



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD  
ARLINGTON TX 76011-4511

August 31, 2016

Mr. Mark E. Reddemann  
Chief Executive Officer  
Energy Northwest  
76 North Power Plant Loop  
P.O. Box 968 - Mail Drop 1023  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION  
(REPORT 05000397/2016005)

Dear Mr. Reddemann:

On August 10, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed its mid-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 July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. 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 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 June 30, 2018. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The inspections listed during the second half of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-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," and Order EA-12-051, "Order Modifying Licenses with Regard to Reliable Spent Fuel Pool Instrumentation." The NRC conducted audits of licensee efforts towards compliance with these Orders, and the information gathered will aid staff in development of the ultimate Safety Evaluation for the site. After the NRC staff receives the Final Compliance letter for the site, the 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 Staff Requirements Memorandum – SECY 16-0009, "Recommendations Resulting from the Integrated Prioritization and Re-Baselining of Agency Activities," the Commission approved the NRC staff recommendation to discontinue the formal mid-cycle assessment process beginning in calendar year 2017. This will be the final mid-cycle assessment letter. The staff will continue to conduct quarterly assessment meetings and communicate changes in the assessment of licensee performance in accordance with the guidance in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of 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  
Projects Branch A  
Division of Reactor Projects

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

Enclosure: Columbia Plant Inspection/Activity Plan

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## Columbia Generating Stati

## Inspection / Activity Plan

07/01/2016 - 06/30/2018

Unit Number	Planned Dates Start	Planned Dates End	Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
			<b>EXAM - INITIAL EXAM</b>		<b>4</b>
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)	
			<b>ISFSI - ROUTINE ISFSI (ONE WEEK IN MONTH)</b>		<b>1</b>
2	07/01/2016	07/30/2016	IP 60855.1	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation at Operating Plants	
			<b>RS 24 - RADIATION SAFETY</b>		<b>2</b>
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	
			<b>EB1-07T - CGS HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE</b>		<b>1</b>
2	09/12/2016	09/16/2016	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			<b>INSP - BIENNIAL REQUAL INSPECTION</b>		<b>3</b>
2	12/05/2016	12/09/2016	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			<b>EP-1 - BIENNIAL EP PROGRAM INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
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	
			<b>EP-2 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATOR VERIFICATION</b>		<b>1</b>
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	
			<b>TSB 52B - BIENNIAL PI&amp;R</b>		<b>5</b>
2	02/13/2017	02/17/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
2	02/27/2017	03/03/2017	IP 71152B	Problem Identification and Resolution	
			<b>71111.08 - INSERVICE INSPECTION</b>		<b>1</b>
2	05/22/2017	05/26/2017	IP 7111108G	Inservice Inspection Activities - BWR	
			<b>RS 12 PI - RADIATION SAFETY</b>		<b>3</b>
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	
			<b>RS 5678 - RS TEAM</b>		<b>5</b>
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	

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

Enclosure

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	Start	End			
<b>RS 5678 - RS TEAM</b>					<b>5</b>
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	
<b>EB1-17T - CGS 50.59 EVALUATIONS OF CHANGES, TEST,</b>					<b>3</b>
2	10/02/2017	10/06/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
2	10/16/2017	10/20/2017	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
<b>EB2-05T - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION</b>					<b>4</b>
2	04/09/2018	04/13/2018	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
2	04/23/2018	04/27/2018	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
<b>EP-1 - EP EXERCISE INSPECTION</b>					<b>4</b>
2	03/26/2018	03/30/2018	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
2	03/26/2018	03/30/2018	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
<b>EP-3 - EP PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</b>					<b>1</b>
2	03/26/2018	03/30/2018	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
2	03/26/2018	03/30/2018	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Readiness	
2	03/26/2018	03/30/2018	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System Reliability	
<b>EB1-07T - CGS HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE</b>					<b>1</b>
2	05/14/2018	05/18/2018	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	

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

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

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Letter to Mark Reddemann from Jeremy Groom dated August 31, 2016

SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR COLUMBIA GENERATING  
STATION (REPORT 05000483/2016005)

DISTRIBUTION:

Regional Administrator (Kriss.Kennedy@nrc.gov)  
Deputy Regional Administrator (Scott.Morris@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)  
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 (John.Klos@nrc.gov)  
Team Leader, DRS/IPAT (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 (Jeremy.Bowen@nrc.gov)  
RIV RSLO (Bill.Maier@nrc.gov)  
Director, DIRS, NRR (Chris.Miller@nrc.gov)  
Deputy Director, DIRS, NRR (Shana.Helton@nrc.gov)  
Director, DORL, NRR (Anne.Boland@nrc.gov)  
Deputy Director, DORL, NRR (George.Wilson@nrc.gov)  
Director, NSIR (Brian.Holian@nrc.gov)  
Director, DPR, NSIR (Marissa.Bailey@nrc.gov)  
DRP Branch Chiefs (R4DRPBC@nrc.gov)  
DRS Branch Chiefs (R4DRSBC@nrc.gov)  
ROPreports.Resource@nrc.gov  
ROPassessment.Resource@nrc.gov