Washington Public Power Supply System

P.O. Box 968 3000 George Washington Way Richland, Washington 99352 (509) 372-5000 August 5, 1982 G02-82-642

Docket No. 50-397

Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief Licensing Branch No. 2 Division of Licensing U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Schwencer:

Subject: BACKUP FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

The Emergency Plan for our nuclear projects located on the Hanford Reservation (WNP-1, 2 & 4) presently indicates that backup fire protection services will be provided by the Rockwell Hanford Operations Fire Department. Rockwell Hanford Company operates this fire department for the Department of Energy in support of DOE facilities on the Hanford Reservation.

As noted in our telephone conversation of July 27, 1982, we are considering negotiating with other local fire departments for this service. Local fire departments within a 20 mile radius of the plants, in addition to the Rockwell Hanford Fire Department, include the City of Richland, City of Kennewick and Benton County Fire Districts Nos. 1 and 4. In assessing these organizations, we have determined that each of them has the necessary manpower and capability to provide backup fire protection to our sites. The response time from each of the station locations to the plant site is considered to be acceptable as a backup to the plant fire brigade.

We have given serious consideration to the fact that should we enter into a contract with one of the outlying agencies, it would mean that we are bypassing one or more closer facilities for backup fire protection services. Because the local fire department serves as a backup to the plant fire protection systems and the plant fire brigade, we have concluded that a contract with someone other than the closest fire department does not represent a significant concern. Prior to entering negotiations with the prospective providers of this service, we request your concurrence with this conclusion.

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As recommended in NUREG 0800, Section 9.5-1, we will provide the local fire department with training in operational precautions when fighting fires on a nuclear power plant site, and they will be made aware of the need for radiological protection of personnel and the special hazards associated with a nuclear power plant site. The local fire department will participate in at least one drill annually.

Based on the expiration date of our present contract, your reply by August 20, 1982, would be appreciated. We have attached a revised page from the WNP-1, 2 & 4 Emergency Plan indicating the changes that would be made to that document to reflect the proposed backup fire protection services.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

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G. D. Bouchey, Deputy Director Safety & Security

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Attachment

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