



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

December 23, 1987

Docket No. 50-397

Mr. G. C. Sorensen, Manager
Regulatory Programs
Washington Public Power Supply System
P.O. Box 968
3000 George Washington Way
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

Subject: NRC REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RHR-V-8/RHR-V-9 RESOLUTION (TAC # 63528)

On October 2, 1987 I wrote to you responding to your August 20, 1987 letter in which you had identified WPPSS's preferred course of action for precluding spurious opening of high-low interface valves RHR-V-8 and RHR-V-9 in the event of a control room fire. In my response to you I pointed out that the NRC staff has reservations about your preferred action. I encouraged you to submit your proposal in a timely manner so that WPPSS might have time to implement an alternative action during the next refueling outage should NRC indeed deny your preferred action.

It is my understanding that you would like to resolve this issue to our satisfaction without impacting on the schedule for restart following the upcoming refueling outage. We have been advised informally that you are still pursuing implementation of the action which you identified as preferred in your August 20 letter. However to date we have not received proposed amendments to the FSAR or the Technical Specifications which would permit us to begin our safety review of your proposal.

In acknowledgement of the importance of this issue, I remind you that in my letter to you dated May 13, 1987 we had expressed a need to resolve this matter prior to the end of the 1987 refueling outage. Your reply of June 3, 1987 informed us of procedures which you would follow to ensure that resolution would be achieved prior to startup from the spring 1988 refueling outage. In August I brought my licensing assistant and licensing project manager to the WNP-2 site to explain our licensing procedures to the WPPSS staff and to impart an appreciation of the time requirements inherent in NRC review procedures.

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Mr. G. C. Sorensen, Manager

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Since no submittal on the subject has been received to date, I must conclude that you fully understand that an untimely filing of a potentially flawed proposal for NRC consideration could seriously impact restart after refueling.

Sincerely,
original signed
by

George W. Knighton, Director
Project Directorate V
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Mr. G. C. Sorensen, Manager
Washington Public Power Supply System

WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2
(WNP-2)

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