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**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**REGION IV
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125**

July 13, 2009

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

**SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - NRC SECURITY INSPECTION
REPORT 05000397/2009402**

Dear Mr. Parrish:

On June 12, 2009, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed a security baseline inspection at your Columbia Generating Station. The inspection covered one or more of the key attributes of the security cornerstone of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process. The enclosed inspection report documents the inspection results, which were discussed on June 12, 2009, with Mr. S. Oxenford, Vice President, Nuclear Generation/Chief Nuclear Officer, and other members of your staff.

The inspection examined activities conducted under your license as they relate to security and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspectors reviewed selected procedures and records, observed activities, and interviewed personnel.

This report documents one finding of very low security significance (i.e., Green as determined by the Physical Protection Significance Determination Process). The deficiency was promptly corrected or compensated for, and the plant was in compliance with applicable physical protection and security requirements within the scope of this inspection before the inspectors left the site. However, because of the very low security significance and because it is entered into your corrective action program, the NRC is treating this violation as a non-cited violation (NCV) consistent with Section VI.A.1 of the NRC Enforcement Policy. If you contest this non-cited violation, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection

"Enclosure transmitted herewith contains SUNSI. When separated from enclosure, this transmittal document is decontrolled."

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report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN.: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001; with copies to the Regional Administrator Region IV; the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; and the NRC Resident Inspector at Columbia Generating Station.

The finding had a cross-cutting aspect in the area of Problem Identification and Resolution associated with Corrective Action Programs, because the licensee's threshold for identifying issues failed to capture the key program element deficiencies (P1.a). If you disagree with the characterization of the finding in this report, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your disagreement, to the Regional Administrator, Region IV, and the NRC Resident Inspector at Columbia Generating Station. The information you provide will be considered in accordance with Inspection Manual Chapter 0305.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's document system, (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). However, because of the security-related concerns contained in the enclosure, and in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, a copy of this letter's enclosure will not be available for public inspection.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1)(ii), the NRC is waiving the affidavit requirements for your response, if any. This practice will ensure that your response will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system, ADAMS. If Safeguards Information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21. Otherwise, mark your entire response "Security-Related Information-Withhold Under 10 CFR 2.390" and follow the instructions for withholding in 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael P. Shannon, Chief
Plant Support Branch-1
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-397
License: NPF-21

Enclosure: Inspection Report 05000397/2009402
w/Attachment Supplemental Information

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cc w/enclosure:

Gregory V. Cullen

Manager, Regulatory Programs

Energy Northwest

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Security Related Complete Report - OUO:

SUNSI Review Completed: JLB ADAMS: ☒ Yes Initials: JLB
☒ Non-Publicly Available ☒ Sensitive-Security- Related-Periodic Review Required

Letter Only:

SUNSI Review Completed: JLB ADAMS: ☒ Yes Initials: JLB
☒ Publicly Available ☒ Non-Sensitive

PSI:PSB1	PSI:PSB1	C:PSB1	C:DRP/A	C:PSB1
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/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/
7/10/09	7/13/09	7/8/09	7/9/09	7/13/09

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