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 PARRISH, J.V.                   Washington Public Power Supply System

SUBJECT: Forwards insp rept 50-397/93-24 on 930622-0802 & notice of violation.

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION V

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AUG 30 1993

Docket No. 50-397  
EA 93-191

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

Attention: Mr. J. V. Parrish, Assistant Managing Director for Operations

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
(NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-397/93-24)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Messrs. R. C. Barr, D. L. Proulx, and K. E. Johnston of this office on June 22 through August 2, 1993, of activities authorized by NRC Operating License No. NPF-21, and to the discussions of findings held by the inspectors with Mr. J. Swailes and other members of the Supply System staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

Areas examined during this inspection are described in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspectors.

Based on the results of the inspection at WNP-2, two examples of an apparent violation were identified and are being considered for escalated enforcement in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C. These examples involved failures to follow procedures regarding fire protection requirements and temporary modifications. We are particularly concerned with the apparent violation concerning the failure to follow the temporary modification request (TMR) procedures. Even though these procedures required the Shift Manager to review the TMR log once each shift, when questioned by the inspector, the Shift Manager appeared to be unaware that the log included an outage-related, temporary modification to the scram discharge volume which was required to be removed prior to Mode 1. This failure indicates a less than adequate knowledge of the current plant conditions by licensed operators in this instance. The second example of an apparent violation concerned combustible materials the inspectors found in the Residual Heat Removal (RHR) "A" pump room which had not been previously identified during approximately 48 fire tours by three fire watches. This failure is of concern because Supply System management had previously shared their expectation during an enforcement conference conducted on June 29, 1993, that fire tours would not be cursory and indicated that this view had been clearly communicated to the plant staff. Both of these examples indicate that management expectations have not been adequately communicated.

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In view of the escalated enforcement being considered, a Notice of Violation is not presently being issued for these inspection findings. In addition, please be advised that the number and characterization of the apparent violations described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review.

The two examples of apparent procedure violations identified in this inspection report will be discussed at the Enforcement Conference scheduled for September 22, 1993, and will be considered in addition to the examples of procedure violations identified in Inspection Reports 50-397/93-18 and 50-397/93-29. The purposes of this conference will be to discuss the apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide you the opportunity to point out any errors in our inspection reports; to provide an opportunity for you to present your proposed corrective actions; and to discuss any other information that will help us determine the appropriate enforcement action in accordance with the Enforcement Policy. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding these apparent violations is required at this time.

Additionally, it appears that certain of your other activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation involved inadequate procedures for determining reactor shutdown margin and core thermal power.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspection, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

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

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-511.

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

Sincerely,



K. E. Perkins, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety  
and Projects

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Enclosure:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report No. 50-397/93-24

cc:

Mr. J. H. Swailes, WNP-2 Plant Manager  
G. E. C. Doupe, Esq., WPPSS  
Mr. Warren A. Bishop, Chairman, Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
Mr. Alan G. Hosler, Licensing Manager, WPPSS  
Mr. G. C. Sorensen, Manager, Regulatory Programs, WPPSS  
Chairman, Benton County Board of Commissioners  
M. H. Philips, Jr., Esq., Winston & Strawn

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bcc w/copy of enclosures 1 and 2:  
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 Project Inspector  
 Resident Inspector  
 B. Faulkenberry  
 S. Richards  
 R. Huey  
 P. Johnson  
 J. Clifford, NRR  
 G. Cook  
 J. Lieberman, OE

bcc w/enclosure 1 only:  
 M. Smith  
 J. Bianchi  
 J. Zollicoffer

REGION V

<i>M</i> KJohnston 8/27/93	<i>M for</i> DProulx 8/27/93	<i>M for</i> RBarr 8/27/93	<i>CW</i> PJohnson 8/27/93	<i>H</i> RHuey 8/27/93
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