

January 24, 2007

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

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER
2006-03, "POTENTIALLY NONCONFORMING HEMYC AND MT FIRE
BARRIER CONFIGURATIONS" (TAC NO. MD1565)

Dear Mr. Parrish:

By letter dated June 9, 2006, Energy Northwest responded to U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Generic Letter 2006-03, "Potentially Nonconforming Hemyc and MT Fire Barrier Configurations." Under oath or affirmation, you stated that Columbia Generating Station does not rely on either the Hemyc or MT fire barrier system. You submitted documentation under oath or affirmation that other 1 or 3-hour fire barrier that separates redundant safe shutdown trains located within the same fire area have been designed and installed in accordance with current NRC guidance. Based on your response, the basis for stating that the other fire barrier has been designed and installed in accordance with NRC guidance should be maintained on site, and will be subject to inspection during the normal NRC inspection process.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please contact me at (301) 415-2296.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Carl F. Lyon, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

cc: see next page

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ACCESSION NUMBER: ML062850088 *Previously concurred

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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Columbia Generating Station

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