



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

AUG 31 1994

Docket: 50-397
License: NPF-21

Washington Public Power Supply System
ATTN: J. V. Parrish, Assistant Managing
Director for Operations
3000 George Washington Way
P.O. Box 968, MD 1023
Richland, Washington 99352

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-397/94-24 (NOTICE OF VIOLATION)

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. R. C. Barr, and the inspectors identified in the enclosed report, of this office on June 26 through August 6, 1994. This inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Washington Nuclear Project 2 facility. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

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.

The NRC is mindful of your smooth restart of the plant and the event free return of the plant to power. You are urged to continue your attention to detail which resulted in those successes.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). These violations concerned operators' failure to enter the emergency operating procedures (EOPs) and Technical Specification action statement when required, and failure to take effective corrective actions when recognizing high level in the suppression pool.

The NRC is concerned that this inspection identified that your operators did not know the Technical Specification limits on suppression pool level and, with all of the work you have done on your EOPs, the EOPs still did not reflect the Technical Specification limits. Furthermore, your operators failed to enter the EOPs, in spite of the nonconservative, erroneous entry condition being met. Although the NRC considers this failure to enter the EOPs to be an isolated occurrence, and not in keeping with current demonstrated performance, this is particularly troublesome because, in 1991, the operator requalification program was judged to be unsatisfactory, partially because operators believed that the EOPs were guidance. In addition, we are concerned that a large number of evolutions were in progress

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during the high suppression pool level event, which may have distracted the operators attention from the EOPS and Technical Specifications, and that the operators did not stop and take effective control of plant parameters. Accordingly, we are convinced that management needs to clarify and reinforce their expectations with respect to these areas and that subsequent performance should be monitored to assure conformance with expectations.

We also note from this inspection that a number of relatively significant failures to adhere to procedures continue to occur. Continued management attention to this area appears to be warranted.


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) of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures 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,


for A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A - Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
50-397/94-24

cc w/enclosures:

Washington Public Power Supply System
ATTN: J. H. Swailes, WNP-2 Plant Manager
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Richland, Washington 99352-0968

Washington Public Power Supply
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Washington Public Power Supply System
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Washington Public Power Supply System
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Washington Public Power Supply
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E-Mail report to: D. Sullivan (DJS)
D. Kirsch (DFK)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV:

L. J. Callan

Resident Inspector

DRSS-FIPB

MIS System

Branch Chief (DRP/E, WCFO)

Senior Project Inspector (DRP/E, WCFO)

RIV File

Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)

K. Perkins, WCFO

J. Clifford (NRR)

A. B. Beach, (D:DRP)

B. Henderson (WCFO)

Leah Tremper, OC/LFDCB, MS: MNBB 4503

RIV:RI*
DProulx
8/17/94

C:DRP/E*
DKirsch
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D:WCFO*
KEPerkins
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D:DRP *DK*
ABBeach
8/31/94

*previously concurred

Washington Public Power Supply
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