



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

May 9, 2007

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

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH ENERGY NORTHWEST REGARDING  
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATIONS END-OF-CYCLE ASSESSMENT

Dear Mr. Parish:

This refers to the end-of-cycle meeting conducted at Richland, Washington, on May 1, 2007, between the NRC and your staff. The participants discussed performance at Columbia Generating Station for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2006.

The attendance list is enclosed with this summary (Enclosure 1). A copy of the NRC presentation slides is also enclosed (Enclosure 2) along with a copy of the Energy Northwest presentation slides (Enclosure 3).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claude E. Johnson". The signature is stylized and includes a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Claude E. Johnson, Chief  
Project Branch A  
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-397  
License: NPF-21

Energy Northwest

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Enclosures:

1. Attendance List
2. NRC Presentation Slides
3. Energy Northwest Presentation Slides

cc w/Enclosures:

Gary Robertson, Director  
Division of Radiation Protection  
Department of Health  
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Benton County Board of Commissioners  
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Robert Koch, Chair  
Board of Franklin County Commissioners  
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Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Federal Regional Center  
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Benton Franklin District Health Dept.  
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Mike Hammond  
Radiological Emergency Preparedness  
Section  
Chemical and Nuclear Preparedness  
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Office of Infrastructure Protection  
c/o FEMA Region X  
Department of Homeland Security  
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130 228th Street, SW  
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**NRC End of Cycle  
Public Meeting  
May 1, 2007**

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	PHONE
KEITH COOKE	MANAGER IS / CIO	IS	377-8334
Tom Lynn	PLM	EN	8407
Bill LaFramboise	Design Mgr	EN	4679
Bruce Bowen	ASSISTANT ENCLG GEN MGR	EN	4730
Jim COMPAS	V.P.	Westinghouse	623 512 6016
THOMAS CARTER	CPM	WESTINGHOUSE	412 374 5162
Inge Borland	Rad Protection Mgr	RP	8655
Louis CORROPASSI	Operations MANAGER	EN	2377
John Bekhazi	Maintenance Mgr.	EN	4660
Brent Ridge	Asset Manager	EN	8726
SOPHIA ATKINSON		Public	
Kerry Engbarth	CAP Supervisor	Perf. Improvement	4170
Paul Insera	PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT Mgr	Perf Improvement	8108
JIM ENGEBARTH	ASST TO VP Nuc GEN	Nuc GEN	4238
BARB LISK	Dist. Director, DOCHASTINGS		-
Joseph V. Parrish	CEO	EN	8031
A. VEGEL	D DRP	NRC	

**NRC End of Cycle  
Public Meeting  
May 1, 2007**

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	PHONE
Row Cohen	RESIDENT	NRC	2627
ZACH DURHAM	Sen Res Insp	NRC	2627
DOUG COLEMAN	Mgr, Regulatory Programs	EN	4342
Greg Cullen	Licensing Supervisor	EN	6105
Georgette Hammond	Admin Asst	EN	4222
DALE ATKINSON	VP NUCLEAR GENERATION /CNO	EN	4302
LORI WALLI	Admin Asst	EN	4149
GARL KING	Chemistry MGR	EN	4515
RICHARD COWCEY	<del>EN</del> Nuclear Engineer	WA DOH	(360) 236 3272
Claude E. Johnson	Branch Chief	DRP	(607) 917 1212
Scott OXFOLD	VP Tech Services	EN	4333
Huck Forrester	SECURITY	EN	2290
DALJIT S. MAND	Wt Manager	EN	4308
Brian Adami	Tech Services Mgr	EN	4472
Cheryl Whitcomb	VP Org Perf & Staffing	EN	4658
Brod Smallidge	Mgr CEMR	EN	8066
P Hoque	Outage Mgr.	EN	2A85
ABDUL KAHANBAR	ENB SEN MGR	EN	4496
Roberto Torres	QA Manager	EN	2359
Lillian Platon	Resident Richard		
Chantrel McDonald	Training Manager	EN	8379
Joe Frisco	Mgr License Renewal	EN	4078
Crystal Myers	NRC ASSISTANT	NRC	2112

# **Columbia Generating Station Annual Assessment Meeting**

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Reactor Oversight Program - CY 2006



Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region IV

Richland, WA

May 1, 2007

# **Purpose of Today's Meeting**

- A public forum for discussion of the licensee's performance
- NRC will address the licensee performance issues identified in the annual assessment letter
- Licensee will be given the opportunity to respond to the information in the letter and inform the NRC of new or existing programs to maintain or improve their performance

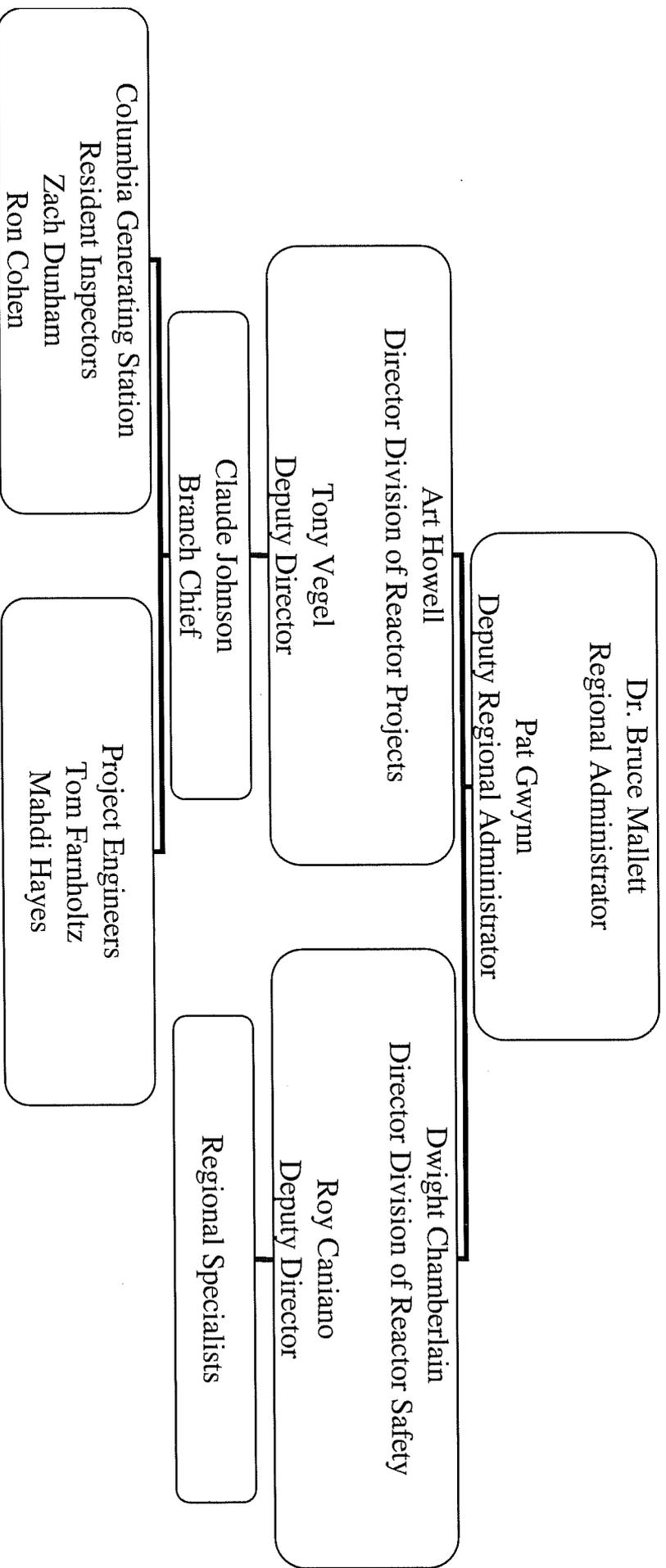
# Agenda

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- Introduction
- Review of Reactor Oversight Process
- National Summary of Plant Performance
- Discussion of Plant Performance Results
- Licensee Response and Remarks
- NRC Closing Remarks
- Break
- NRC available to address public questions

