

March 20, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: William H. Bateman, Director  
 Project Directorate IV-2  
 Division of Reactor Projects III/IV

FROM: ORIGINAL SIGNED BY: WILLIAM H. BATEMAN  
 Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager  
 Project Directorate IV-2  
 Division of Reactor Projects III/IV

SUBJECT: FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER  
 SUPPLY SYSTEM

DATE & TIME: March 30, 1998  
 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
 Room 0-1-F-5

LOCATION: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
 One White Flint North  
 11555 Rockville Pike  
 Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

PURPOSE: Discuss the status of the Final Safety Analysis Report Upgrade  
 Program for WNP-2

PARTICIPANTS\*: NRC WPPSS

C. Poslusny P. Inerra  
 W. Bateman et. al.  
 F. Akstulewicz  
 E. McKenna

Docket No. 50-397

cc: See next page

CONTACT: Chet Poslusny  
(301) 415-1341

\*Meetings between NRC technical staff and applicants or licensees are open for interested members of the public, petitioners, intervenors, or other parties to attend as observers pursuant to "Commission Policy Statement on Staff Meetings Open to the Public" 59 Federal Register 48340, 9/20/94.

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 20, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: William H. Bateman, Director  
Project Directorate IV-2  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV

FROM: Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager *W.H. Bat*  
Project Directorate IV-2  
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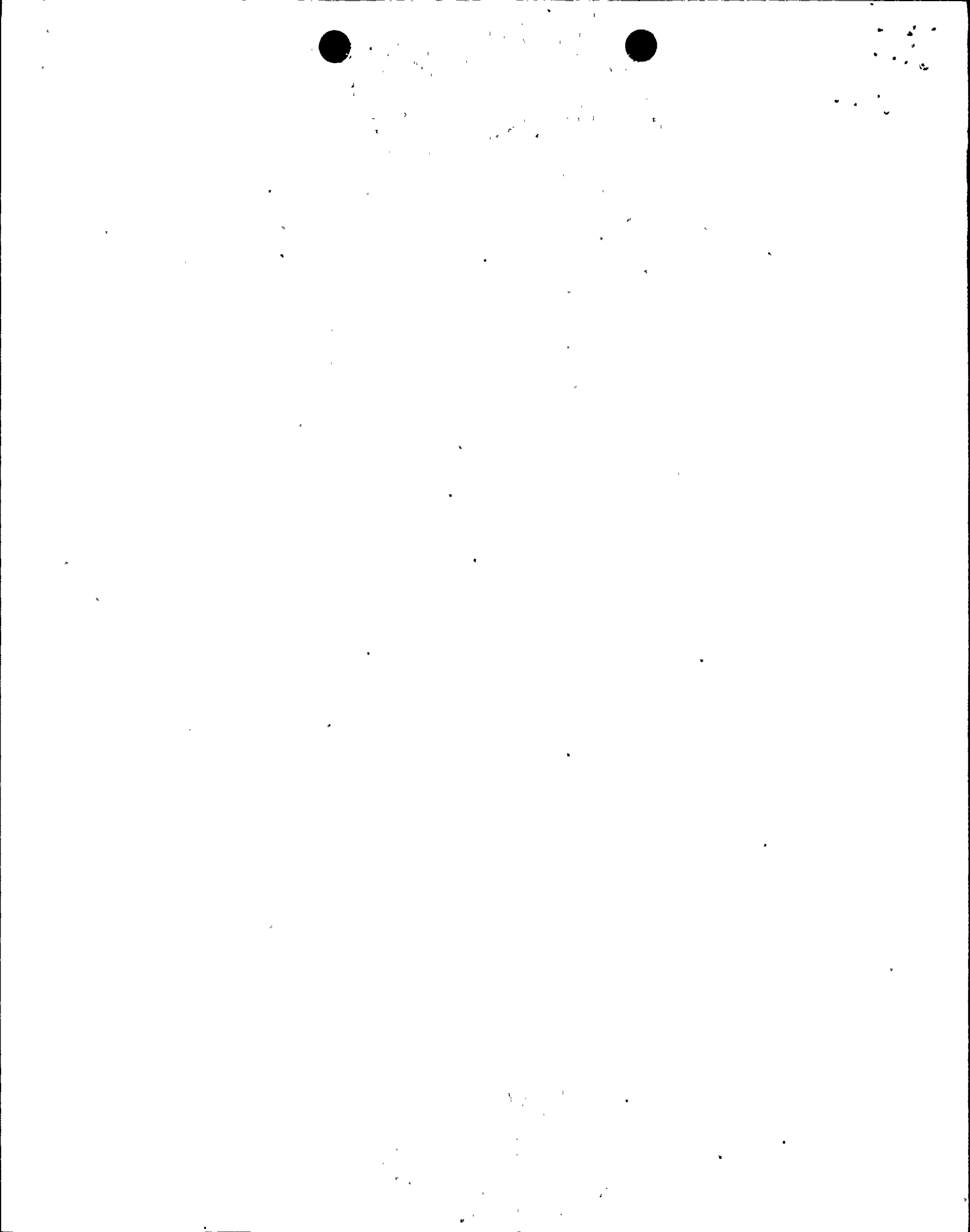
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October 30, 1998

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

**FROM:** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

**SUBJECT:** WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
 (WNP-2)

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is attached for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies ( 5 ) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

- Notice of Receipt of Application for Construction Permit(s) and Operating License(s).
- Notice of Receipt of Partial Application for Construction Permit(s) and Facility License(s): Time for submission of Views on Antitrust matters.
- Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License. (Call with 30-day insert date).
- Notice of Receipt of Application for Facility License(s); Notice of Availability of Applicant's Environmental Report; and Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Facility License(s) and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.
- Notice of Availability of NRC Draft/Final Environmental Statement.
- Notice of Limited Work Authorization.
- Notice of Availability of Safety Evaluation Report.
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- Order.
- Exemption.
- Notice of Granting Exemption.
- Environmental Assessment.
- Notice of Preparation of Environmental Assessment.
- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: Correction Notice

DOCKET NO. 50-397

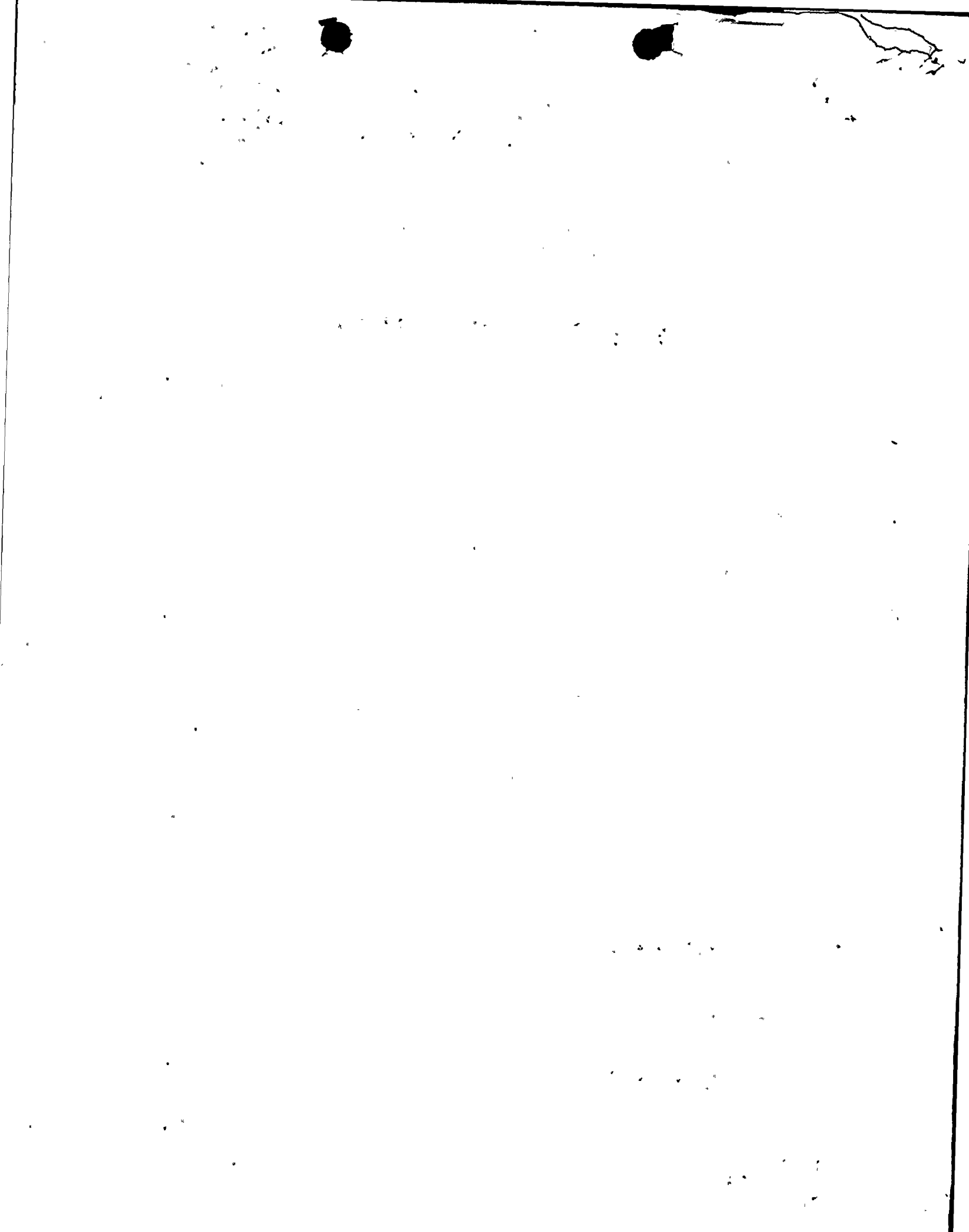
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Contact: Eileen Peyton  
 Telephone: 415-1305

