 14 15 I. George Replogle, hereby certify and declare under penalty of perjury as follows: 16 I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration and I am 17 1. otherwise competent to testify. 18 I am the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Senior 2. 19 Resident Inspector at the Columbia Generating Station in Hanford, Washington. 20 I have reviewed the letter dated January 31, 2002, from counsel for Energy 3. 21 Northwest to counsel for Durametal Brake Company, which is attached as Exhibit A to this 22 Declaration. I see in that letter where the statement is made that: "... Energy Northwest has 23 determined that in order to demonstrate compliance with the NRC's regulations and continue 24 to operate Energy Northwest's nuclear facility, it is necessary for Energy Northwest to 25 terminate all of its leases with third-parties operating within the exclusion zone." 26

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DECLARATION OF GEORGE REPLOGLE - 2

- 4. I have also reviewed the letter dated January 28, 2002, from Energy Northwest to the NRC, which is attached as Exhibit B to this Declaration. In that letter, Energy Northwest set out in detail what corrective steps it was committing to take in order to achieve compliance with NRC regulations. Termination of the leases of third-parties operating within the exclusion zone is not listed in that letter as a step which Energy Northwest believed was necessary to achieve compliance with NRC regulations.
- 5. I know for a fact that the licensee (Energy Northwest) improved their emergency preparedness controls and came into compliance with the regulations while the lessees (including DuraBrake) still occupied facilities in the Columbia Generation Station exclusion zone. The licensee's actions were reviewed during a supplemental NRC inspection from May 13, 2002 to June 6, 2002. See NRC Inspection Report 50-397/02-07.
- 6. In addition, I am personally aware of at least one other nuclear facility where a non-licensee related entity is occupying space in the owner controlled area (where the same rules apply as for exclusion zones) and that licensee is currently in compliance with the applicable NRC regulations.
- 7. I know that, as an alternative way to achieve compliance, Energy Northwest decided to exclude all non-licensee entities, such as the lessee (DuraBrake) in this case, from the exclusion zone or owner-controlled area.
- 8. I know, because of my direct involvement with the relevant issues, that the NRC did not suggest or require that Energy Northwest terminate these leases in order to maintain compliance with the NRC's regulations. Energy Northwest could have taken measures to remain in compliance with the NRC's regulations without terminating the leases.

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C. Addrneys at Law U.S. Bank Centre, Suite 3500 1420 Fifth Avenue Sestie, WA 95101-1397 Telephone (205) 622-1711

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2 .	THE LAWS OF THE STATE	OF WASHINGTON THAT TH	E FOREGOING	STRUE
3	AND CORRECT.	•	,	- 11102
4	DATED in	, Washington this	day of	. 2003.
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7	George Replogle			
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DECLARATION OF GEORGE REPLOGLE - 3

SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C Altorneys at Low U.S. Bank Centre, Suitz 8500 1420 Frith Avenue Seattle, WA 99101-1397 Telephone (205) 622-1711