# Region IV Organization

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# **NRC Representatives**

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- Tony Veigel, Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects (DRP)
  - (817) 860-8291
- Claude Johnson, Branch Chief, DRP
  - (817) 860-8148
- Zach Dunham, Senior Resident Inspector
  - (509) 377-2627
- Ron Cohen, Resident Inspector
  - (509) 377-2627
- Crystal Myers, Administrative Assistant
  - (509) 377-2627

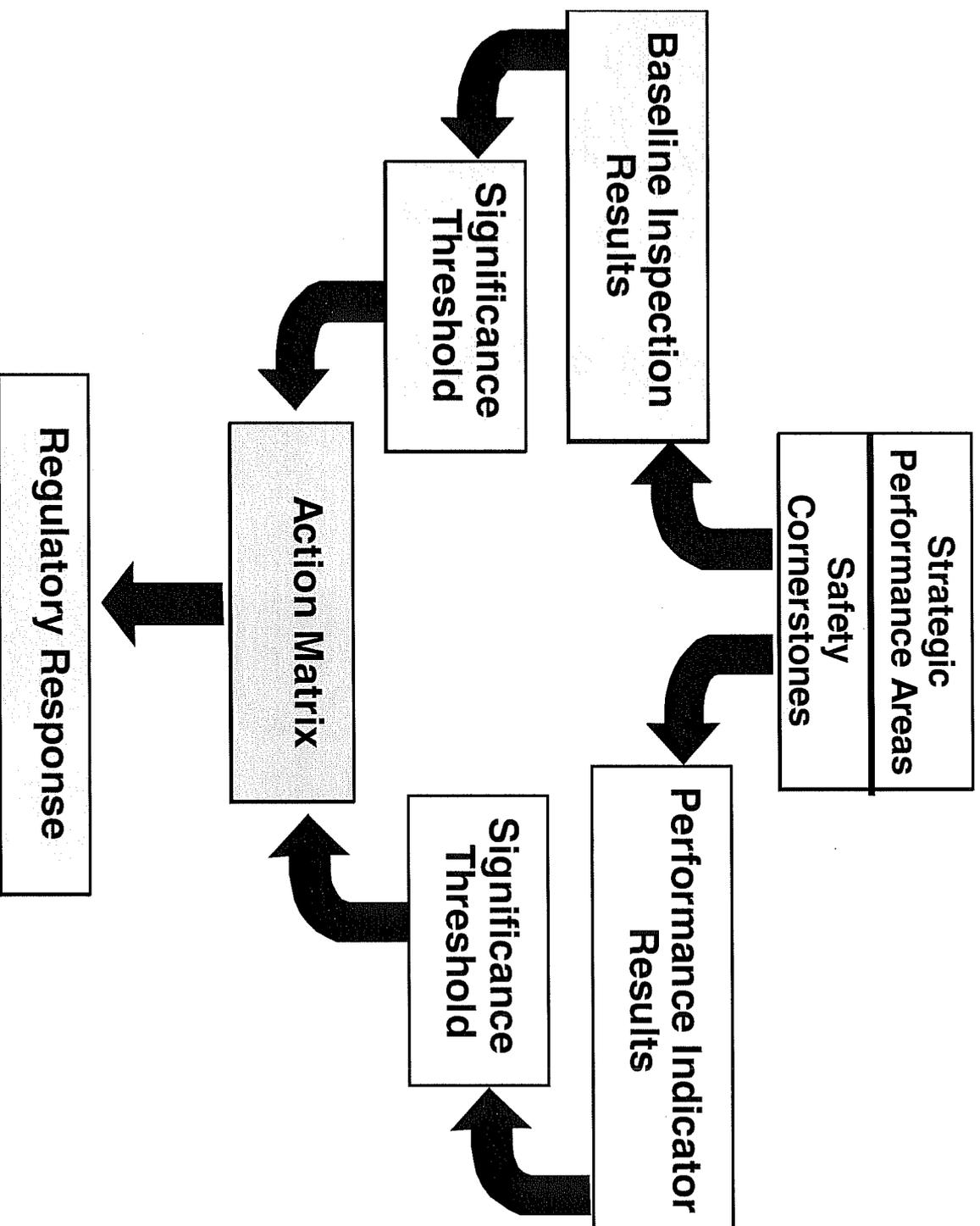
# **NRC Performance Goals**

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- **Safety:** Ensure protection of the public health and safety and the environment
- **Security:** Ensure the secure use and management of radioactive materials
- **Openness:** Ensure openness in our regulatory process
- **Effectiveness:** Ensure that NRC actions are effective, efficient, realistic, and timely
- **Management:** Ensure excellence in agency management to carry out the NRC' strategic objective