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August 25, 1998

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

**FROM:** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

**SUBJECT:** WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
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- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

DOCKET NO. 50-397

Attachment(s): As stated

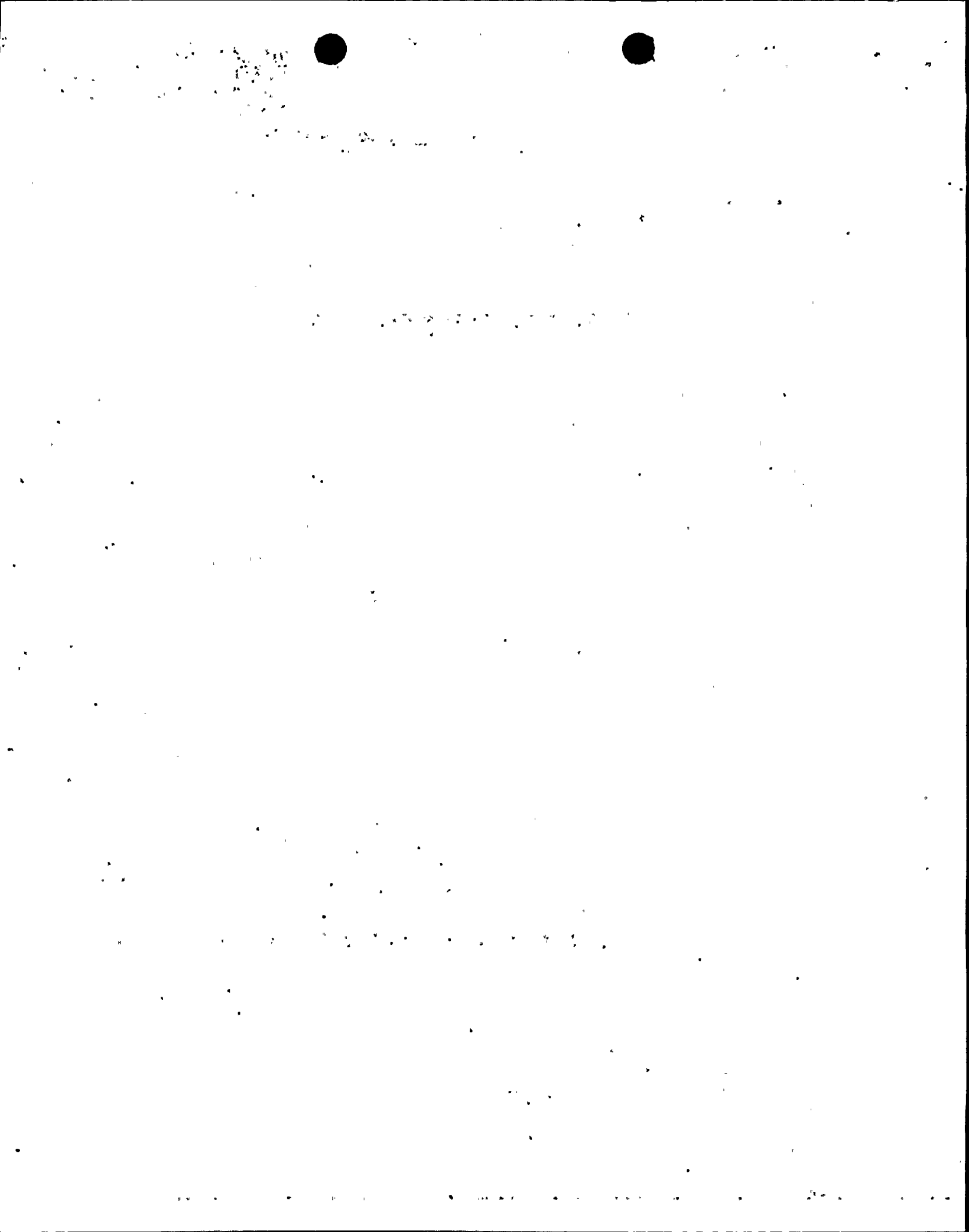
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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONWASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEMDOCKET NO. 50-397NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT  
TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted a request by Washington Public Power Supply System (the licensee) to withdraw its July 16, 1997, application for an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, issued to the licensee for operation of the Nuclear Project No. 2 (WNP-2), located in Benton County, Washington. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on October 8, 1997 (62 FR 52591).

The proposed amendment would have added new minimum reactor vessel pressure versus reactor vessel metal temperature (P/T) curves, applicable to 12 EFPY (effective full power years). Subsequently, by letter dated June 2, 1998, the licensee informed the staff that based upon an earlier commitment, new P/T curves would be submitted to the NRC staff.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated July 16, 1997, and (2) the staff's letter dated August 25, 1998.

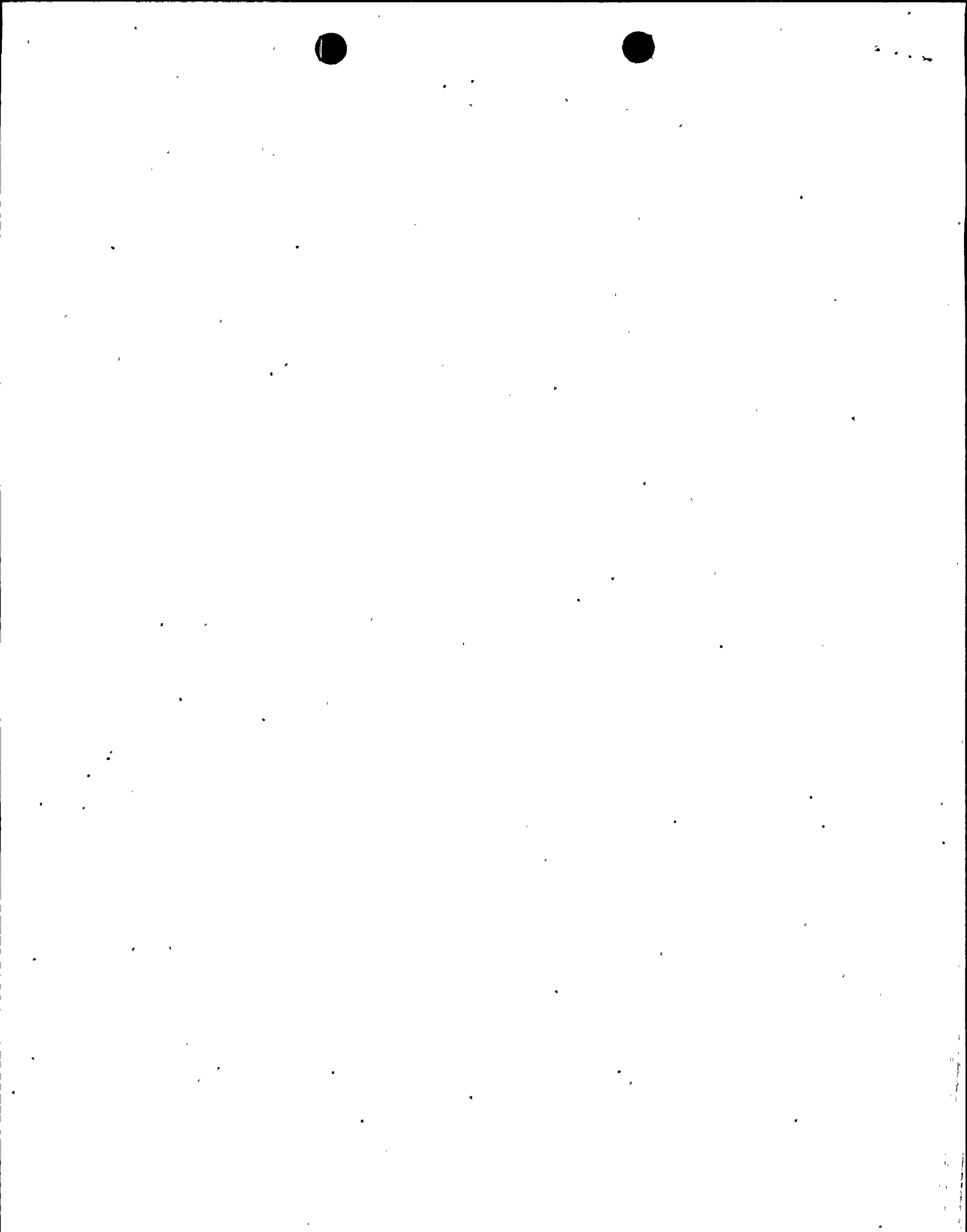
These documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC and at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 25th day of August 1998.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-2  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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August 25, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

