



**ENERGY
NORTHWEST**

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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 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 notifies 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 pursuant to the utility commitments 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-42-A "*BWR Vessel and Internals Project, LPCI Coupling Inspection and Flaw Examination Guidelines.*"

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BWRVIP Document	BWRVIP Requirement	Exception	Alternate in Lieu of
BWRVIP-42-A "BWR Vessel and Internals Project, LPCI Coupling Inspection and Flaw Examination Guidelines"	At least one third (1/3) of all high priority locations shall be re-inspected during every LPCI inspection cycle (two refueling outages) after the baseline inspection, with 100% of those locations re-inspected within 12 years.	Columbia completed its baseline inspections in R16 (Spring 2003) which included both low and high priority locations. One-third of the high priority locations were not re-inspected by the end of R18 (Spring 2007) as required.	One third of the high priority locations will be re-inspected in R19 (Spring 2009). The remaining inspections will be performed in R20 and R22 per the original schedule.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this matter, please contact Mr. MC Humphreys, Licensing Supervisor, at (509) 377-4025.

Respectfully,



GV Cullen
Manager, Regulatory Programs

cc: EE Collins, Jr. – NRC RIV
CF Lyon – NRC NRR
MA Mitchell – NRC NRR
NRC Senior Resident Inspector/988C
RN Sherman – BPA/1399
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