



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

June 30, 2015

LICENSEE: Energy Northwest

FACILITY: Columbia Generating Station

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF JUNE 4, 2015, CATEGORY 1 PUBLIC MEETING WITH ENERGY NORTHWEST TO DISCUSS THE SEISMIC HAZARD REEVALUATION ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF JAPAN LESSONS-LEARNED NEAR-TERM TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION 2.1, SEISMIC FOR COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

On June 4, 2015¹, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff held a Category 1 public meeting with Energy Northwest (EN, the licensee) at NRC Headquarters, One White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Seismic Hazard Reevaluation² associated with the implementation of Near-Term Task Force (NTTF) Recommendation 2.1: Seismic of the March 12, 2012, NRC request for information issued pursuant to Title 10 to the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 50, Section 50.54(f) (hereafter referred to as the 50.54(f) letter)³ for Columbia Generating Station (Columbia).

During the meeting, the NRC staff provided an overview of NTTF Recommendation 2.1 "Seismic" including specifics of the review process as it relates to the Western United States (WUS) sites⁴. Additionally, EN representatives provided an overview of Columbia's seismic hazard reevaluation which included specific discussions of several focus areas identified by the staff and conveyed to EN before the public meeting⁵.

The NRC staff and EN representatives' discussions included the following meeting highlights:

- The NRC staff presented an overview of NTTF Recommendation 2.1 "Seismic" review process which included specifics on how the process would be applied to the review of the WUS submittals.
- The NRC staff provided the overall schedules for Recommendation 2.1 seismic hazard and risk evaluation activities. The staff stated that Columbia, by letter dated May 13, 2015⁶, was placed into the highest priority group (Group 1) for the reevaluated seismic hazard review.

¹ The meeting notice is available via the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) under Accession No. ML15155A759.

² Columbia's Seismic Hazard Reevaluation is available via ADAMS under Accession No. ML15078A243.

³ The 50.54(f) letter and Enclosure 1 are available under ADAMS Accession Nos. ML12053A340 and ML12056A047, respectively.

⁴ The NRC's slide presentation is available via ADAMS under Accession No. ML15155A748.

⁵ The licensee's slide presentation is available via ADAMS under Accession No. ML15154B396.

⁶ The screening and prioritization results for the WUS sites can be found via ADAMS under Accession No. ML15113B344

- The licensee provided an overview of its seismic hazard reevaluation. Specifically, EN responded to a series of focus areas that the staff had identified and conveyed to EN before the meeting⁷. These discussions helped the staff better understand EN's approaches and added clarity to assist in the staff's review.
- The licensee provided an overview of the FLEX strategy implemented for Columbia. The licensee also provided a summary of its seismic interim evaluation which included risk information based on the current Seismic Probabilistic Risk Assessment (SPRA) performed for the site. In addition, the licensee stated that it is currently developing the Expedited Seismic Evaluation Process which is due by January 2016.
- The licensee stated that it is moving forward with the SPRA, in accordance with the Screening, Prioritization, and Implementation Details. The SPRAs for Group 1 plants are due by June 2017.
- In addition to the questions asked during the meeting, the staff indicated that it expects to issue requests for additional information by the end of summer / early fall 2015.

No regulatory decisions or commitments were made during the meeting. The public was invited to observe the meeting and was given an opportunity to communicate with the NRC during the public meeting before adjourning. The NRC staff received several public comments, some were addressed during the meeting and others, given the technical complexity, the staff requested they be sent by email to support a response. The staff acknowledged and appreciated these comments and they will be considered as part of the ongoing NTF Recommendation 2.1: Seismic reviews. Below is a summary of such comments. No meeting feedback forms were received.

