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March 3, 2011
GO2-11-046

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: **COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION, DOCKET NO. 50-397
RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION**

- References:
- 1) Letter, GO2-10-11, dated January 19, 2010, WS Oxenford (Energy Northwest) to NRC, "License Renewal Application"
 - 2) Letter dated February 3, 2011, NRC to Energy Northwest, "Summary of Telephone Conference Call Held on January 20, 2011, Between the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Energy Northwest, Concerning the Request for Additional Information Pertaining to the Columbia Generating Station License Renewal Application (TAC Number ME3058) (ADAMS Accession No. ML 110240202)"
 - 3) Letter dated February 3, 2011, NRC to SK Gambhir (Energy Northwest), "Request for Additional Information for the Review of the Columbia Generating Station, License Renewal Application," (ADAMS Accession No. ML110240426)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By Reference 1, Energy Northwest requested the renewal of the Columbia Generating Station (Columbia) operating license. Via Reference 2, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) documented a conference call between the NRC staff and Energy Northwest. The topics included a discussion of request for additional information (RAI) regarding Columbia plant-specific configurations that may contain locations that have a cumulative usage factor (CUF) which should be analyzed for effects of the reactor coolant environment other than those identified in NUREG/CR-6260.

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NRC

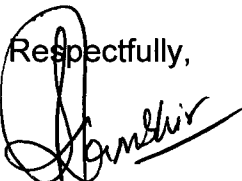
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Page 2 of 2

The subject RAI was transmitted to Energy Northwest via Reference 3. As discussed in the January 20, 2011 call, Energy Northwest will not be able to provide the response to the RAI within the 30 days specified in Reference 3. The analyses of additional locations for limiting CUF will be a significant undertaking for Energy Northwest. Reference 3 stated that Energy Northwest had agreed to provide a response to the RAI within 30 days from the date of Reference 3. This letter serves to confirm that the completion of the analyses will take considerably more than 30 days and that Energy Northwest does not anticipate receiving analytical results from the selected contractor until later this summer; perhaps as early as August. Although a firm schedule has not yet been established with our contactor, Energy Northwest tentatively plans to submit the response to this RAI in September 2011. We understand that this late response to the RAI may result in an open item, when the staff evaluation of the Columbia License Renewal Application is presented to the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee for Plant License Renewal.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Abbas Mostala at (509) 377-4197.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on the date of this letter.

Respectfully,


SK Gambhir
Vice President, Engineering

cc: NRC Region IV Administrator
NRC NRR Project Manager
NRC Senior Resident Inspector/988C
EFSEC Manager
RN Sherman – BPA/1399
WA Horin – Winston & Strawn
AD Cunanan - NRC NRR
BE Holian - NRC NRR
RR Cowley – WDOH