



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

January 18, 2011

LICENSEE: Energy Northwest

FACILITY: Columbia Generating Station

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SITE VISIT IN SUPPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW  
OF THE LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR COLUMBIA GENERATING  
STATION (TAC NO. ME3121)

From June 8-10, 2010, environmental review team members from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and contractors from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) visited the Columbia Generating Station (CGS) to conduct interviews and collect technical information on CGS in support of the CGS license renewal environmental review. The primary goal of the site visit was to review documentation, gather information to ensure that environmental requirements of license renewal as codified in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51 (10 CFR Part 51) were met, and to meet with representatives from Federal, State, local, and tribal government agencies. Enclosure 1 is a list of representatives from NRC, PNNL, Washington State agencies, other Federal agencies, affected tribes, and Energy Northwest personnel who participated in the site visit.

The data collection site visit began on June 8, 2010, with a kickoff meeting where participants were introduced and logistics were discussed. Following the kickoff meeting, the environmental review team participated in a general site tour of the CGS site with Energy Northwest personnel. The general site tour provided an overview of the site and focused on areas relevant to the environmental review.

During the remainder of the site visit, review team members collected and reviewed data and information presented in Energy Northwest's Environmental Report (ADAMS accession number ML100250666) and met in small sessions with Energy Northwest technical personnel. Review team members also participated in tours of on-site National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System-permitted outfalls, the circulating water system, in-scope transmission line rights-of-way, non-radioactive and universal waste processing and storage areas, and the meteorological towers and monitoring equipment.

The review team also met with representatives from the Washington State Department of Ecology and the Washington State Department of Health. Information from these state agencies will assist the environmental review team in its evaluation of CGS for license renewal.

The NRC invited representatives and officials of affected American Indian tribes to participate in the data collection site visit. Five tribal representatives of three tribes participated. During one breakout meeting concerning potential impacts to cultural and archaeological resources at CGS, Mr. Casey Mitchell of the Nez Perce made the following three requests: 1) he requested copies of all documents sent by Energy Northwest to the NRC in support of the review of this topic; 2) he requested to review and provide comments on Energy Northwest's procedures for protecting cultural and archaeological resources; and 3) he offered to provide training to Energy Northwest staff regarding the tribal perspective on the importance of safeguarding cultural and

archaeological resources. The NRC provided electronic copies of the requested documents to Mr. Mitchell and the NRC strongly encourages Energy Northwest to accommodate the other two requests.

The NRC also reviewed Energy Northwest's process for identifying new and significant information (information that would challenge the generic conclusions reached in the *Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants*, NUREG-1437). The review team did not identify any new and significant information during the site visit.

At the conclusion of the data collection site visit, the NRC summarized the status of the review with Energy Northwest representatives. Most of the review team's questions were answered during the visit. In order to resolve the remaining questions, the NRC submitted a request for information (RAI) letter on July 2, 2010 (ADAMS accession number ML101750655). Energy Northwest responded to the RAIs by letter on August 5, 2010 (ADAMS accession number ML102300503). Enclosure 2 is a table of documents requested by the review team during the site visit and provided by Energy Northwest to assist the team in its environmental review. These documents are publicly available and can be found in ADAMS using the accession numbers listed in Enclosure 2. The NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC's Public Document Room staff at 1-800-397-4209 (or 301-415-4737) or by e-mail at [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov).

While the NRC review team did not identify any significant issues during its site visit, the environmental review was ongoing and that any additional information necessary to support the review would be formally requested.