Mr. Charles K. Johnson (Oregon and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility) expressed his concerns related to several United States Geological Survey (USGS) seismic studies that, according to him, were not included by the licensee when assessing the seismic hazard for the Columbia site. Mr. Johnson also mentioned several potential issues related to the plant's daily operation that should be considered as part of the upcoming risk evaluations. Mr. Johnson encouraged EN and the staff to consider this information when making the determination that the plant is safe to operate. The staff notes that Columbia continues to operate safely including consideration of the new seismic hazard information. Regarding the USGS seismic studies, the Senior Seismic Hazard Analysis Committee (SSHAC) process requires that a range of technical information be considered. NRC staff is continuing to assess the fidelity of Columbia's SSHAC process.

⁷ The NRC technical focus Areas for support of public meeting on June 4, 2015, can be found via ADAMS under Accession No. ML15142A395.

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Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-1617 or by e-mail at Frankie.Vega@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Vega', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frankie G. Vega, Project Manager
Hazards Management Branch
Japan Lessons-Learned Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

List of Attendees

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Public Meeting with Energy Northwest to discuss the seismic hazard reevaluation associated
with implementation of Japan Lessons-Learned Near-Term Task Force Recommendation 2.1.
Seismic for Columbia Generating Station
June 4, 2015

Name	Organization
Andrea Kock	NRC/NRO
Lisa Walsh	NRC/NRO
Clifford Munson	NRC/NRO
Diane Jackson	NRC/NRO
Scott Stoval	NRC/RES
Jon Ake	NRC/RES
Nicholas DiFrancesco	NRC/NRR
Mohamed Shams	NRC/NRR
Vladimir Graizer	NRC/NRO
Frankie Vega	NRC/NRR
Gerry Stirewalt	NRC/NRO
Thomas Weaver	NRC/RES
Kamal Manoly	NRC/NRR
Alice Stieve	NRC/NRO
Dogan Seber	NRC/NRO
Stephanie Devlin-Gill	NRC/NRO
Balwant Singal	NRC/NRR
Brittan Hill	NRC/NRO
(continues to next page)	

Abbreviations:

NEI – Nuclear Energy Institute

NRO – Office of New Reactors

NRR – Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

RES – Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

CNWRA – Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory
Analyses

DNFSB – Defense Nuclear Facilities Security
Board

PNNL - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Enclosure

Name	Organization
Farhang Ostadan	Bechtel
David Swank	Energy Northwest
Mike Kennedy	Energy Northwest
Greg Lisle	Energy Northwest
Andrew Mauer	NEI
Lisa Williams	Energy Northwest
John Stamatakos	CNWRA
Bob Youngs	AMEC
Kevin Coppersmith	
Emily Gibson	DNFSB
Miriam Juckett	CNWRA

Attendees Via Webinar or Telephone				
Name	Organization		Name	Organization
Angel Moreno	NRC		David Heeszel	NRC
Ryan Coppersmith	Coppersmith consulting		Richard Rogalski	Energy-Northwest
Kathryn Hanson	AMEC		Steve Sheahan	Energy-Northwest
John Richards	EPRI		G. George Abatt	Bechtel
Carola Di Alessandro	Geopentech			
Charles Johnson	Oregonpsr			
Russell Green	VT			
John Davie	Bechtel			
Susan Hoch				
Andrea Maioli	Westignhouse			
Timothy Adams	Vecsa			
Robert Bryce	PNNL			
Velentina Montaldo Falero	AMEC			
Albert Kottke	Bechtel			
Don Gregoire	Energy-Northwest			
Robert Meyer				

Please direct any inquiries to me at 301-415-1617 or by e-mail at Frankie.Vega@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Frankie G. Vega, Project Manager
Hazards Management Branch
Japan Lessons-Learned Division
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

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cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML15173A273

*concurrence via e-mail

OFFICE	NRR/JLD/JHMB/PM	NRR/JLD/LA	NRO/DSEA/RGS/BC
NAME	FVega	SLent	DJackson
DATE	06/23/15	06/23/15	06/26/15
OFFICE	NRR/JLD/JHMB/BC	NRR/JLD/JHMB/PM	
NAME	MShams	FVega	
DATE	06/30/15	06/30/15	

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