FROM: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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 (WNP-2)

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- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: Notice of Withdrawal of Application for Amendment to Facility Operating License

DOCKET NO. 50-397

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Contact: Eileen Peyton  
 Telephone: 415-1305

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONWASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEMDOCKET NO. 50-397NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENTTO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted a request by Washington Public Power Supply System (the licensee) to withdraw its July 17, 1998, application for an exigent amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, issued to the licensee for operation of the Nuclear Project No. 2 (WNP-2), located in Benton County, Washington. The request for withdrawal of the subject amendment was made by the licensee in a letter dated August 13, 1998. Notice of Consideration of Issuance of this amendment was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on July 24, 1998 (63 FR 39913).

The July 17, 1998, exigent amendment application was in response to a Notice of Enforcement Discretion (NOED) that was issued by the NRC staff on July 17, 1998, for WNP-2. The technical specification (TS) change would have authorized the licensee to conduct TS Surveillance 3.8.4.8 (performance test) in lieu of TS Surveillance 3.8.4.7 (service test) for the WNP-2 Division 2 Class 1E 125 VDC battery on a one-time basis. Since WNP-2 occurred an outage of sufficient duration that would allow them to perform the surveillance, the change to the TS is no longer required.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for exigent amendment dated July 17, 1998, as supplemented by letter dated July 28, 1998, and (2) the staff's letter dated August 25, 1998.

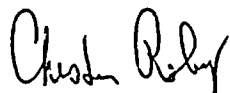




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Project Directorate IV-2  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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July 20, 1998

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 Office of Administration

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONWASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEMDOCKET NO. 50-397NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE, PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS  
CONSIDERATION DETERMINATION, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, issued to Washington Public Power Supply System (Supply System or the licensee), for operation of the Nuclear Project Number 2 (WNP-2) located in Benton County, Washington.

This technical specification (TS) change authorizes the licensee to conduct TS Surveillance 3.8.4.8 (performance test) in lieu of TS Surveillance 3.8.4.7 (service test) for the WNP-2 Division 2 Class 1E 125 VDC battery on a one-time basis. The change to the TS is authorized until the licensee can perform the service test during the next scheduled refueling outage or during the next unplanned outage of sufficient duration. This amendment has been requested in accordance with the notice of enforcement discretion granted to the licensee on July 17, 1998.

This amendment needs to be processed on an exigent basis to promptly bring the plant into literal compliance with the technical specifications due to an inadvertent missed surveillance. Without this amendment the licensee would be required to shut down the plant and create an unnecessary plant transient.

Before issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(a)(6) for amendments to be granted under exigent circumstances, the NRC staff must determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated; or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. As required by 10 CFR 50.91(a), the licensee has provided its analysis of the issue of no significant hazards consideration, which is presented below:

1. The proposed change does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated.

The safety function of the Battery E-B1-2 is to provide 125 VDC power to the Division 2 safety-related loads including; RCIC Turbine Exhaust Valve, CAC Isolation Valves, Diesel (DG-2) Engine Backup Lube and Fuel Oil Pumps, Critical Switchgear control power, Critical Instrument Power Supply Inverter, NSSS Instrument and Control Board power, and control power to the Remote Shutdown Panel. This establishes the Division 2, 125 VDC Power system as an accident mitigation system, and is not an individual precursor of an evaluated accident. Battery E-B1-2 has no role in the initiation of design basis accidents (DBAs) or transients identified in the FSAR.

The proposed change entails a one time relief from verbatim compliance with SR 3.8.4.7 by permitting the performance test in SR 3.8.4.8 to suffice for performance of the SR 3.8.4.7 service test. Improved Technical Specifications (ITS) SR 3.8.4.7 presently allows the 'modified' performance test in SR 3.8.4.8 to be performed in lieu of the service test in SR 3.8.4.7. The difference between the modified performance test short duration load of 400 amperes for six seconds and the performance test load of 350 amperes is small when compared to the 922 ampere one-minute rating of the battery. Testing at the levels defined in either situation provides a satisfactory battery performance demonstration. Additionally, documented test results since the date of manufacture (1994) of Battery E-B1-2 substantiate the battery's capability to perform its intended safety functions. The

performance test completed in April of 1997 demonstrated a battery capacity of 104.7% which is above the battery replacement criteria of 80% capacity. The performance test performed when the battery was new as part of acceptance testing in May of 1994 documented a capacity of 104.17%. Comparing the 1994 and 1997 performance test results indicates that the battery has not degraded during the 4 years since it was manufactured and installed. Based on the substantial battery capacity demonstrated by these performance tests and the short duration peak load required by the service test (400 amps) as compared to the one-minute rating of the battery (922 amps), the battery is fully capable of meeting the requirements of the modified performance test and the service test.

Regular battery surveillances are routinely performed which include specific gravity and battery terminal voltage measurements. As a compensatory measure, in addition to the visual corrosion inspection, the Supply System will measure Battery E-B1-2 connection resistance on a 92 day interval and verify that the intercell connector resistance is  $\leq 24.4$  E-6 ohms. These surveillance measures will ensure that Battery E-B1-2 remains operable.

The probability of an evaluated accident is derived from the probabilities of the individual precursors to that accident. The consequences of an evaluated accident are determined by the operability of plant systems designed to mitigate those consequences. Since Battery E-B1-2 is operable and will remain in service, this action will not change the availability of any safety related equipment and no individual precursors of an accident are affected. Therefore, this change does not increase the probability of an accident previously evaluated. In addition, since the functions and capabilities of systems designed to mitigate the consequences of an accident have not changed, the consequences of an accident previously evaluated are not expected to increase. Therefore, there is no significant increase in the probability or consequence of an accident previously evaluated.

2. The proposed change does not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

The service test requires a discharge rate of 400 amps for the first six seconds and drops to less than 250 amps for a duration of two hours. The performance test requires a constant 350 amps throughout the test. Therefore, a difference of 50 amps for the first six seconds is not enveloped by the performance test. The service test requirement of 400 amps is small compared to the manufacturer's one-minute discharge rating of the battery (922 amps). The 50 amperes for six seconds difference in the testing profiles of the SR 3.8.4.7 service test and the SR 3.8.4.8 performance test was confirmed by the manufacturer as insignificant relative to demonstration of the battery capacity and its short duration discharge rate.

Creation of the possibility of a new or different kind of accident would require the creation of one or more new precursors of that accident. New accident precursors may be created by modifications to the plant configuration. No modifications to plant

configuration will result from this proposed one time surveillance test change. Documented test results demonstrate that Battery E-B1-2 is capable of performing its intended safety function. Since Battery E-B1-2 has not been modified and will remain in operation during Operational Modes 1, 2, and 3 as required by the Technical Specifications, no new failure modes of the 125 VDC Distribution System are introduced.

Therefore, this change will not create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated.