Daniel I. 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 REVIEW  
ENVIRONMENTAL SITE VISIT

JUNE 8–10, 2010

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AFFILIATION</u>
Daniel Doyle	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
April BeBault	NRC
Dennis Beissel	NRC
Ron Cohen	NRC
Dennis Logan	NRC
Jeff Rikhoff	NRC
Allison Travers	NRC
Amoret Bunn	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
Ellen Kennedy	PNNL
George Last	PNNL
Bruce McDowell	PNNL
Jeremy Rishel	PNNL
J.H. Snooks	AREVA
Massoud Tafazzoli	AREVA
Garth Lien	Bonneville Power Administration
Greg Olesen	Bonneville Power Administration
Barbara Harper	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Mary Burandt	Dept of Energy – Office of River Protection
Mark French	Dept of Energy – Richland Operations Office
Jack Baker	Energy Northwest
Brad Barfuss	Energy Northwest
Nishant Chadha	Energy Northwest
Jim Chasse	Energy Northwest
David Clymer	Energy Northwest
Doug Coleman	Energy Northwest
Don Coody	Energy Northwest
Marsha Eades	Energy Northwest
Sudesh Gambhir	Energy Northwest
Don Gregoire	Energy Northwest

Mot Hedges	Energy Northwest
Brian Jones	Energy Northwest
Bill Kiel	Energy Northwest
Tom Krueger	Energy Northwest
Andy Langdon	Energy Northwest
Steven Link	Energy Northwest
Clay Madden	Energy Northwest
Steve McNutt	Energy Northwest
Abbas Mostala	Energy Northwest
Robert Nielson	Energy Northwest
Terry Northstrom	Energy Northwest
Jeff Person	Energy Northwest
Jeff Pickles	Energy Northwest
Jeffrey Smith	Energy Northwest
Luis Valencia	Energy Northwest
Steve Vaughn	Energy Northwest
Eileen Webb	Energy Northwest
Jon Weers	Energy Northwest
Rick Welch	Energy Northwest
Bryan Whitehead	Energy Northwest
Casey Mitchell	Nez Perce Tribe
Josiah Pinkham	Nez Perce Tribe
Michael Sobotta	Nez Perce Tribe
Richard Domingue	National Marine Fisheries Service
Justin Yeager	National Marine Fisheries Service
Jeff Ayres	WA State Dept of Ecology
Rick Bond	WA State Dept of Ecology
Lynn Albin	WA State Dept of Health
Doris Squeochs	Wanapum Band

**References Requested for Docketing at the  
Columbia Generating Station Environmental Site Visit  
June 8–10, 2010**

	<b>ADAMS Accession Number</b>
<b>Meteorology and Air Compliance</b>	
Response to site audit needs question MET-1 (meteorological data). Note: please provide data in electronic .xls format.	ML102380287
Response to NRC request 3054 (EFSEC order 672 updates)	ML102380287
List of permitted air emission sources and associated emission quantities (NRC request 3055)	ML102380287
<b>Terrestrial Ecology</b>	
Ecological Monitoring Program for Columbia Generating Station, Summary Report for 1975 to 2002 (EN 2003)	ML102380288
Avian species list, e-mail communication from R.E. Welch to J.P. Chasse, 2009 (EN 2009b)	ML102380288
Rare Plant and Vegetation Survey, Riparian Zone, December 2008 (Link 2008)	ML102380288
Rare Plant and Vegetation Survey, Uplands, July 2009 (Link 2009)	ML102380288
Operational Ecological Monitoring Program – 1987 Annual Report (WPPSS 1988)	ML102380289
Responses to site audit needs questions TE-1 (photos and maps), TE-2 (t-line maintenance plans), TE-3 (pesticides/herbicides), TE-4 (surveys), TE-5 (tour), TE-6 (bird strikes), TE-7 (wildlife management plans), TE-8 (migratory bird nesting), TE-9 (invasive species), and TE-10 (ponds)	ML102380287, ML102380289
<b>Aquatic Ecology</b>	
Response to site audit needs question AQ-1 (ER references): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical Review of the Aquatic Monitoring Program of WNP-2, Washington Public Power Supply System, Richland, Washington, September 1982 (WPPSS 1982)</li> <li>• Operational Ecological Monitoring Program for Nuclear Plant 2 – 1985 Annual Report, Washington Public Power Supply System, prepared April 1986 (WPPSS 1986)</li> <li>• Operational Ecological Monitoring Program for Nuclear Plant 2 – 1986 Annual Report, Washington Public Power Supply System, prepared April 1987 (WPPSS 1987)</li> <li>• Operational Ecological Monitoring Program for Nuclear Plant 2 – 1987 Annual Report, Washington Public Power Supply System, prepared April 1988 (WPPSS 1988)</li> <li>• Operational Ecological Monitoring Program for Nuclear Plant 2 – 1995 Annual Report, Washington Public Power Supply System, prepared April 1996 (WPPSS 1996)</li> </ul>	ML102380290, ML102380291, ML102380293, ML102380289, ML102380294, ML102380295
Energy Northwest Columbia Generating Station Effluent Mixing Study, prepared June 2008 (EN 2008)	ML102380294
Response to NRC request 3007 (circulating water system)	ML102380287
<b>Hydrology</b>	
Discharge Monitoring Reports for the last six months	ML102380295
Table of estimated pumping rates for Wells 1 and 2 from October	ML102380295

