



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION IV
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD
ARLINGTON, TX 76011-4511

March 2, 2016

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

**SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION
(REPORT 05000397/2015006)**

Dear Mr. Reddemann:

On February 16, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its end-of-cycle performance review of Columbia Generating Station. The NRC reviewed the most recent quarterly performance indicators (PIs) in addition to inspection results and enforcement actions from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility.

The NRC determined that overall, Columbia Generating Station operated in a manner that preserved public health and safety and met all cornerstone objectives. The NRC determined the performance at Columbia Generating Station during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column (Column 1) of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix because all inspection findings had very low (i.e., green) safety significance, and all PIs indicated that your performance was within the nominal, expected range (i.e., green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the inspections scheduled through December 31, 2017. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the mid-cycle performance review. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. This inspection plan does not include security related inspections, which will be sent via separate, non-publicly available correspondence.

In response to the accident at Fukushima, the Commission issued Order EA-12-049, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Requirements for Mitigation Strategies for Beyond-Design-Basis External Events." This Order requires licensees to develop, implement, and maintain guidance and strategies to maintain or restore core cooling, containment, and spent fuel pool cooling capabilities following a beyond-design-basis external event. Additionally, the Commission issued Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." This Order requires licensees to have a reliable means of remotely

monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. The audit was completed for Columbia Generating Station, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Final Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 817-200-1148 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeremy R. Groom, Chief
Project Branch A
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-397
License No. NPF-21

Enclosure:
Columbia Generating Station Inspection Plan

monitoring wide-range Spent Fuel Pool levels to support effective prioritization of event mitigation and recovery actions in the event of a beyond-design-basis external event. The NRC is conducting audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders. The audit was completed for Columbia Generating Station, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the Final Safety Evaluation will be issued. Then, the NRC staff will confirm through inspections the full implementation of the orders mentioned above by performing Temporary Instruction 191, "Inspection of the Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation Orders and Emergency Preparedness Communication/Staffing/Multi-Unit Dose Assessment Plans."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response (if any) will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at 817-200-1148 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jeremy R. Groom, Chief
 Project Branch A
 Division of Reactor Projects

Docket: 50-397
 License: NPF-21

Enclosure:
 Columbia Generating Station Inspection Plan

DISTRIBUTION
 See next page

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML16061A296

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review By: JRG	ADAMS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	Keyword NRC-002
OFFICE	RIV/BC/DRP	RIV/D/DRS	RIV/D/DRP	
NAME	JGroom	AVegel	TPruett	
SIGNATURE	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	
DATE	2/24/16	2/24/16	2/26/16	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Mark Reddemann from Jeremy Groom, dated March 2, 2016

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION
(REPORT 05000397/2015006)

DISTRIBUTION:

Regional Administrator (Marc.Dapas@nrc.gov)
Deputy Regional Administrator (Kriss.Kennedy@nrc.gov)
DRP Director (Troy.Pruett@nrc.gov)
DRP Deputy Director (Ryan.Lantz@nrc.gov)
DRS Director (Anton.Vegel@nrc.gov)
DRS Deputy Director (Jeff.Clark@nrc.gov)
Senior Resident Inspector (Gregory.Kolcum@nrc.gov)
Resident Inspector (Dan.Bradley@nrc.gov)
Site Administrative Assistant (Vacant)
Branch Chief, DRP/A (Jeremy.Groom@nrc.gov)
Senior Project Engineer, DRP/A (Ryan.Alexander@nrc.gov)
Project Engineer (Thomas.Sullivan@nrc.gov)
Project Engineer (Matthew.Kirk@nrc.gov)
Public Affairs Officer (Victor.Dricks@nrc.gov)
Project Manager (Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov)
Team Leader, DRS/TSS (Thomas.Hipschman@nrc.gov)
RITS Coordinator (Marisa.Herrera@nrc.gov)
ACES (R4Enforcement.Resource@nrc.gov)
Regional Counsel (Karla.Fuller@nrc.gov)
Technical Support Assistant (Loretta.Williams@nrc.gov)
Congressional Affairs Officer (Jenny.Weil@nrc.gov)
RIV Congressional Affairs Officer (Angel.Moreno@nrc.gov)
RIV/ETA: OEDO (Raj.Iyengar@nrc.gov)
Director, DIRS, NRR (Scott.Morris@nrc.gov)
Deputy Director, DIRS, NRR (Clay.Johnson@nrc.gov)
Director, DORL, NRR (Anne.Boland@nrc.gov)
Deputy Director, DORL, NRR (George.Wilson@nrc.gov)
Director, DPR (Lawrence.Kokajko@nrc.gov)
Director, NSIR (Brian.Holian@nrc.gov)
DRP Branch Chiefs (R4DRPBC@nrc.gov)
DRS Branch Chiefs (R4DRSBC@nrc.gov)
ROPreports.Resource@nrc.gov
ROPassessment.Resource@nrc.gov

Columbia Generating Stati

Inspection / Activity Plan

04/01/2016 - 12/31/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			EP-2 - BIENNIAL EXERCISE INSPECTION		4
2	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
2	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
			EP-3 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		2
2	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
2	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Readiness	
2	03/28/2016	04/01/2016	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System Reliability	
			EB1-21EQ - CGS EQ/CDBI (PILOT)		3
2	05/09/2016	05/13/2016	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
			EB1-21T - CGS COMPONENT DESIGN BASIS INSPECTION		7
2	06/06/2016	06/24/2016	IP 7111121	Component Design Bases Inspection	
			EXAM - INITIAL EXAM		6
2	01/23/2017	01/27/2017	X02586	INITIAL EXAM CGS (02/2017)	
2	02/27/2017	03/09/2017	X02586	INITIAL EXAM CGS (02/2017)	
			ISFSI - ROUTINE ISFSI (ONE WEEK IN MONTH)		1
2	07/01/2016	07/30/2016	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
			RS 24 - RADIATION SAFETY		2
2	08/29/2016	09/02/2016	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
2	08/29/2016	09/02/2016	IP 71124.04	Occupational Dose Assessment	
			EB1-07T - CGS HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE		1
2	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			INSP - BIENNIAL REQUAL INSPECTION		2
2	12/05/2016	12/09/2016	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			EP-1 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		1
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 7111403	Emergency Preparedness Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
			EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VERIFICATION		1
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Readiness	
2	01/30/2017	02/03/2017	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System Reliability	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Columbia Generating Stati

Inspection / Activity Plan

04/01/2016 - 12/31/2017

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
TSB 52B - BIENNIAL PI&R					5
2	03/27/2017	03/31/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
2	04/10/2017	04/14/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
71111.08 - INSERVICE INSPECTION					1
2	05/22/2017	05/26/2017	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
RS 12 PI - RADIATION SAFETY					3
2	05/22/2017	05/26/2017	IP 71124.01	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
2	05/22/2017	05/26/2017	IP 71124.02	Occupational ALARA Planning and Controls	
2	05/22/2017	05/26/2017	IP 71151-OR01	Occupational Exposure Control Effectiveness	
2	05/22/2017	05/26/2017	IP 71151-PR01	RETS/ODCM Radiological Effluent Occurrences	
RS 5678 - RS TEAM					5
2	09/11/2017	09/15/2017	IP 71124.05	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation	
2	09/11/2017	09/15/2017	IP 71124.06	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
2	09/11/2017	09/15/2017	IP 71124.07	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program	
2	09/11/2017	09/15/2017	IP 71124.08	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing and Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, and Transportation	
EB1-17T - CGS PERMANENT PLANT MODS & 50.59					3
2	10/02/2017	10/16/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.