3. The proposed change does not involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The basis for the margin of safety for the Division 2, 125 VDC battery is the two hour operating time defined in the DC System design basis. Battery E-B1-2 is properly sized using the methodology prescribed in IEEE Standard 485-1983 and includes the emergency loads anticipated during a Loss of Coolant Accident (LOCA) with a coincident Loss of Offsite Power (LOOP), for two hours. Additionally, the battery is relatively new having been manufactured and installed in 1994 and is in the prime of its service life. The battery service test performed in April of 1995 documented 114.2 volts @ 459 amps (in-rush) and 111.0 volts @ 279.0 amps (120 mins.). This service test encompassed the safety-related two hour duty cycle and demonstrated that the battery is able to supply and maintain the operable status of all emergency loads for their respective duty times.

The performance test uses the manufacturer's two hour discharge rate and is used to establish baseline capacity for trending battery degradation. The modified performance draws approximately 700.1 ampere-hours and the performance test draws 700 ampere-hours. Both of these tests are more severe than the service test which, when corrected for temperature, draws approximately 413 amp-hours. Since the performance test done in April 1997 demonstrated a capacity of 104.7% (of 700 A-h) there is no decrease in the margin of safety when compared to the total amp-hour demands of the LOCA with LOOP duty cycle, (i.e., the service test).

Battery E-B1-2 will not be removed from service during plant operation. Therefore, there is no change in availability of the Division 2 125 VDC battery, charger, or distribution system, and as such, there is no change in the base assumptions of our PRA models. Thus there is no impact on the WNP-2 PSA. Therefore, this change will not involve a significant reduction in the margin of safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed the licensee's analysis and, based on this review, it appears that the three standards of 10 CFR 50.92(c) are satisfied. Therefore, the NRC staff proposes to determine that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration.





The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 14 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 14-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period, such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 14-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a notice of issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

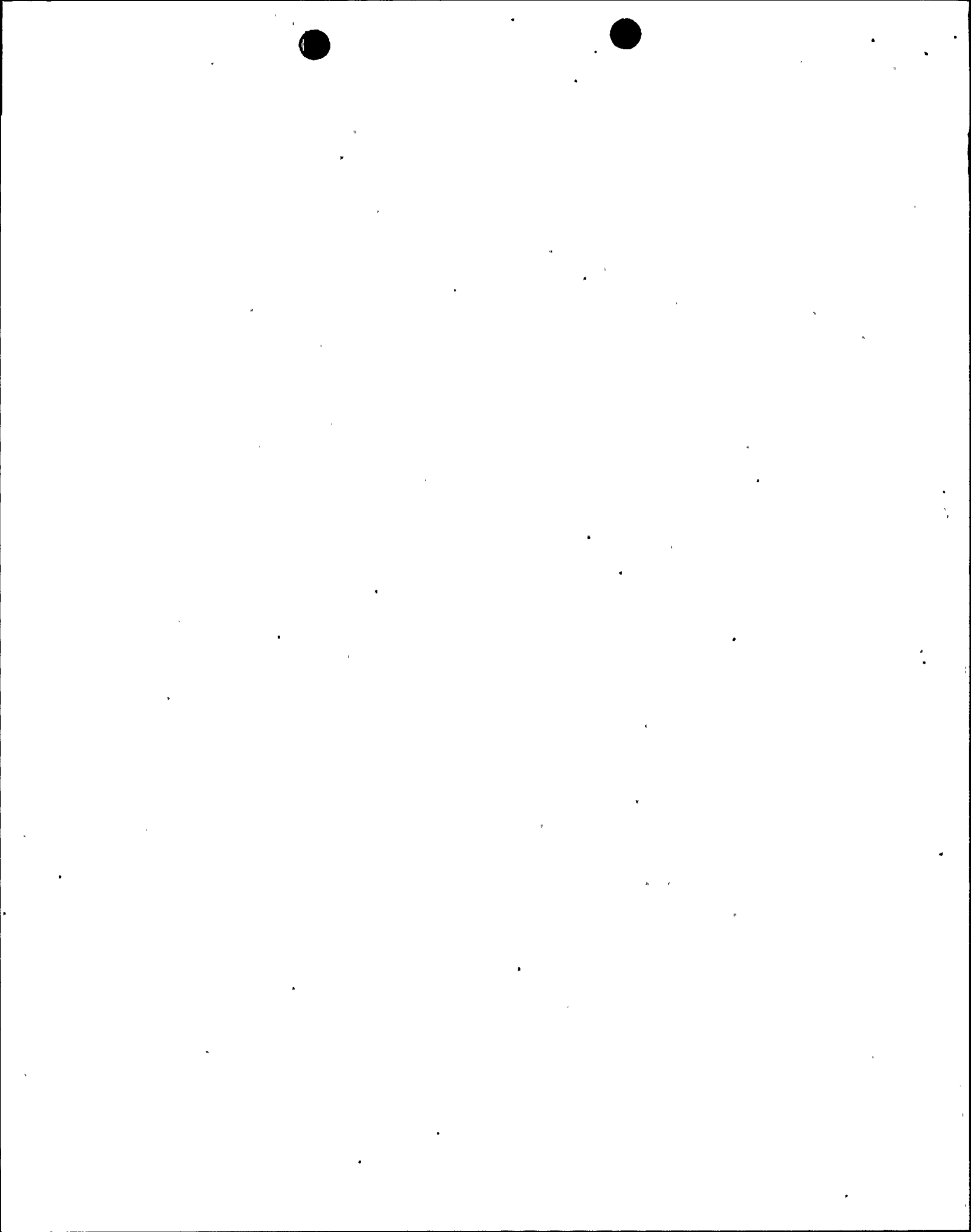
Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room 6D59, Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Federal workdays. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC.

The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By \_\_\_\_\_, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject facility operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must

file a written request for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. Interested persons should consult a current copy of 10 CFR 2.714 which is available at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington, 99352. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition; and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding; (2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled



in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than 15 days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene which must include a list of the contentions which are sought to be litigated in the matter. Each contention must consist of a specific statement of the issue of law or fact to be raised or controverted. In addition, the petitioner shall provide a brief explanation of the bases of the contention and a concise statement of the alleged facts or expert opinion which support the contention and on which the petitioner intends to rely in proving the contention at the hearing. The petitioner must also provide references to those specific sources and documents of which the petitioner is aware and on which the petitioner intends to rely to establish those facts or expert opinion. Petitioner must provide sufficient information to show that a genuine dispute exists with the applicant on a material issue of law or fact. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. The contention must be one which, if proven, would entitle the petitioner to relief. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.



If the amendment is issued before the expiration of the 30-day hearing period, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. If a hearing is requested, the final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and make it immediately effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, and to Perry D. Robinson, Esq., Winston & Strawn, 1400 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005-3502, attorney for the licensee.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).