# Reactor Oversight Process

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## Examples of Baseline Inspections

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- Equipment Alignment ~80 hrs/yr
- Triennial Fire Protection ~200 hrs every 3 yrs
- Operator Response ~125 hrs/yr
- Emergency Preparedness ~80 hrs/yr
- Rad Release Controls ~110 hrs every 2 yrs
- Worker Radiation Protection ~90 hrs/yr
- Corrective Action Program ~250 hrs every 2 yrs
- Corrective Action Case Reviews ~60 hrs/yr

# Significance Threshold

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## Performance Indicators

- Green:** Only Baseline Inspection
- White:** May increase NRC oversight
- Yellow:** Requires more NRC oversight
- Red:** Requires more NRC oversight

## Inspection Findings

- Green:** Very Low safety issue
- White:** Low to moderate safety issue
- Yellow:** Substantial safety issue
- Red:** High safety issue

# Action Matrix Concept

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Licensee Response	Regulatory Response	Degraded Cornerstone	Multiple/Rep. Degraded Cornerstone	Unacceptable Performance
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**Increasing Safety Significance**

**Increasing NRC Inspection Efforts**

**Increasing NRC/Licensee Management Involvement**

**Increasing Regulatory Actions**

# National Summary of Plant Performance

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Status at End of CY 2006

Licensee Response	84
Regulatory Response	12
Degraded Cornerstone	4
Multiple/Repetitive Degraded Cornerstone	3
Unacceptable	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>

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# National Summary

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- **Performance Indicator Results (at end of CY 2006)**
  - ▶ **Green** 1843
  - ▶ **White** 11
  - ▶ **Yellow** 0
  - ▶ **Red** 0
- **Total Inspection Findings (CY 2006)**
  - ▶ **Green** 676
  - ▶ **White** 13
  - ▶ **Yellow** 0
  - ▶ **Red** 0

# **Columbia Generating Station Assessment Results**

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**(January 1 - December 31, 2006)**

- Licensee Response Column of the NRC Action Matrix
- No Greater Than Green Inspection Findings
- One Greater Than Green Performance Indicator in the First Quarter of the Assessment Period
- Supplemental Inspection Completed for this Issue

# **Columbia Generating Station Safety Significant Performance Indicators**

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- White Performance Indicator for Safety System Unavailability – High Pressure Injection System (HPCS)
- Inoperable Due to a Failed Air Deflector in the Motor Requiring Extensive Repair
- Supplemental Inspection Indicated an Acceptable Response

# **Columbia Generating Station**

## **Substantive Cross-Cutting Issues**

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- **Substantive Cross-Cutting Issues Potentially Affect Multiple Cornerstones**
- **Problem Identification and Resolution Cross-Cutting Issue - Closed**
- **Actions Taken by Energy Northwest were Effective in Addressing the Causes of the Substantive Cross-Cutting Issue**

# **Columbia Generating Station Inspection Activities**

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**(January 1 - December 31, 2006)**

- Resident Inspectors Expended Approximately  
2450 Hours Inspecting Columbia Generating  
Station in 2006
- Region Based Inspectors Expended  
Approximately 1830 Hours Inspecting Columbia  
Generating Station in 2006

# **Columbia Generating Station**

## **Inspection Activities**

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**(January 1 - December 31, 2006)**

- **Forced Outage due to a Failed Circuit Card in the Main Turbine Digital Electro Hydraulic Control System**
- **Triennial Fire Protection Team Inspection Conducted at the Columbia Generating Station**
- **Service Water Pump Inspection Conducted at the Columbia Generating Station**

# **Columbia Generating Station Annual Assessment Summary**

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**(January 1 - December 31, 2006)**

- Energy Northwest operated the Columbia Generating Station in a manner that preserved public health and safety
- All cornerstone objectives were met with only one White Performance Indicator identified (Safety System Unavailability – High Pressure Injection System (HPCS))
- NRC plans to perform baseline inspections at CGS