2009 through May 2010	
Procedure SWP-CHE-01	ML102380295
Site Certification Agreement for Hanford No. 2, dated May 17, 1972	ML102380295
<b>Nonradiological Waste</b>	
Responses to site audit needs questions NRW-1 (annual report summaries for waste streams), NRW-4 (Section 312 Tier II annual reports), and NRW-6 (universal waste)	ML102380295
<b>Environmental Justice</b>	
Responses to site audit needs questions EJ-1 (subsistence consumption) and EJ-2 (wildlife sampling)	ML102380287
<b>Socioeconomics</b>	
Responses to site audit needs questions SO-1 (payments), SO-2 (payment adjustments), SO-3 (height data), and SO-4 (noise)	ML102380287
<b>Land Use</b>	
None	
<b>Archaeological and Cultural Resources</b>	
Hanford Cultural Resources Management Plan, DOE/RL-98-10, Rev 0., U.S. Department of Energy, Richland, Washington, February 2003, Website: <a href="http://www.hanford.gov/doe/history=rmp">http://www.hanford.gov/doe/history=rmp</a> , accessed September 9, 2008 (USDOE 2003)	ML102380295
Rivers of North America, A.C. Benke and C.E. Cushing, Editors, Elsevier Academic Press, Burlington, MA and London, U.K. (Benke and Cushing 2005)	ML102380296
Cultural Resources Review for Security Upgrades/Easement to Energy Northwest, letter from PNNL to Fluor Hanford, dated May 13, 2002 (PNNL 2002)	ML102380296
Notice to Proceed, Columbia Generating Station Access Road Improvement, email communication from E.L. Kennedy, PNNL, to S.J. Urban, Energy Northwest, July 16, 2008 (PNNL 2008b)	ML102380296
Draft Supplement to the Environmental Statement, Fiscal Year 1975 Proposed Program, Ashe-Hanford 500 kV Transmission Line, Bonneville Power Administration, March 8, 1974 (BPA 1974a)	ML102380296
Draft Supplement to the Environmental Statement, Fiscal Year 1975 Proposed Program, Richland Area Electrical Service Transmission Lines and Substations, Bonneville Power Administration, March 1974 (BPA 1974b)	ML102380296
Responses to site audit needs questions CR-9 (aerial photographs) and CR-14 (T-line vegetation management)	ML102380296, ML102380287
Map of leased land from DOE with a narrative about CGS related activities outside blocks A & B (NRC request 3046)	ML102380287, ML102380296
Written response from EN describing the work process and how procedures are implemented to ensure protection of cultural resources (NRC request 3049)	ML102380287
Letter transmitting cultural resource protection procedures (SWP-ENW-04) to SHPO and any response from SHPO (NRC request 3047)	ML102380296
Written response from EN describing routine activities that occur in the culturally sensitive areas around the river pump house (NRC request 3048)	ML102380287, ML102380296
Latitude and longitude for soil sample locations 1, 7, and 23	ML102380287

Map of siren locations and latitude and longitude of each siren location	ML102380296
<b>Alternatives</b>	
None	
<b>Cumulative Impacts</b>	
EN's unsolicited proposal to DOE for the Mid-Columbia Energy Initiative (NRC request 3043)	ML102380296

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ADAMS Accession No. ML103400163

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Memorandum to Energy Northwest from Daniel I. Doyle dated January 18, 2010

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