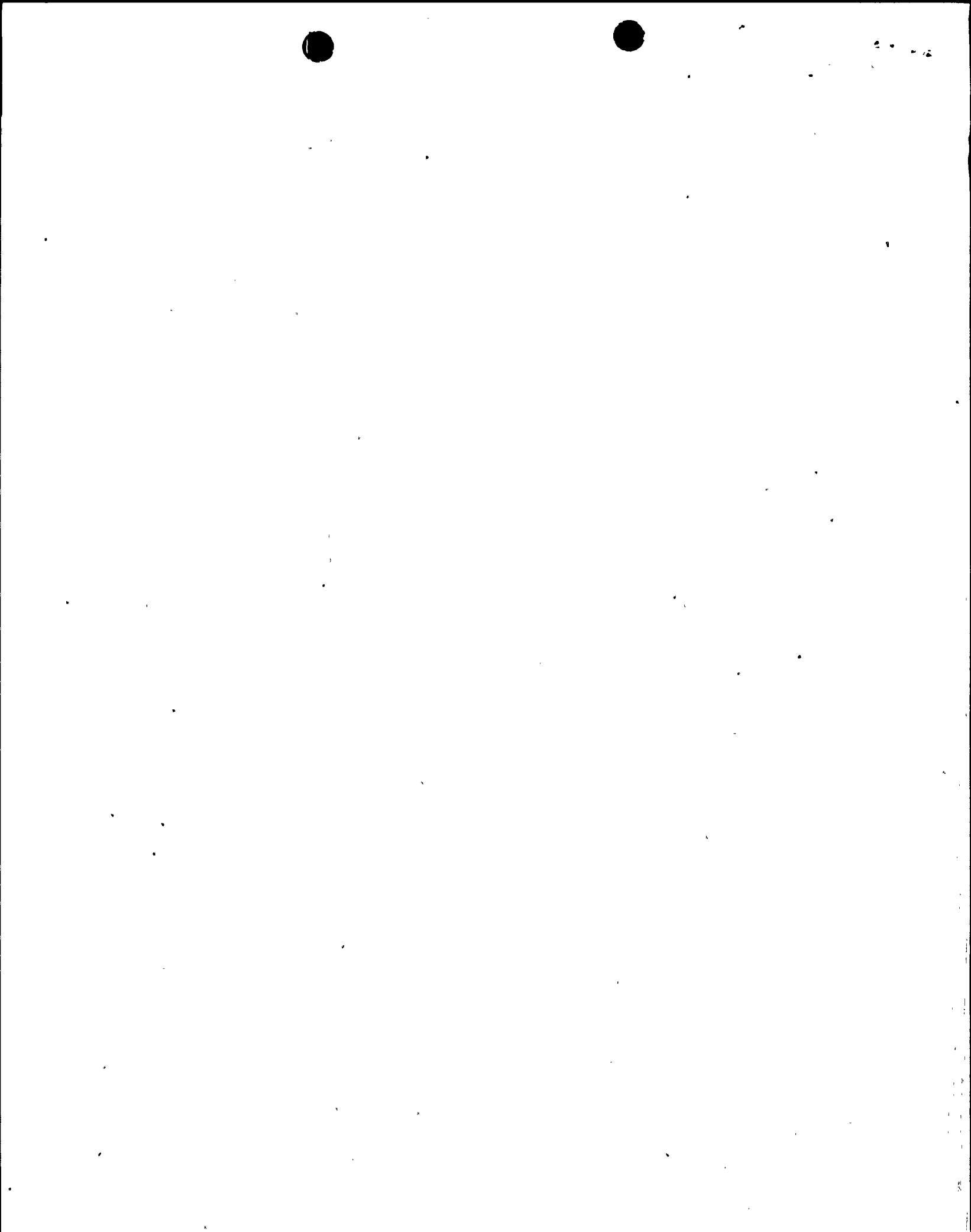
For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated July 17, 1998, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room, located at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 20th day of July 1998.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



L. Raynard Wharton, Acting Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-2  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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May 22, 1998

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

**FROM:** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

**SUBJECT:** WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
 (Nuclear Project No. 2)

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is attached for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies ( 5 ) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

- Notice of Receipt of Application for Construction Permit(s) and Operating License(s).
- Notice of Receipt of Partial Application for Construction Permit(s) and Facility License(s): Time for submission of Views on Antitrust matters.
- Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License. (Call with 30-day insert date).
- Notice of Receipt of Application for Facility License(s); Notice of Availability of Applicant's Environmental Report; and Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Facility License(s) and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.
- Notice of Availability of NRC Draft/Final Environmental Statement.
- Notice of Limited Work Authorization.
- Notice of Availability of Safety Evaluation Report.
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- Order.
- Exemption.
- Notice of Granting Exemption.
- Environmental Assessment.
- Notice of Preparation of Environmental Assessment.
- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

DOCKET NO. 50-398

Attachment(s): As stated

Contact: Eileen Peyton  
 Telephone: 415-1305

**DOCUMENT NAME:**

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DATE	5/22/98													



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

DOCKET NO. 50-397

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) has issued Amendment No. to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 issued to Washington Public Power Supply System (the licensee), for operation of the Washington Nuclear Project No. 2 (WNP-2), located in Benton County, Washington.

The amendment is effective as of the date of issuance.

The amendment revises the maximum yield strength for emergency core cooling system suction strainer materials listed in the WNP-2 Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR).

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment.

Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on April 21, 1998 (63 FR 19758). No request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

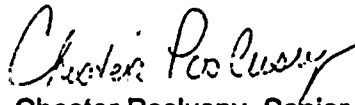
The Commission has prepared an Environmental Assessment related to the action and has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement. Based upon the

environmental assessment, the Commission has concluded that the issuance of this amendment will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

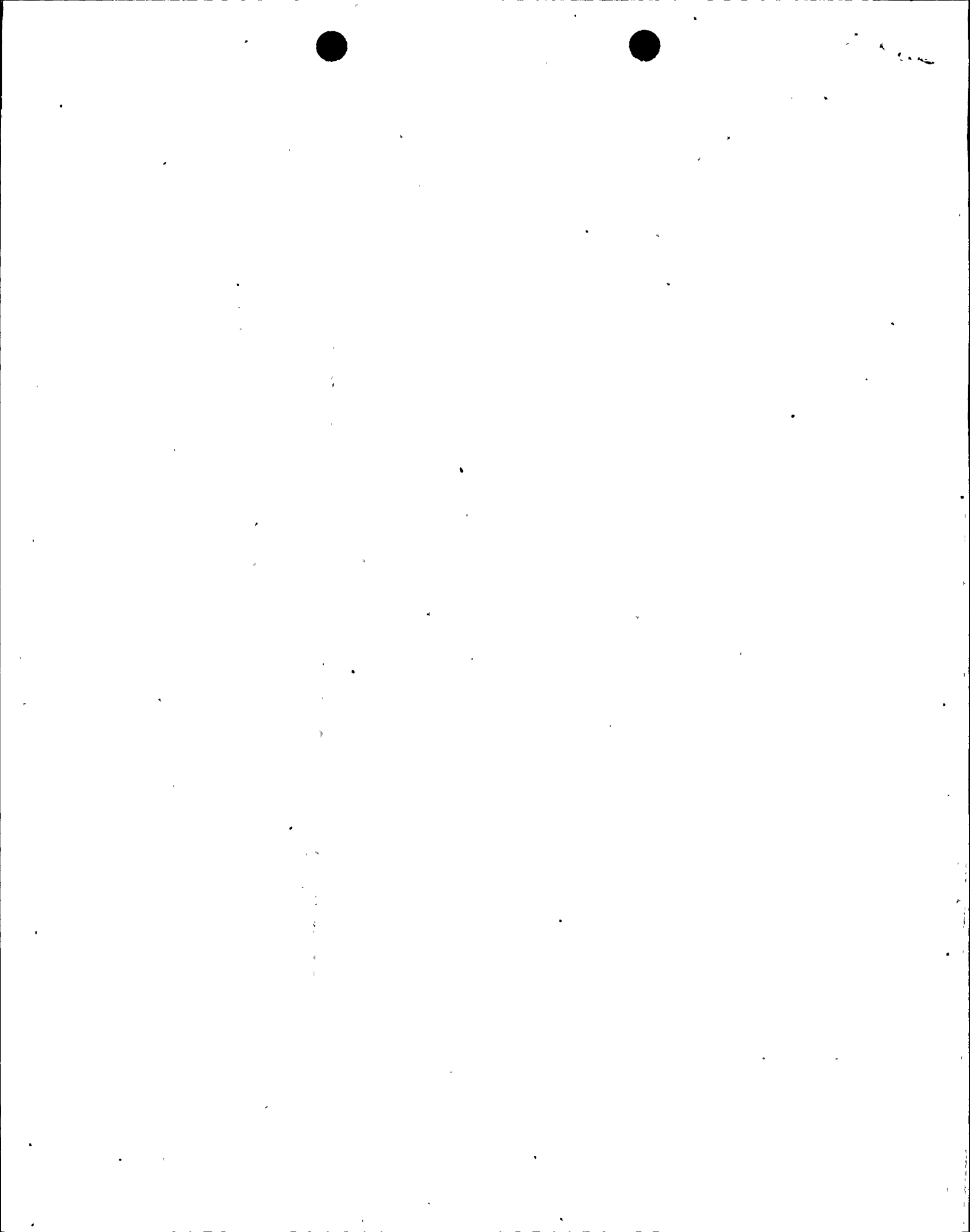
For further details with respect to the action see (1) the application for amendment dated April 16, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated April 28, 1998, and May 8, 1998. (2) Amendment No. 153 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, and (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation and Environmental Assessment. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the local public document room located at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of May 1998.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-2  
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



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May 14, 1998

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

**FROM:** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

**SUBJECT:** WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
 (Nuclear Project Number 2)

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is attached for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register, for publication. Additional conformed copies ( 5 ) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

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- Notice of Availability of NRC Draft/Final Environmental Statement.
- Notice of Limited Work Authorization.
- Notice of Availability of Safety Evaluation Report.
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- Environmental Assessment.
- Notice of Preparation of Environmental Assessment.
- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

DOCKET NO. 50-397

Attachment(s): As stated

Contact: Eileen Peyton  
 Telephone: 415-1305

**DOCUMENT NAME:**

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONWASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEMNUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2 (WNP-2)DOCKET NO. 50-397ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-21 issued to Washington Public Power Supply System (the licensee), for operation of WNP-2 located in Benton County, Washington.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of the Proposed Action:

The proposed action would revise the maximum yield strength for emergency core cooling system suction strainer materials listed in the WNP-2 Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR).