# **Licensee Response and Remarks**

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**J. V. Parrish**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Energy Northwest**

# Contacting the NRC

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- Report an emergency
  - ▶ (301) 816-5100 (call collect)
- Report a safety concern:
  - ▶ (800) 695-7403
  - ▶ [Allegation@nrc.gov](mailto:Allegation@nrc.gov)
- General information or questions
  - ▶ [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)
  - ▶ Select “What We Do” for Public Affairs

## Reference Sources

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- Reactor Oversight Process
  - ▶ <http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/index.html>
- Public Electronic Reading Room
  - ▶ <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm.html>
- Public Document Room
  - ▶ 1-800-397-4209 (Toll Free)



## ENERGY NORTHWEST COMMENTS

Dale Atkinson  
Vice President, Nuclear Generation  
May 1, 2007

## Discussion Topics

- ✦ Trek to Excellence
- ✦ Columbia Focus Areas
- ✦ Problem Identification and Resolution
- ✦ Plant Performance



## Trek to Excellence

- ✦ Trek to Excellence set to achieve top-quartile performance
- ✦ Focus Areas:
  - ▣ Human Performance
  - ▣ Equipment Reliability
  - ▣ Training Excellence - now Cobalt Reduction
- ✦ Behaviors are being shaped to achieve the desired results

## Human Performance

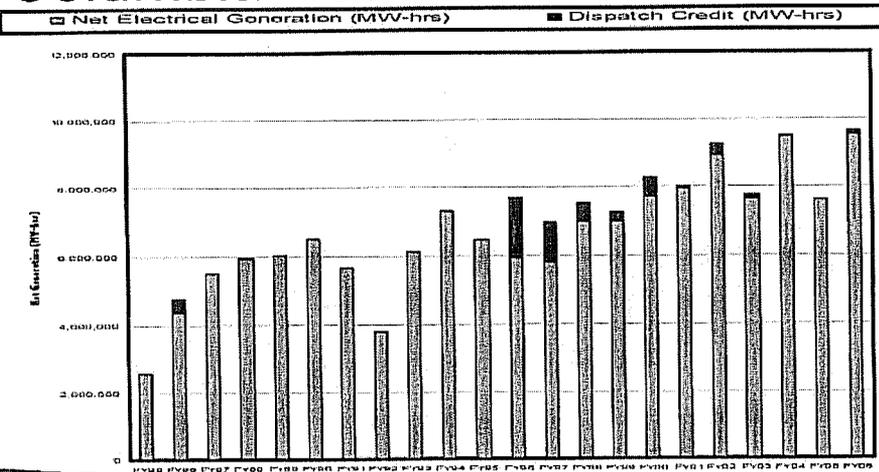
- ✦ Steady improvement in Human Performance Event Rate over the last two years
- ✦ Human Performance training on Error Prevention Tools (EPT) for all Energy Northwest and supplemental personnel

# Equipment Reliability

- ✦ Several key equipment upgrades and maintenance items resolved
- ✦ Significant resources and planning for important reliability improvement projects in refueling outage R-18
- ✦ Over \$100 million of plant improvements will be invested in fiscal year 2007



# Columbia Net Generation



## Training Excellence

- ✦ Improving operator knowledge and human performance - Operator High Intensity Training (HIT)
- ✦ 100% Initial License Exam pass rate
- ✦ Simulator Excellence Plan/Upgrades
- ✦ Maintenance and Technical Training re-Accreditation

## Problem Identification and Resolution

- ✦ Significant actions completed addressing operability and extent of condition evaluation
- ✦ Closure of PI&R Cross Cutting Issue
- ✦ Positive recent PI&R inspection

## Plant Performance

- ✦ Record longest run of 486 continuous days on-line
- ✦ 96.2% Capability Factor
- ✦ R-18 starts May 12 (Critical Milestones met)
- ✦ Backlog of corrective and elective maintenance items at all time low

## Summary

- ✦ Continued focus on Human Performance, Equipment Reliability, Training Excellence, and Cobalt Reduction
- ✦ Safe and reliable operation of Columbia Generating Station

