December 3, 2010

LICENSEE: Energy Northwest

FACILITY: Columbia Generating Station

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL HELD ON OCTOBER 7, 2010, BETWEEN THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AND ENERGY NORTHWEST, CONCERNING THE DRAFT REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION (TAC NO. ME3058)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) and representatives of Energy Northwest (EN), held a telephone conference call on October 7, 2010, to discuss and clarify the NRC's draft request for additional information (D-RAI) concerning the Columbia Generating Station, license renewal application (LRA).

Enclosure 1 provides a listing of the participants and Enclosure 2 contains a listing of the D-RAIs discussed with the applicant, including a brief description on the status of the items.

The applicant had an opportunity to comment on this summary.

/RA/
Evelyn H. Gettys, Project Manager
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosure:
As stated

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TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
October 7, 2010

PARTICIPANTS	AFFILIATIONS
Evelyn Gettys	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
Duc Nguyen	NRC
Cliff Doutt	NRC
Sang Rhow	NRC
Michelle Kichline	NRC
Bill Holston	NRC
Abbas Mostala	Energy Northwest (EN)
Janet Worthington	EN
John Twomey	EN
Jeff Person	EN
Marsh Eades	EN
David Lee	AREVA
Mitch McFarland	AREVA

ENCLOSURE 1

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

October 7, 2010

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) and representatives of Energy Northwest, held telephone conference calls on October 7, 2010 to discuss the following draft requests for additional information (RAIs) concerning the Columbia Generating Station, license renewal application (LRA).

Draft RAI B.2.40-1 Supplement 1

Background:
In the applicant's response to RAI B.2.40-1, dated August 31, 2010, the applicant stated that an appropriate frequency for thermography checks will be established in conjunction with performing torque checks on the other non-segregated metal enclosed buses (MEB) during the next refueling outage to prevent recurrence of this type of event. The applicant also stated that the content and controls for preventive maintenance (PM) activities will be strengthened to ensure proper completion of critical steps, that there are appropriate levels of review, and approval is applied to changes. In addition, the applicant stated that both the thermography inspection and the visual inspections will be performed at least once every 10 years, with the first inspections to be completed prior to the end of the current operating license.

Issue:
The staff is concerned that applicant's new aging management program using thermography and visual inspections performed at least every 10 years is similar to previous maintenance activities (including procedure and schedules) and as such, the management of aging effects under the new program may not be adequate to allow in-scope MEBs to continue to perform their intended function consistent with the current licensing basis for the period of extended operation.

Request:
Describe maintenance activities (including procedures and schedules) for the MEB preventive maintenance program applied to non-segregated MEB prior to the August 5, 2009 6.9kV E-BUS-NONSEG/N2/X MEB event. Recognizing that there has been an MEB failure, discuss how the proposed inspection frequency of at least once every 10 years will be adequate and provide reasonable assurance that the aging effects will be managed such that in-scope MEBs will continue to perform their intended functions consistent with the current licensing basis for the period of extended operation.

In addition, discuss how the torque checks are consistent with the guidance provided in EPRI document TR-104213, "Bolt Joint and Applications Guide," with regard to electrical bolted connection torque checks at CGS.

Discussion: The applicant understands the question and the staff will send a formal RAI.

Discussion: In response to the staff's RAI B.3.6-2, the applicant indicated that the un-insulated grounding copper conductors and connections could potentially be subject to loss of material due to corrosion. However, it cited the staff's Turkey Point SER as a technical basis for not managing the grounding copper conductors. The technical basis for not managing structures, systems, or components must be based on its own merit, not the staff SER for Turkey Point LRA. The applicant is to send in a revised response to RAI B.3.6-2.

Discussion: In response to the staff's RAI 3.3.2.2.10.2-2 the staff wanted the applicant to verify what material the spent fuel pool gates was made of. The applicant verified that it is aluminum.

Letter to Energy Northwest from Evelyn Gettys dated December 3, 2010.

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