



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 148 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-21  
WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2  
DOCKET NO. 50-397

1.0 INTRODUCTION

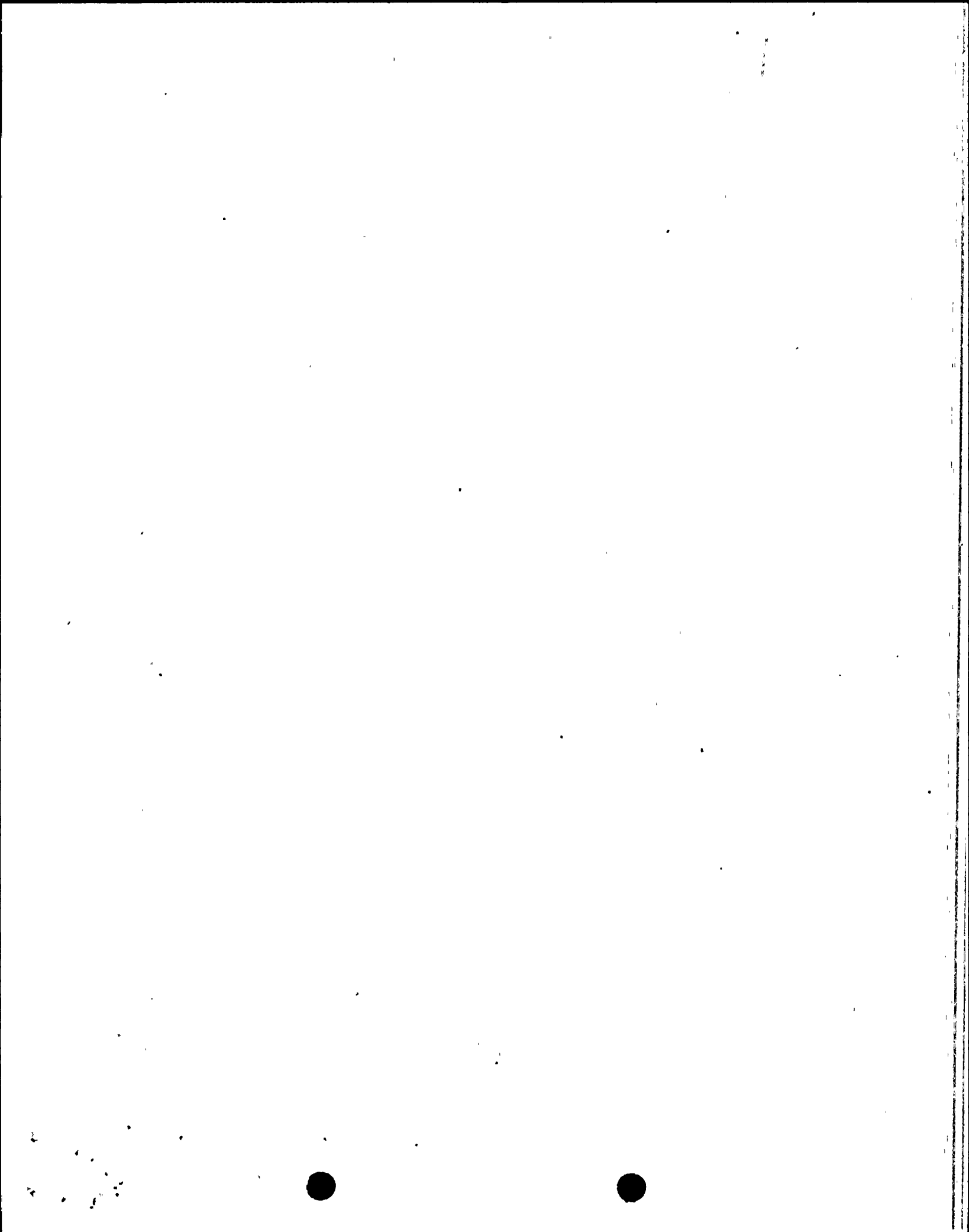
By letter dated August 9, 1996, Washington Public Power Supply System requested approval to amend Technical Specification 6.3, "Unit Staff Qualifications." The proposed change would add an exception to appointment requirements contained in ANSI/ANS N18.1-1971 for the operations manager. ANSI/ANS N18.1-1971 requires the operations manager to hold a senior reactor operator (SRO) license. In 1992, the staff reviewed and approved a request from the licensee (Amendment No. 101 dated April 6, 1992), to allow the operations manager not to maintain an SRO license. That approval was based on the licensee's commitment that either the operations manager or the assistant operations manager would maintain an SRO license and that the licensed individual would be responsible for the normal day-to-day operations and direction of on-shift operators.

2.0 EVALUATION

The staff has evaluated the licensee's request for an exception to the qualification requirements for appointment to the position of operations manager using Standard Review Plan (SRP) Section 13.1.2-13.1.3, "Operating Organization" and ANSI/ANS 3.1-1971, "Selection and Training of Nuclear Power Plant Personnel."

The proposed amendment would change the requirement for appointment to the operations manager position from "hold an SRO license" to "hold a license, have held a license, or be certified for equivalent SRO-level knowledge." The licensee stated that using the alternative requirements for appointment to the position of operations manager would still ensure that the individual in the position has an adequate understanding of plant operations to fulfill the requirements of the position. This approach is consistent with more recent ANSI standards on selection and training of nuclear power plant personnel including ANSI/ANS 3.1-1987 and -1993.

In their August 9, 1996, submittal, the licensee further stated that in times of transition, appointments will be made to ensure an individual with an active SRO will fill either the operations manager or assistant operations manager position in order to meet the requirements of Technical Specification (TS) 6.2.2.f and 10 CFR 50.54(m)(2). The requirement in TS 6.2.2.f, which



states that either "the Operations Manager or the Assistant Operations Manager shall hold a senior reactor operator license," is unchanged and is consistent with the proposed amendment.

Based on unchanged TS 6.2.2.f, which requires that either the operations manager or the assistant operations manager hold an SRO license and based on the appointment criteria for operations manager being consistent with recent ANSI/ANS standards, the staff finds that the proposed change to the technical specifications meets the relevant criteria in SRP Section 13.1.2-13.1.3, "Operating Organization," 10 CFR 50.54(m)(2), and ANSI/ANS standards and is, therefore, acceptable.

### 3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Washington State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

### 4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes recordkeeping, reporting, or administrative procedures or requirements. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

### 5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

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Date: October 1, 1996

