

September 28, 2011

Michael T. Lesar Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch Office of Administration Mailstop TWB 05-BOIM U. S. Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Lesar:

We strongly support Energy Northwest's license renewal for Columbia Generating Station nuclear power plant which extends the operating license through 2043.

For more than 25 years, Columbia has provided valuable electricity to the region and assisted in economic stability to the state by providing clean, affordable energy to more than a million Washington residents.

As energy demand increases and climate change becomes a significant public policy issue, a diverse mix of clean energy resources will be critical to meet increasing electricity needs. For these reasons, it is imperative to maintain the vast quantity of carbon-free and baseload power Columbia Generating Station provides.

We fully support Columbia receiving the 20-year license renewal from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and encourage our 7,600 members and others to voice their support enabling the region to continue benefiting from this clean, affordable electricity.

President

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