



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

February 26, 2015

Mr. Mark E. Reddemann  
Chief Executive Officer  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968 (Mail Drop 1023)  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - REQUEST FOR WITHHOLDING  
INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE (TAC NO. MF5327)

Dear Mr. Reddemann:

By letter dated November 17, 2014 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML14336A006), Energy Northwest submitted an affidavit executed by Mr. James F. Harrison, General Electric (GE)-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC (GEH), dated October 21, 2014, requesting that information contained in the following document be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 2, Section 2.390:

GNF-001N8896-R3-P, "GNF [Global Nuclear Fuel] Additional Information Regarding the Requested Changes to the Technical Specification SLMCPR [Safety Limit Minimum Critical Power Ratio], Columbia Cycle 23"

The information is included in Attachment 4 to Energy Northwest's letter dated November 17, 2014. A nonproprietary version of GNF-001N8896-R3-P, designated as Attachment 5 to Energy Northwest's letter dated November 17, 2014, has been placed in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Public Document Room and added to ADAMS in the NRC Library at Accession No. ML14336A007.

The affidavit stated that the information sought to be withheld is considered to be proprietary for the reasons below:

- a. Information that discloses a process, method, or apparatus, including supporting data and analyses, where prevention of its use by GNF-A's competitors without license from GNF-A constitutes a competitive economic advantage over other companies;
- b. Information which, if used by a competitor, would reduce his expenditure of resources or improve his competitive position in the design, manufacture, shipment, installation, assurance of quality, or licensing of a similar product.

Public disclosure of the information sought to be withheld is likely to cause substantial harm to GNF-A's competitive position and foreclose or reduce the availability of profit-making opportunities. This information is part of GNF-A's

comprehensive BWR [boiling-water reactor] safety and technology base, and its commercial value extends beyond the original development cost. The value of the technology base goes beyond the extensive physical database and analytical methodology and includes development of the expertise to determine and apply the appropriate evaluation process. In addition, the technology base includes the value derived from providing analyses done with NRC-approved methods.

We have reviewed your application and the material in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.390 and, on the basis of the statements in the affidavits, have determined that the submitted information sought to be withheld contains proprietary commercial information and should be withheld from public disclosure.

Therefore, the versions of the submitted information marked as proprietary will be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390(b)(5) and Section 103(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended.

Withholding from public inspection shall not affect the right, if any, of persons properly and directly concerned to inspect the documents. If the need arises, we may send copies of this information to our consultants working in this area. We will, of course, ensure that the consultants have signed the appropriate agreements for handling proprietary information.

If the basis for withholding this information from public inspection should change in the future such that the information could then be made available for public inspection, you should promptly notify the NRC. You also should understand that the NRC may have cause to review this determination in the future, for example, if the scope of a Freedom of Information Act request includes your information. In all review situations, if the NRC makes a determination adverse to the above, you will be notified in advance of any public disclosure.

M. Reddemann

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If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at (301) 415-1081 or via e-mail at [andrea.george@nrc.gov](mailto:andrea.george@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. George", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Andrea E. George, Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch IV-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

cc: James F. Harrison  
Vice President, Fuel Licensing  
Regulatory Affairs  
GE-Hitachi Nuclear Energy Americas, LLC  
3901 Castle Hayne Road  
Wilmington, NC 28401

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M. Reddemann

- 3 -

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Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Andrea E. George, Project Manager  
Plant Licensing Branch IV-1  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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