

October 30, 1998

Mr. William W. Mehrens
Executive Secretary
Columbia Pacific Building and
Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO
3533 SE 86th Avenue
Portland, OR 97266

Dear Mr. Mehrens:

This letter is to inform you of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) final decision on Portland General Electric Company's (PGE's) request for approval of a one-time shipment of the decommissioned reactor vessel package from the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant near Ranier, Oregon, to a disposal site at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, near Richland, Washington. The reactor vessel would be shipped intact with its internal radioactive components in place.

On October 22, 1998, the Commission approved PGE's request and published, in the Federal Register, an Environmental Assessment and a Finding of No Significant Impact, regarding the specific regulatory exemptions related to the proposed shipment (see 63 FR 57713; October 28, 1998). The Director of the Spent Fuel Project Office, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, subsequently issued PGE authorization to proceed with the shipment. Issuance of this authorization concludes NRC's actions for approving the shipment. However, PGE must also obtain approval from: (a) the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), to exempt PGE from certain DOT regulations; (b) the State of Washington, to dispose of the reactor vessel at the U. S. Ecology site, at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation; and (c) the State of Oregon, to modify the Trojan Decommissioning Plan. PGE has scheduled the shipment for the summer of 1999. Separately, I would also note that NRC inspectors will observe and accompany the shipment as it occurs.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your interest in the Commission's activities in assuring the safe transport of radioactive material. I trust that this reply responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,

original /s/ by

Carl J. Paperiello, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Dockets: 50-344; 71-9271

Identical letter sent to Mr. Chuck Barnes.

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