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 CHAFFEE, A.E. Region 5, Ofc of the Director
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 SORENSEN, G.C. Washington Public Power Supply System

SUBJECT: Forwards synopsis of investigations conducted in Feb & Apr 1989 of activities authorized by License NPF-21.

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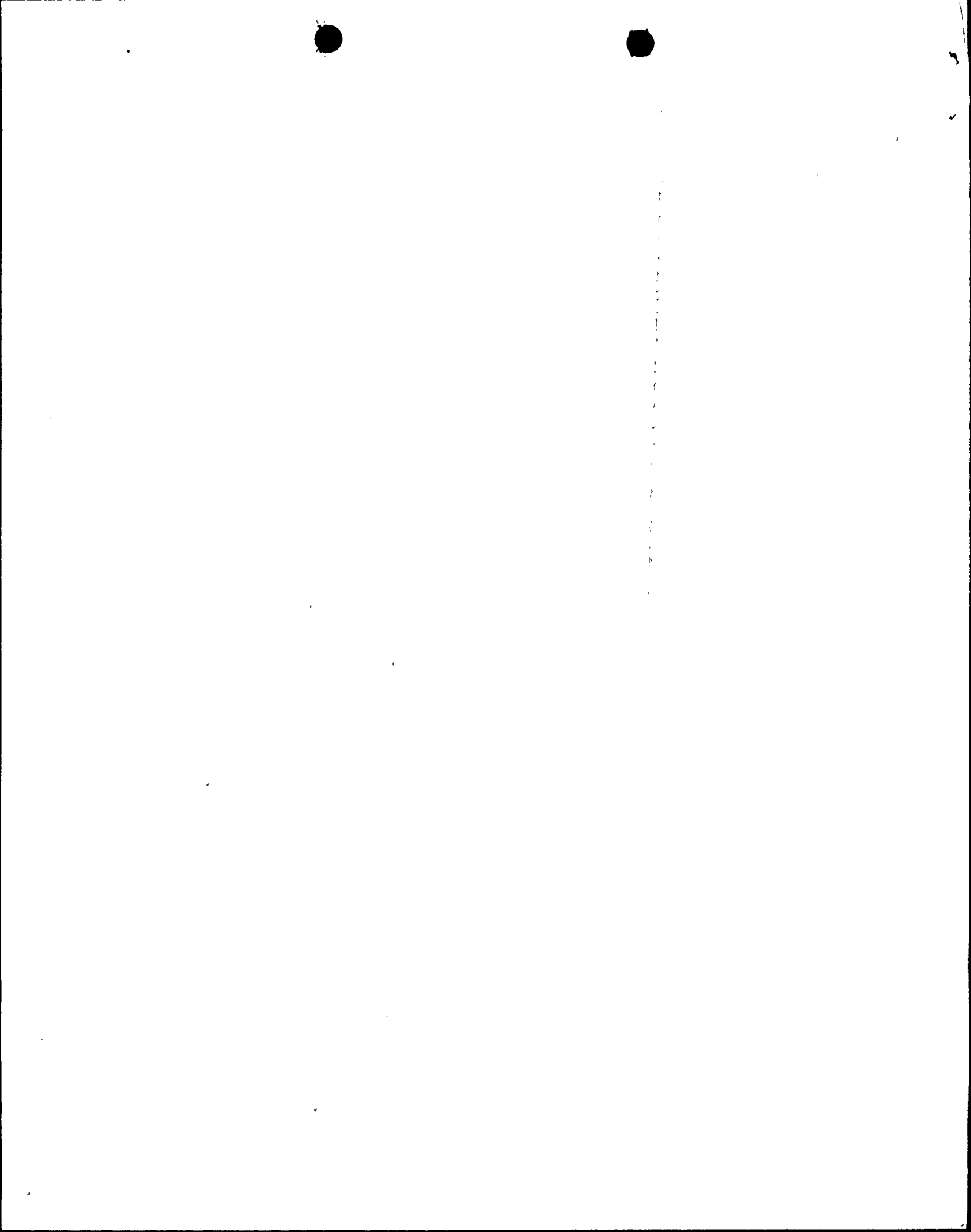
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION V

1450 MARIA LANE, SUITE 210
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

August 22, 1989

Docket No. 50-397

Washington Public Power Supply System
P. O. Box 968
Richland, Washington 99352

Attention: Mr. G. C. Sorensen
Manager, Regulatory Programs

Gentlemen:

Subject: NRC Inspection

This refers to the investigation conducted by Mr. E. G. Power of the NRC Office of Investigations, Region V, in February and April 1989 of activities authorized by NRC Operating License No. NPF-21. A copy of the investigation synopsis is enclosed for your information.

