

July 13, 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 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION RELATED TO REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY PLAN CHANGE
(TAC NO. MD5325)

Dear Mr. Parrish:

By letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated April 18, 2007, Energy Northwest submitted a request to change the Columbia Generating Station Emergency Plan to replace the environmental and backup radiological laboratory capabilities in the Emergency Operations Facility with the Applied Process Engineering Laboratory as the designated backup environmental and radiological laboratory.

The NRC staff is reviewing your submittal and has determined that additional information is required to complete its review. The specific information requested is addressed in the enclosure to this letter. During a discussion with Ms. M. Eades of your staff on June 20, 2007, it was agreed that you would provide a response within 30 days of the date of this request for additional information. Please provide a clean copy of the revised emergency plan pages and/or sections with your response to ensure the staff's Safety Evaluation adequately documents the revised emergency plan.

The NRC staff considers that timely responses to requests for additional information help ensure sufficient time is available for staff review and contribute toward the NRC's goal of efficient and effective use of staff resources. If circumstances result in the need to revise the requested response date, 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

Enclosure: Request for Additional Information

cc w/encl: See next page

Columbia Generating Station

cc:

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127 W. Clark Street
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June 2007

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR EMERGENCY PLAN CHANGE

ENERGY NORTHWEST

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-397

- (1) What differences exist when identifying the capability as: a) backup environmental and radiological laboratory, or b) environmental and backup radiological laboratory?
- (2) Are these both being considered as backup capabilities or only the radiological function?
- (3) Is there written direction that authorized the Applied Process Engineering Laboratory (APEL) to exceed their radioactive materials license verbally?
- (4) If so, who provided this authorization and does a process exist to obtain verbal authorization at any time?
- (5) Who is responsible for notifying APEL that their services are required (e.g., though both the States of Washington and Oregon are designated as having laboratory capabilities, Washington State is specifically designated to notify Oregon; Reference Section 4.6.4)?
- (6) Section 2.2.3 states, in part, that one of the basis functions directed from the Emergency Operating Facility is to coordinate field sampling and analysis of radioactive materials from Columbia Generating Station. How will this be accomplished if the analysis is performed at APEL? Currently, APEL is not staffed 24/7 to support that function.
- (7) What backup environmental and radiological laboratory capabilities are available during non-routine working hours, weekends, and holidays at APEL?
- (8) In the proposed change to Figure 3-1, no mention of the backup environmental laboratory is designated. Please explain.