

December 11, 2006  
GO2-06-154

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: **COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION, DOCKET NO. 50-397  
NOTIFICATION OF DEVIATION FROM BOILING WATER REACTOR  
VESSEL AND INTERNALS PROJECT (BWRVIP) PROGRAM ELEMENT**

Reference: Letter dated May 30, 1997, Carl Terry (Chairman, BWRVIP) to Brian Sheron  
(NRC), "BWR Utility Commitments to the BWRVIP"

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to notify the NRC of a deviation from a BWRVIP program element. This is a notification only and no action from the NRC is being requested. This notification is provided in accordance with the goals, objectives, and products of the agreements between the BWRVIP organization and the NRC described in the referenced letter.

The BWRVIP Program implementation guidelines provide guidance to ensure the consistent application of BWRVIP guidelines by member utilities. When Energy Northwest does not implement any portion of an applicable "mandatory" or "needed" BWRVIP guideline that has been approved by the BWRVIP Executive Committee, we will notify the NRC and BWRVIP within 45 days following our approval of the deviation's disposition.

The deviation is from a "needed" element of the BWRVIP program. The needed element is performing examinations in accordance with BWRVIP-03 "*BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Reactor Pressure Vessel and Internals Examination Guidelines*" and the specific guidelines found in the individual inspection and evaluation documents for each component.

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<b>BWRVIP Document</b>	<b>BWRVIP Requirement</b>	<b>Exception</b>	<b>Alternate in Lieu of</b>
BWRVIP-03 <i>"BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Reactor Pressure Vessel and Internals Examination Guidelines"</i> BWRVIP-138 <i>"Updated Jet Pump Beam Internals Inspection and Flaw Evaluation Guidelines"</i>	The needed element is performing examinations in accordance with BWRVIP-03 and the specific guidelines found in the individual inspection and evaluation documents for each component.	BWRVIP-03 requires a vendor to demonstrate their inspection technique for detecting flaws on BWRVIP supplied mockups. General Electric (GE) was not able to detect three of the flaws in the BWRVIP mockup jet pump beams.	In lieu of performing this demonstration, GE performed an alternate validation of the technique using their own set of mockup jet pump beams and provided a white paper and technical report on the ultrasonic (UT) validation of their technique.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this matter, please contact Mr. GV Cullen, Licensing Supervisor, at (509) 377-6105.

Respectfully,



DW Coleman  
Manager, Regulatory Programs  
Mail Drop PE20

cc: BS Mallett – NRC RIV  
RF Kuntz – NRC NRR  
NRC Senior Resident Inspector/988C  
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