



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 30, 2010

Mr. Mark E. Reddemann
Interim 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 RELIEF 3ISI-11
(TAC NO. ME3714)

Dear Mr. Reddemann:

By application dated March 11, 2010, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML100770221), Energy Northwest submitted Inservice Inspection (ISI) Program Request for Relief No. 3ISI-11 for Columbia Generating Station. The request was for NRC approval to use the requirements of Electric Power Research Institute's BWRVIP-75-A, "BWR Vessel and Internals Project Technical Basis for Revisions to Generic Letter 88-01 Inspection Schedules," dated October 2005 (not publicly available), in lieu of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Code, Section XI, and other augmented requirements for the examination of certain nozzle-to-safe end welds and certain dissimilar metal welds for the third 10-year interval ISI program.

The NRC staff has reviewed the information provided in your application and determined that additional information is required in order to complete its review. The enclosed question was provided to Mr. D. Gregoire of your staff on July 22, 2010. Please provide a response to the question by October 12, 2010.

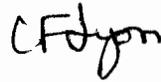
The NRC staff considers that timely responses to requests for additional information help ensure sufficient time is available for NRC staff review and contribute toward the NRC's goal of

M. Reddemann

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efficient and effective use of NRC staff resources. If circumstances result in the need to revise the requested response date, please contact me at (301) 415-2296 or by e-mail at fred.lyon@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "CF Lyon". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Carl F. Lyon, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosure:
As stated

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RELATED TO REQUEST FOR RELIEF 3ISI-11

ENERGY NORTHWEST

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-397

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed and evaluated the information submitted by Energy Northwest (the licensee) in its letter dated March 11, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML100770221), which requested NRC approval of a proposed alternative to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Section XI inspection requirements regarding examination of certain reactor pressure vessel nozzle-to-vessel welds and nozzle inner radii at Columbia Generating Station (CGS). The applicable ASME Code, Section XI Code of record for CGC's third 10-year interval inservice inspection program is the 2001 Edition through the 2003 Addenda, as amended by 10 CFR 50.55a.

Specifically, the licensee has proposed an alternative in accordance with ASME Code Case N-702, "Alternative Requirements for Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) Nozzle Inner Radius and Nozzle-to-Shell Welds." The technical basis for ASME Code Case N-702 was documented in an Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) report for the Boiling-Water Reactor Vessel and Internals Project (BWRVIP), "BWRVIP-108: BWR Vessel and Internals Project, Technical Basis for the Reduction of Inspection Requirements for the Boiling Water Reactor Nozzle-to-Vessel Shell Welds and Nozzle Inner Radii," which was approved by the NRC in a safety evaluation dated December 19, 2007 (ADAMS Accession No. ML073600374).

The NRC staff requires the following additional information to complete its review of the application.

1. For the volumetric examinations of the components, piping, nozzles, etc., contained in this request for relief, please verify that the licensee is using ASME Code, Section XI, Appendix VIII requirements. If not, please explain.
2. Please verify that the licensee is using the latest version of the EPRI BWR Water Chemistry Guidelines (BWRVIP-130) for control of the unit's water chemistry. If not, please explain. Please provide a brief discussion of the Hydrogen Water Chemistry, Noble Metal Chemical Addition, etc., in use at CGS.

Enclosure

M. Reddemann

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efficient and effective use of NRC staff resources. If circumstances result in the need to revise the requested response date, please contact me at (301) 415-2296 or by e-mail at fred.lyon@nrc.gov.

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:
As stated

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML102040020

***email with RAI dated**

OFFICE	NRR/LPL4/PM	NRR/LPL4/LA	DCI/CVIB/BC	NRR/LPL4/BC	NRR/LPL4/PM
NAME	FLyon	JBurkhardt	MMitchell*	MMarkley	FLyon
DATE	7/30/10	7/26/10	7/22/10	7/30/10	7/30/10

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