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated April 16, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated April 28 and May 8, 1998.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed action is needed to support the progression to startup for WNP-2, which is currently in a refueling outage. During this outage newly designed suction strainers have been installed in the suppression pool. They are designed to protect ECCS pumps from fibrous or other material that could be transported to the suppression pool after a design basis accident such as a loss of coolant accident. The licensee determined after fabrication of these strainers that the stainless steel material had measured yield strength which exceeded the limit which



was specified in the FSAR. Excessive yield strength can make the stainless steel susceptible to stress corrosion cracking (SCC) under certain environmental conditions. The licensee identified this as an unreviewed safety issue and submitted an amendment request which would change the yield strength for the installed strainers. Approval of this amendment will enable the licensee to change reactor mode and declare the strainers operable while progressing to startup and full power operation.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and, based on the testing and analytical information provided by the licensee, concludes that the increase in yield strength for the specific material used in the suction strainers is acceptable. The licensee has an effective cleanup system for the suppression pool, which maintains a desired level of water cleanliness sufficient to avoid conditions that would support SCC. Further, the licensee has conducted a fracture mechanics analysis and has determined that cracking in the surface martensitic structure of the strainers will not propagate to a critical size and, thus, not jeopardize the strainers' safety related function of protecting the ECCS pumps and spray nozzles. Also, the licensee's analysis has demonstrated that the strainers have adequate structural integrity to preclude failure when the forces of design basis hydrodynamic loads are applied. Lastly, a Strauss test using actual strainer material samples demonstrated acceptable stress corrosion cracking resistance.

The staff has concluded that this change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable offsite or occupational

radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission has concluded there is no significant environmental impact associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated. As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for WNP-2 .

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

In accordance with its stated policy, on May 13, 1998, the staff consulted with the Washington State official, Mr. R. Cowley of the Department of Health, State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.



7

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated April 16, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated April 28, 1998, and May 8, 1998, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Richmond Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of May 1998.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Chester Poslusny, Senior Project Manager  
Project Directorate IV-2  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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April 17, 1998

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

**FROM:** Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

**SUBJECT:** WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
 (Nuclear Project No. 2)

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is attached for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies ( 5 ) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

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- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: Please call Eileen Peyton with 30-day insert date.

**DOCKET NO.** 50-397

**Attachment(s):** As stated

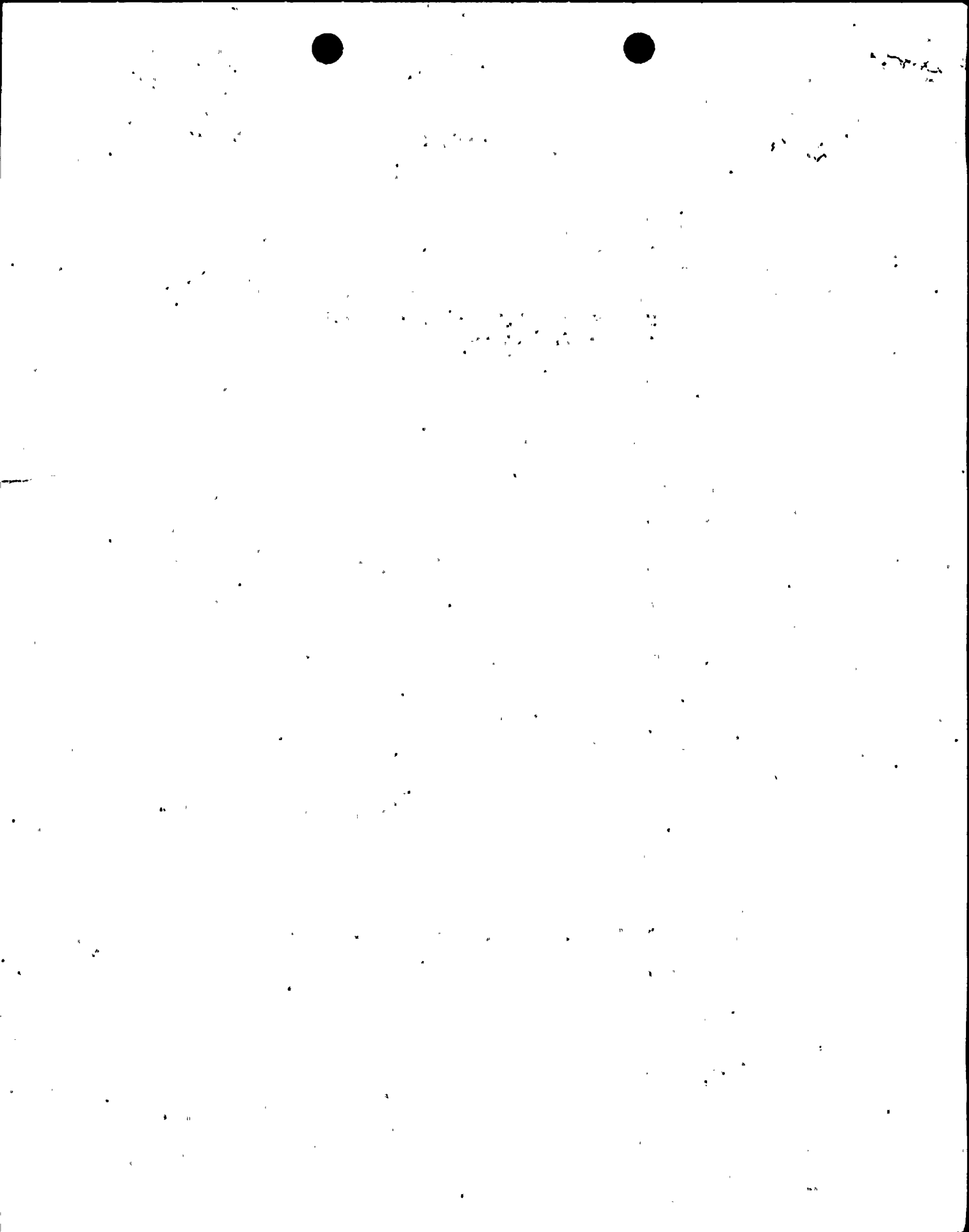
**Contact:** Eileen Peyton  
**Telephone:** 415-1305

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March 25, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO: Rules and Directives Branch  
 Division of Administrative Services  
 Office of Administration

FROM: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
 (WPPSS Nuclear Project, Unit 2)

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is attached for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies ( 5 ) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

- Notice of Receipt of Application for Construction Permit(s) and Operating License(s).
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- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

