



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

November 8, 2011

Mr. Bradley J. Sawatzke, Vice President
of Nuclear Generation and Chief Nuclear Officer
Columbia Generating Station
Energy Northwest
MD PE08
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE REVIEW OF THE
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
REGARDING FIRE WATER AND OPEN CYCLE COOLING AGING
MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS (TAC NO. ME3058)

Dear Mr. Sawatzke:

By letter dated January 19, 2010, Energy Northwest submitted an application pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 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). The staff is reviewing the information contained in the license renewal application and has identified, in the enclosure, areas where additional information is needed to complete the review. Further requests for additional information may be issued in the future.

The issue in the enclosure was discussed with Abbas Mostala and an expedited, mutually agreeable date for the response is within 10 days of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3897 or by e-mail at arthur.cunanan@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Arthur Cunanan".

Arthur D. Cunanan, Project Manager
Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: Listserv

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RAI (Follow-up) SAMA FL-06R-1

Background

The response to the request for additional information (RAI) severe accident mitigation alternative (SAMA) FL-06R, dated September 29, 2011, states that the piping segments that are under the scope of SAMA FL-06R include fire protection system piping which is age managed by the Fire Water aging management program (AMP), and plant service water and standby service water piping which are age managed by the Open Cycle Cooling Water AMP. The RAI response also states that the SAMA candidate uses risk importance measures to provide insights to identify in-scope piping sections in these three systems that are more important to reducing the core damage frequency (CDF) contribution. The RAI response further states that both aging management programs include non-destructive examination methods to monitor for loss of material which, when performed, will reduce the frequency of pipe-break initiating events for these systems and thus reduce the CDF. The response states that, "Final determination of the AMP testing and inspection locations will use plant experience and engineering evaluations to identify the most susceptible piping sections, as well as risk importance for selection of the testing frequency and locations."

Issue

The staff reviewed LRA Section B.2.26 and SER Section 3.0.3.2.9 for the Fire Water program; and license renewal application (LRA) Section B.2.42 and safety evaluation report Section 3.0.3.2.17 for the Open Cycle Cooling Water program and found no evidence that risk insights will be utilized in addition to plant experience and engineering evaluations to identify the most susceptible piping sections for inspections.

Request

Revise LRA Sections B.2.26 and B.2.42 to state that risk insights will be utilized in addition to plant experience and engineering evaluations to identify the most susceptible piping sections for inspections, or state the basis for how the staff can conclude that the programs, when implemented, will utilize risk insights as an input to selecting inspection locations, or state how (e.g., specific program(s) and dates of implementation) this SAMA has been implemented independently of reliance on either the Fire Water AMP or the Open Cycle Cooling Water AMP.

If full implementation has not occurred, state a commitment to implement this change prior to the period of extended operations.

State whether this potential SAMA would have been screened out in Phase I as already implemented if it had been discovered with the current state of program implementation.

ENCLOSURE

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Sincerely,
/RA/

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Projects Branch 1
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

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As stated

cc w/encl: Listserv

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*concurrence via e-mail

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DATE	11/1/2011	11/7/2011	11/8 /2011	11/8/2011

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Bradley J. Sawatzke from Arthur D. Cunanan dated November 8, 2011

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