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REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400 ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064 SEP - 3 1996

J. V. Parrish, Chief Executive Officer Washington Public Power Supply System 3000 George Washington Way P.O. Box 968, MD 1023 Richland, Washington 99352

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-397/96-12

Dear Mr. Parrish:

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An NRC inspection was conducted June 23 through August 3, 1996, at your Washington Nuclear Project-2 reactor facility. The enclosed report presents the scope and results of that inspection.

During the 6-week period covered by this inspection period, your conduct of activities at the Washington Nuclear Project-2 facility was generally characterized by safety-conscious operations. The inspection identified a narrowly focused assessment of a reactor scram and a poor questioning attitute and safety focus with respect to testing of the digital feedwater system. Collectively, these observations indicated that the effectiveness of management oversight of plant operations may have declined.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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

Sincerely,

J. E. Dyer, Director Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No.: 50-397 License No.: NPF-21

Enclosure: NRC Inspection Report 50-397/96-12



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Washington Public Power Supply System

cc w/enclosure: Frederick S. Adair, Chairman Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council P.O. Box 43172 Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

Chairman Benton County Board of Commissioners P.O. Box 69 Prosser, Washington 99350-0190

Mr. Paul R. Bemis (Mail Drop PE20) Vice President, Nuclear Operations Washington Public Power Supply System P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968

Mr. Rodney L. Webring (Mail Drop PE08) Vice President, Operations Support/PIO Washington Public Power Supply System P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968

Mr. Greg O. Smith (Mail Drop 927M) WNP-2 Plant General Manager Washington Public Power Supply System P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968

Mr. David A. Swank (Mail Drop PE20) Manager, Regulatory Affairs Washington Public Power Supply System P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968

Mr. Al E. Mouncer (Mail Drop 396) Chief Counsel Washington Public Power Supply System P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968





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Ms. Lourdes C. Fernandez (Mail Drop PE20) Manager, Licensing Washington Public Power Supply System P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968

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Mr. Malcolm H. Phillips, Jr., Esq. Winston & Strawn 1400 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3502



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Washington Public Power Supply System

SEP - 3 1996

E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN) E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)

bcc distrib. by RIV: L. J. Callan DRP Director Branch Chief (DRP/E, WCFO) Senior Project Inspector (DRP/E, WCFO) Branch Chief (DRP/TSS) Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)

Resident Inspector DRS-PSB MIS System RIV File M. Hammond (PAO, WCFO)

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*previously concurred

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Washington Public Power Supply System

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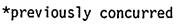


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