JUL 1 5 1982

Mr. Robert L. Ferguson Managing Director Washington Public Power Supply System Post Office Box 968 3000 George Washington Way Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

NRC FORM 318 (10-80) NRCM 0240

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I am pleased to respond to your letter dated June 11, 1982, to Chairman Palladino in which you expressed concerns about the staff review of siting issues that were resolved during construction permit proceedings. You believe that these issues are being unnecessarily reevaluated as part of operating license reviews, citing the OL review of the WNP-2 seismic design basis.

I appreciate your comments regarding the regulatory process and share your concerns on any unnecessary reevaluation and the cost estimates included in your letter and the impact of excessive regulatory demands on utilities. Let me state that it is our intention to try to close out all siting issues at the CP stage. We must recognize, however, that if significant new information regarding a siting issue should develop between the CP and the OL review, the effect of that new information must be evaluated.

With regard to WNP-2 and the related siting issues, while that issue is nearing resolution I have asked my staff to arrange a meeting with you to discuss this matter. This meeting is being arranged through Dr. G. D. Bouchey.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director Dffice of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Mr. Robert L. Ferguson
Managing Director
Washington Public Power Supply System
Post Office Box 968
3000 George Washington Way
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

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I am pleased to respond to your letter dated June 11, 1982, to Chairman Palladino in which you expressed concerns about the staff review of siting issues that were resolved during construction permit proceedings. You now feel that these issues are being unnecessarily reevaluated as part of the operating license review for WNP-2.

I appreciate your comments regarding the regulatory process and share your concerns on any unnecessary reevaluation and the cost estimates included in your letter and the impact of excessive regulatory demands on utilities. On the other hand, we are mandated to ensure the public health and safety through safe operation of nuclear power plant facilities and clearly one of the areas of significance lies in the seismic design adequacy of the WNP-2 facility.

With regard to WNP-2 and the related siting issues, I have directed my staff to arrange a meeting with you to discuss this matter for appropriate management resolution. This meeting will be arranged through Dr. G. D. Bouchey of your staff.

Sincerely,

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SCavanaugh, NRR(EDO#12017)
MBridgers, EDO (EDO#12017)
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