DOCKET NO. 50-397

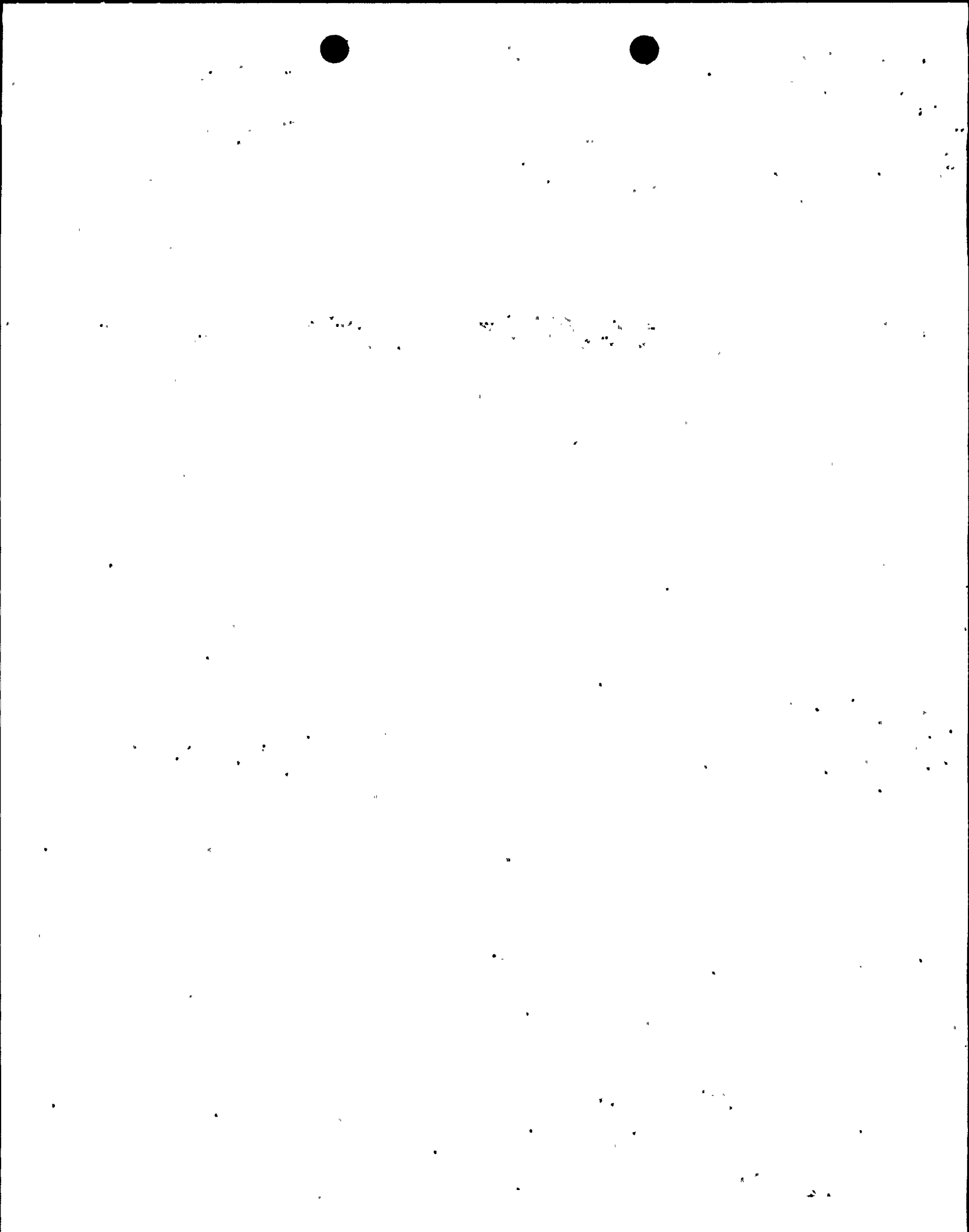
Attachment(s): As stated

Contact: C. Poslusny  
 Telephone: 415-1341

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM )  
(Nuclear Project No. 2) )

Docket No. 50-397

CONFIRMATORY ORDER MODIFYING LICENSE

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

I.

Washington Public Power Supply System, WPPSS, ( WPPSS or the Licensee) is the holder of Facility Operating License No. NPF-21, which authorizes operation of Nuclear Project No. 2 (WNP-2) located in Richland, Washington, at steady state reactor core power levels not in excess of 3485 megawatts thermal (rated power).

II.

The staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has been concerned that Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier systems installed by licensees may not provide the level of fire endurance intended and that licensees that use Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barriers may not be meeting regulatory requirements. During the 1992 to 1994 time frame, the NRC staff issued Generic Letter (GL) 92-08, "Thermo-Lag 330-1 Fire Barriers" and subsequent requests for additional information that requested licensees to submit plans and schedules for resolving the Thermo-Lag issue. The NRC staff has obtained and reviewed all licensees' corrective plans and schedules. The staff is concerned that some licensees may not be making adequate progress toward resolving the plant-specific issues, and that some implementation schedules may be either too tenuous or too protracted. For example, several licensees informed the NRC staff that their completion dates had slipped by 6 months to as much as 3 years. For plants that have



completion action scheduled beyond 1997, the NRC staff has met with these licensees to discuss the progress of the licensees' corrective actions and the extent of licensee management attention regarding completion of Thermo-Lag corrective actions. In addition, the NRC staff discussed with licensees the possibility of accelerating their completion schedules.

WPPSS was one of the licensees with which the NRC staff held meetings. At these meetings, the NRC staff reviewed with WPPSS the schedule of Thermo-Lag corrective actions described in the WPPSS submittals to the NRC dated April 13, 1993, February 11, 1994, November 9, 1994, April 27, 1995, and September 26, 1997. Based on the information submitted by WPPSS and provided during the meetings, the NRC staff has concluded that the schedules presented by WPPSS are reasonable. This conclusion is based on the (1) amount of installed Thermo-Lag; (2) the complexity of the plant-specific fire barrier configurations and issues; (3) the need to perform certain plant modifications during outages as opposed to those that can be performed while the plant is at power; and (4) integration with other significant, but unrelated issues that WPPSS is addressing at its plant. In order to remove compensatory measures such as fire watches, it has been determined that resolution of the Thermo-Lag corrective actions by WPPSS must be completed in accordance with current WPPSS schedules. By letter dated February 27, 1998, the NRC staff notified WPPSS of its plan to incorporate WPPSS's schedular commitment into a requirement by issuance of an order and requested consent from the Licensee. By letter dated March 12, 1998, the Licensee provided its consent to issuance of a Confirmatory Order.



## III.

The Licensee's commitment as set forth in its letter of March 12, 1998, is acceptable and is necessary for the NRC to conclude that the public health and safety are reasonably assured. To preclude any schedule slippage and to assure public health and safety, the NRC staff has determined that the Licensee's commitment in its March 12, 1998, letter be confirmed by this Order. The Licensee has agreed to this action. Based on the above, and the Licensee's consent, this Order is immediately effective upon issuance.

## IV.

Accordingly, pursuant to sections 103, 161b, 161i, 161o, 182, and 186 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 2.202 and 10 CFR Part 50, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, effective immediately, that:

WPPSS shall complete final implementation of Thermo-Lag 330-1 fire barrier corrective actions at Washington Public Power Supply System, Nuclear Project No. 2, described in the WPPSS submittals to the NRC dated April 13, 1993, February 11, 1994, November 9, 1994, April 27, 1995, and September 26, 1997, during the R-14 Maintenance and Refueling Outage (Spring 1999). Overall work package close-out will be completed by December 1999.

The Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, may relax or rescind, in writing, any provisions of this Confirmatory Order upon a showing by the Licensee of good cause.





Any person adversely affected by this Confirmatory Order, other than the Licensee, may request a hearing within 20 days of its issuance. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the time to request a hearing. A request for extension of time must be made in writing to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, and include a statement of good cause for the extension. Any request for a hearing shall be submitted to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Attention: Docketing and Services Section, Washington, D.C. 20555. Copies of the hearing request shall also be sent to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. 20555, to the Assistant General Counsel for Hearings and Enforcement at the same address, to the Regional Administrator, NRC Region IV at 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400, Arlington, Texas 76011, and to the Licensee. If such a person requests a hearing, that person shall set forth with particularity the manner in which his/her interest is adversely affected by this Order and shall address criteria set forth in 10 CFR 2.714(d).

If a hearing is requested by a person whose interest is adversely affected, the Commission will issue an Order designating the time and place of any such hearing. If a hearing is held, the issue to be considered at such hearing shall be whether this Confirmatory Order should be sustained.