No violation of NRC requirements was identified within the scope of this investigation.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this investigation, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

A. E. Chaffee, Deputy Director
Division of Reactor Safety
and Projects

Enclosure: Investigation synopsis

- cc: A. L. Oxsen, Assistant Managing Director for Operations
- G. D. Bouchey, WPPSS Director, Assurance & Licensing
- C. M. Powers, WNP-2 Plant Manager
- A. G. Hosler, WNP-2 Licensing Manager
- G. E. Doupe, Esq.
- N. S. Reynolds, Debevois, Cook, Purcell & Reynolds
State of Washington

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SYNOPSIS

By memorandum dated December 20, 1988, the Regional Administrator, Region V, U. S. NRC requested an investigation to determine if there had been willful falsification of records at Washington Nuclear Plant 2 (WNP-2), Richland, Washington, which is owned and operated by the Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS), the licensee. The alleged wrongdoing involved two separate matters. The first matter (Allegation 1) concerned a required fire tour within WNP-2, circa 1985 or 1986, which had not been performed, however the tour was falsely documented as having been conducted. The former WNP-2 operations manager had become aware of the fire tour incident at the time of occurrence, however, it was alleged that appropriate action by WNP-2 management had not been taken at the time. In the second matter, (Allegation 2), it was alleged that the former operations manager had requested entries be made in the shift manager's log attesting to his having performed a training watch in the WNP-2 control room when the individual had not stood the watch. The documentation of the training watch was to substantiate that the operations manager met a prerequisite of the WNP-2 license operator requalification program. A specific date for the alleged falsifications(s) of the shift manager's log was not known, however, it was believed to have occurred between July 1986 and May 1987. (These allegations were not provided as nuclear safety issues by a concerned employee to the NRC, but rather the matters were referenced in a discrimination suit against WPPSS.)

The WNP-2 License Operator Requalification Program Description (LORPD), in effect at the time, required a minimum of 16 hours in any four month period in the control room for requalification for an individual not normally performing license activities, such as the operations manager. The duties were not defined, and the location of those requalification duties was not specified in the LORPD. It was also determined that there were no written directives or procedures which required documenting the accumulation of the 16 hours necessary for requalification. It was, however, a plant practice to make an entry in the shift manager's log for such duty, and a separate tracking record document also reflected the total hours claimed on individual dates for requalification duty. Those two records indicated that the former operations manager had performed duty on the dates claimed. Additionally, the security access records for ingress and egress to the control room were available for a portion of the time in question, and those records, although not complete, supported the presence of the former operations manager in the control room on the dates claimed. There was, however, some variance in the total hours claimed. Six shift managers who represented all the available shift managers who worked during the period in question were interviewed. Each of the shift managers testified that he had never been asked to make, and had no knowledge of, any misleading, incorrect or falsified entries in the shift manager's logs to reflect that the former operations manager had performed duty for license operator requalification when the operations manager had not actually performed such duty. During his interview, the former operations manager testified that the tracking records indicating his hours for requalification during the period from January 1984 through May 1987 were true and correct. He related that he never did anything to circumvent the license operator maintenance requirements, and he had no knowledge of any misleading, incorrect or false entries in the shift manager's logs or any type of documentation.

The former operations manager further testified that he had never asked or directed any shift manager to make an entry into the shift manager's log for time in which he had not been performing duties associated with his license operator requalification duties.

At the onset of the NRC investigation, it was learned that WPPSS had become knowledgeable of these allegations or concerns prior to the NRC, and had conducted their own investigation into the matters. Regarding Allegation 1, the WPPSS investigation concluded, in part, that: 1) WNP-2 management recalled the fire tour incident, it had been properly investigated, and had been resolved that there was no evidence that the fire tour(s) had not been conducted, and 2) there was no available documentation relating to the incident, and the allegation could not be further substantiated. Regarding Allegation 2, the WPPSS investigation concluded that there was no willful falsification of the shift manager's logs, and there was ambiguity in the WNP-2 requalification program requirements.

In view of the apparent lack of documentation and knowledgeable witnesses together with the significance of Allegation 1, the alleged falsification of the fire tour records, the matter did not warrant further NRC investigation. In the second allegation the evidence developed during the NRC investigation did not substantiate the allegation that the former operations manager had requested the falsification of records in order to meet the license operator requalification requirements.

