



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

August 10, 2010

Mr. S.K. Gambhir, Vice President,  
Technical Services  
Columbia Generating Station  
Energy Northwest  
MD PE04  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE REVISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THE  
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION  
(TAC NO. ME3121)

Dear Mr. Gambhir:

By letter dated January 19, 2010, Energy Northwest (the applicant) submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54), to renew operating license NPF-21 for Columbia Generating Station for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff). While reviewing the information contained in the license renewal application and the associated Environmental Report, the staff identified areas where additional information is needed to complete the review. Requests for additional information (RAIs) concerning Severe Accident Mitigation Alternatives (SAMA) were issued on July 1, 2010 (ML101760421) and RAIs concerning other environmental topics were issued on July 2, 2010 (ML101750655). NRC staff held a telephone conference with the applicant regarding the SAMA draft RAIs on June 28, 2010 (ML101880289).

Due to an ongoing major revision to the Probabilistic Risk Analysis (PRA) of record for Columbia Generating Station and the additional effort required to assess its potential impact on the SAMA analysis, the applicant estimated that it would be able to provide a complete response to the RAIs by October 15, 2010. This time estimate and the impact on the NRC's license renewal environmental review schedule were discussed in a telephone conference on July 15, 2010. Enclosure 1 provides a list of the participants for this telephone conference.

Enclosure 2 provides a revised environmental review schedule for the Columbia Generating Station license renewal application. This schedule has been revised to reflect the expected date that the NRC will receive final RAI responses from Energy Northwest. The revised review schedule assumes that RAI responses will be received by October 15, 2010 and RAI responses will be complete and provide sufficient information to address the NRC staff's concerns.

S. Gambhir

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If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3748 or by e-mail at [Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov](mailto:Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Doyle".

Daniel Doyle, Project Manager  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosures:  
As stated

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS  
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION – SAMA REVIEW  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL

July 15, 2010

PARTICIPANTS

AFFILIATIONS

Daniel Doyle	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Tina Ghosh	NRC
Ray Gallucci	NRC
Michelle Moser	NRC
Bo Pham	NRC
Abbas A. Mostala	Energy Northwest (EN)
Marsha G. Eades	EN
Jerral E. (Dusty) Rhoads	EN
Jim Tansy	EN

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION  
UPDATED REVIEW SCHEDULE

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Scheduled</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Receive license renewal application (LRA)	1/19/10	1/20/10
Publish Federal Register Notice (FRN) – LRA availability	1/26/10	2/02/10
Publish FRN – acceptance/rejection and opportunity for hearing	3/10/10	3/11/10
Publish FRN – Intent to conduct Environmental Scoping	3/10/10	3/11/10
Public Meeting – License Renewal Overview and Environmental Scoping Meeting	4/6/10	4/6/10
Deadline for filing hearing requests and petitions for intervention	5/14/10	5/14/10
Environmental scoping period ends	5/14/10	5/14/10
Audit – Scoping & Screening Methodology	5/14/10	5/14/10
Audit – Aging Management Programs	5/28/10	5/28/10
Audit – Environmental	6/11/10	6/11/10
Issue environmental requests for additional information (RAIs)	7/2/10	7/2/10
Receive responses for environmental RAIs	10/15/10	
Issue safety RAIs	8/02/10	
Receive responses for safety RAIs	9/2/10	
Inspection – Regional	10/18-22 & 11/1-5/10	
Issue draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS)	1/20/11	
Publish EPA FRN – draft SEIS available for comments	1/28/11	
Public Meeting – draft SEIS meeting	2/15/11	
Issue safety evaluation report (SER) with open items	2/11	
End of draft SEIS comment period	4/13/11	
Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) Subcommittee meeting	4/11	
Issue final SER	8/2/11	
ACRS Full Committee meeting	9/11	
Issue final SEIS	8/19/11	
Publish EPA FRN – availability of final SEIS	8/26/11	
Decision – Director, NRR (22 months if no hearing)	11/18/11	
Commission decision (30 months if hearing is granted)	7/18/12	

S. Gambhir

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If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3748 or by e-mail at [Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov](mailto:Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Daniel Doyle, Project Manager  
Projects Branch 1  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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DATE	08/06/10	08/06/10	08/10/10	08/10/10

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