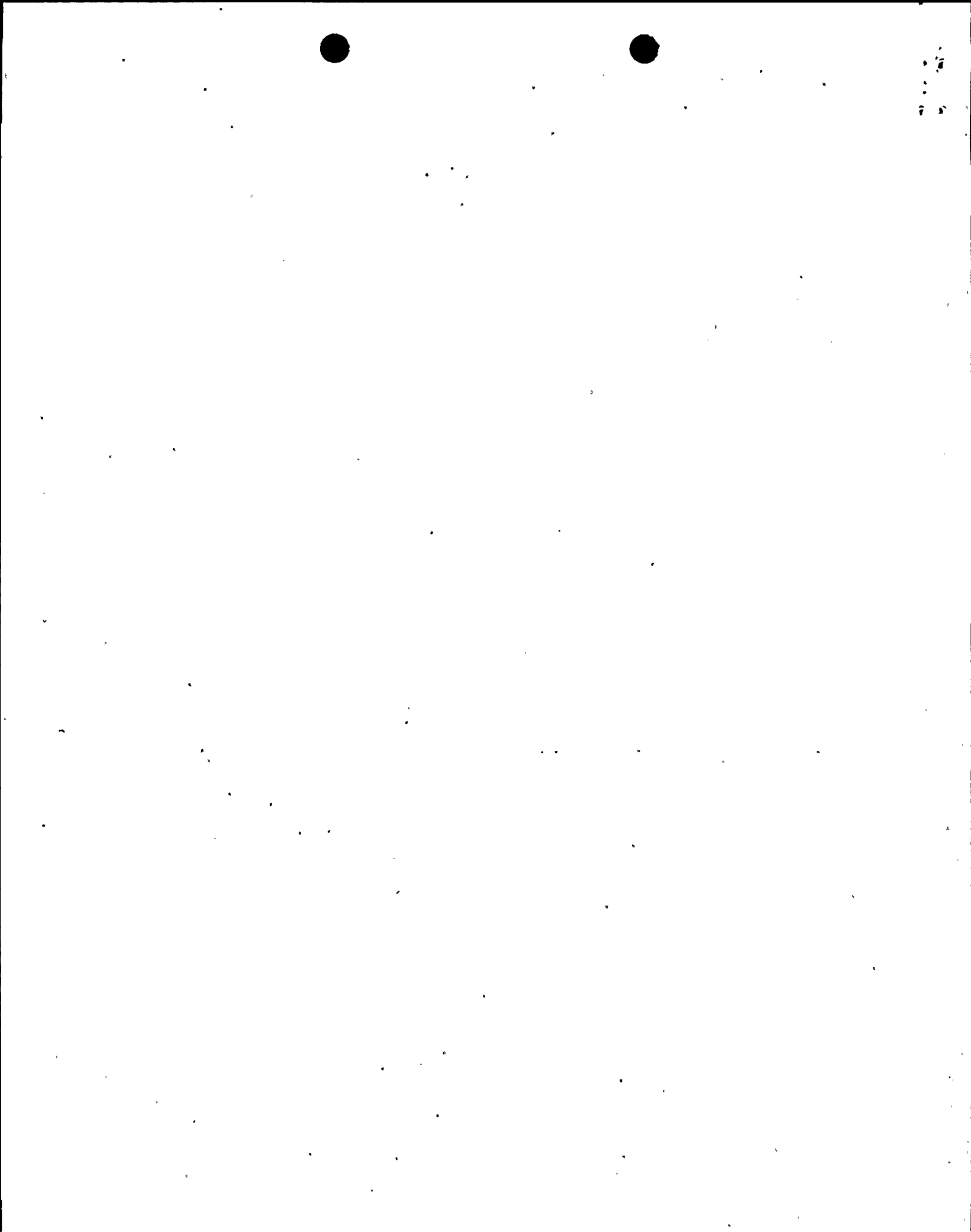
In the absence of any request for hearing, or written approval of an extension of time in which to request a hearing, the provisions specified in Section IV above shall be final 20 days from the date of this Order without further order or proceedings. If an extension of time for requesting a hearing has been approved, the provisions specified in Section IV shall be final

when the extension expires if a hearing request has not been received. An answer or a request for hearing shall not stay the immediate effectiveness of this Order.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

  
Samuel J. Collins, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Rockville, Maryland  
this 25th day of March 1998



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July 11, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: Rules Review and Directives Branch  
 Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services  
 Office of Administration

FROM: Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
 (WPPSS Nuclear Project, Unit 2)

One signed original of the *Federal Register* Notice identified below is attached for your transmittal to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Additional conformed copies ( 5 ) of the Notice are enclosed for your use.

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- Notice of Preparation of Environmental Assessment.
- Receipt of Petition for Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Issuance of Final Director's Decision Under 10 CFR 2.206.
- Other: Partial Withdrawal of an Amendment

DOCKET NO. 50-397

Attachment(s): As stated

Contact: T. Colburn

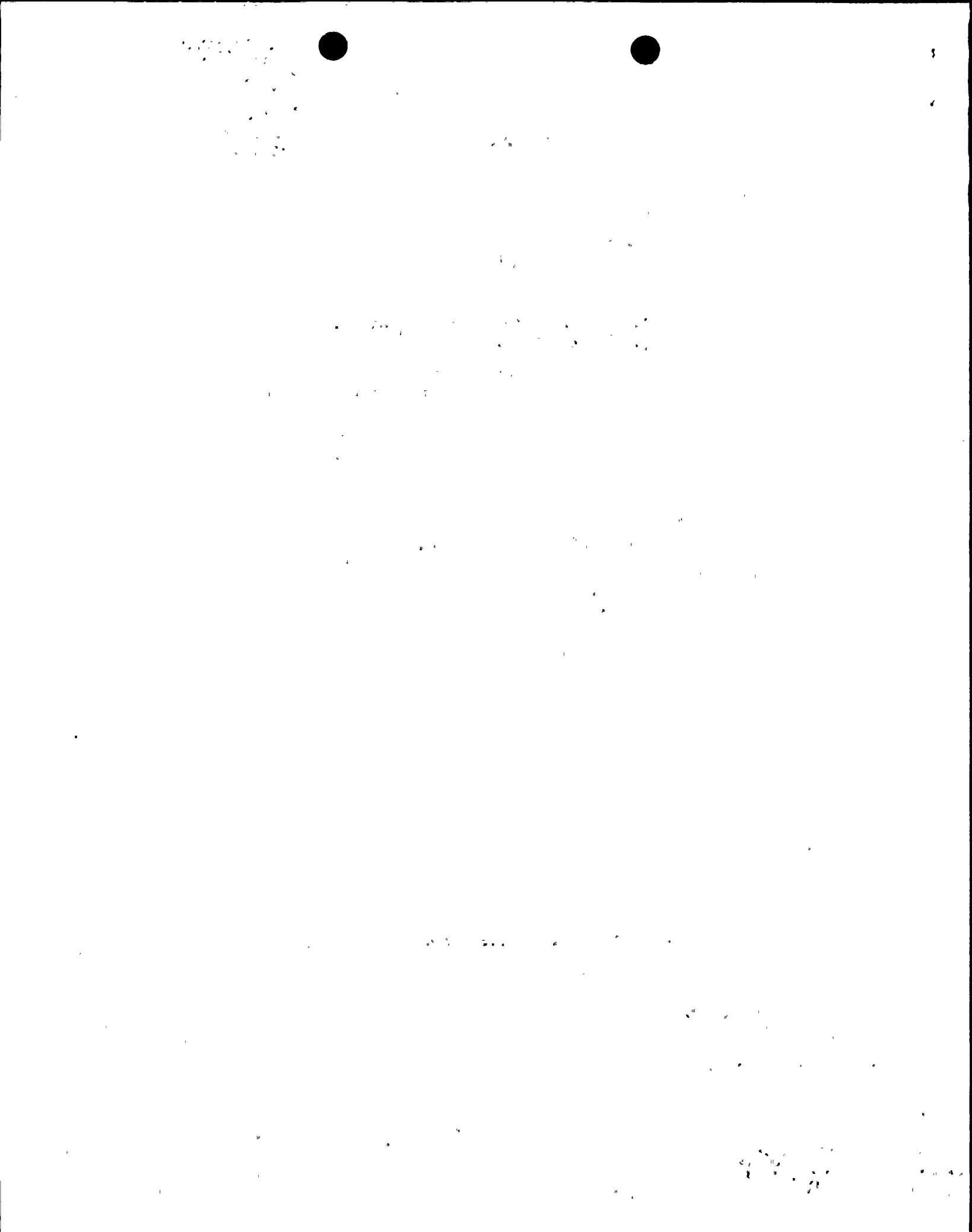
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DATE	7/11/97									

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM  
DOCKET NO. 50-397  
NOTICE OF PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR  
AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has granted the request of Washington Public Power Supply System (the licensee) to partially withdraw its May 20, 1997, application, as supplemented by letters dated June 6, 1997, and July 3, 1997, for proposed amendment to Facility Operating License NPF-21 for the Washington Nuclear Project No. 2, located in Benton County, Washington.

The proposed change modifies the Technical Specifications (TS) for the minimum critical power ratio (MCPR) safety limit in TS 2.1.1.2 for ATRIUM 9X9 fuel. In addition, a new reference would have been added to TS Section 5.6.5, "Core Operating Limits Report." The licensee's June 6, 1997, letter, in addition to specifying that the proposed license amendment change would only be in effect for Cycle 13, withdrew the addition of this new reference.

The Commission had previously issued a Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on May 29, 1997 (62 FR 29160). However, by letter dated June 6, 1997, the licensee partially withdrew the proposed change.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated May 20, 1997, as supplemented by letters dated June 6, 1997, which partially withdrew the application for license amendment, and July 3, 1997. The above documents are available for public inspection at the Commission's

Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Street, Richland, Washington 99352.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3rd day of July 1997.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Timothy G. Colburn, Senior Project Manager  
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