

REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY

DEC 11 1980

REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION

DEC 12 AM 11 21

CONSTRUCTION SERVICES UNIT

Mr. William J. Lindblad
 Vice President, Engineering - Construction
 Portland General Electric Company
 121 S.W. Salmon Street
 Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mr. Lindblad:

This replies to your letter to Chairman Ahearne dated September 30, 1980. In your letter you state that it is Portland General Electric Company's (PGE) desire to continue with the licensing effort of the Pebble Springs Nuclear Plant application on a most limited fashion, but PGE has been unable to convince the staff to commit the necessary resources to move ahead on matters related to environmental-site suitability.

The basis for our position has been that closing the record on the four environmental-site suitability issues set forth in your letter would still not permit the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to authorize the staff to issue a limited work authorization on a construction permit (CP). This is because other issues, such as "need for power," remain open due to indefinite schedules on the Pebble Springs application.

For the past several months, we have been reviewing the situations related to numerous CP applications to actively restart the reviews of these particular applications concerning radiological health and safety.

With respect to your request, we have re-examined your proposal and now find that completion of the four issues requires only a relatively small allocation of our manpower resources with the majority of this effort coming from our support contractor, Argonne National Laboratory (ANL), for the alternative site area. Accordingly, we accept your proposal to proceed with the limited effort of these four issues. There is the remaining problem, however, of scheduling this work at ANL and with the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR). As you may be aware, we have many high priority applications that are severely straining our resources; nevertheless, I am confident we can establish a mutually acceptable schedule for this limited effort. A staff member from NRR will contact you shortly.

I trust that this satisfies your request.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
 H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

NRR
 EG:ase
 12/80

8012290384

*SEE PREVIOUS YELLOW

A

OFFICE	DL:LB#2 *	DL:LB#2 *	OELD *	L:ADDL *	DOL:D *	NRR
SURNAME	CStahle:ph	ASchwencer		RTedesco	DEisenhut	HRDenton
DATE						12/80

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket Files 50-514/515

NRC PDR

Local PDR

NRR Reading

LB#2 File

H. Denton

E. Case

D. Eisenhut

R. Purple

Attorney, OELD

~~_____~~

G. Ertter (#09706)

S. Cavanaugh

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M. Fudge

A. Schwencer

C. Stahle

M. Service

R. Lazo, ASLB

Shapar

Grimes

Hanauer

Ross

PPAS

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Snyder

Vollmer

I&E (3)

Key 80-1536

Account File
50-514

POOR ORIGINAL

Mr. William J. Lindblad
Vice President, Engineering - Construction
Portland General Electric Company
121 S. W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mr. Lindblad:

Your letter to Chairman Ahearne dated September 30, 1980 has been referred to me for response.

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Sincerely,

Legal Objectives
11/15/80
12/8/80
12/14/80

SEE ATTACHED SHEET FOR DISTRIBUTION
*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCES

OFFICE			Harold R. Denton			NRR:D
SURNAME			Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation			HDenton
DATE	DL:LB#2	DL:LB#2	OELD	L:AB:DL	DE: [Signature]	12/ /80
	CStahle:ph	ASchwencer	B. [Signature]	RTedesco	DE: [Signature]	NRR:DD
	11/ 15 /80	11/ 15 /80	11/ /80	11/15 /80	12/ 8 /80	ECase
						12/ /80

FROM: W. J. Lindblad Portland General Electric Co.		ACTION CONTROL	DATES	CONTROL NO.
TO: Chairman Ahearne		COMPL DEADLINE	10/27/80	09706
DESCRIPTION <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/> MEMO <input type="checkbox"/> REPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER		ACKNOWLEDGMENT		DATE OF DOCUMENT
Urges the Commission to proceed with construction licensing of Pebble Springs plant.		INTERIM REPLY		9/30/80
CLASSIFIED DATA		FINAL REPLY		PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF:
DOCUMENT/COPY NO.		FILE LOCATION		<input type="checkbox"/> CHAIRMAN
NUMBER OF PAGES		SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS		
POSTAL REGISTRY NO.		SECY 80-1836		
ASSIGNED TO:		LEGAL REVIEW		
Denton 10/9/80		<input type="checkbox"/> FINAL <input type="checkbox"/> COPY		
Eisenhut 10/10/80		NO LEGAL OBJECTIONS NOTIFY:		
10-14-80		<input type="checkbox"/> EDO ADMIN & CORRES BR		
10-14-80		EXT. _____		
		COMMENTS, NOTIFY:		
		EXT. _____		
		JCAE NOTIFICATION RECOMMENDED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		

NRC FORM 232
(11-75)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS

PRINCIPAL CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

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No. 80-1836 Logging Date 10/8/80

NRC SECRETARIAT

TO: Commissioner _____ Date _____

Exec. Dir./Oper. _____ Gen. Counsel _____

Cong. Liaison _____ Solicitor _____

Public Affairs _____ Secretary _____

_____ Inspector & Auditor _____

_____ Policy Evaluation _____

Incoming: W. J. Lindblad

From: Portland General Electric Co

To: Ahearne Date 9/30/80

Subject: urges NRC to proceed with construction
licensing of the Pebble Springs Nuc plant

Prepare reply for signature of:

Chairman

Commissioner _____

EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY, IA, PE

Signature block omitted

Return original of incoming with response

For direct reply* Suspense: Oct 27

For appropriate action

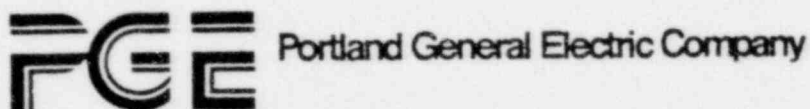
For information

Rec'd 10/9/80
 Date 10/9/80

Remarks: RF, Docket HAS orig

For the Commission: billie

*Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Correspondence and Records Branch



William J. Lindblad Vice President

September 30, 1980

Pebble Springs Nuclear Plant
Dockets 50-514
50-515

Honorable John F. Ahearne, Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Dr. Ahearne:

The purpose of this letter is to express Portland General Electric Company's desire to proceed with construction licensing of the Pebble Springs Nuclear Plant. We have been unable to convince your Staff to commit the necessary resources to move ahead with our application in even the most limited fashion.

The Pebble Springs licensing proceeding has been ongoing for over six years. Prior to the accident at Three Mile Island (TMI), NRC Staff review and hearings before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board were moving towards completion. Since the TMI accident, further safety review and licensing proceedings have been in abeyance pending the formulation of a licensing policy by the NRC to appropriately reflect the lessons learned from the accident for pending Construction Permit applications. Although NUREG-0718 is a step in this direction, it appears to us that Commission approval of a complete policy statement for Construction Permit applications may be months away. Pending completion of this policy statement, we believe a partial initial decision on environmental and site suitability issues could now be entered where the hearing record is complete. We also believe several other environmental and site suitability issues are amenable to resolution in the near-term and we seek to complete and close the record on these issues. Moving forward towards completion of these latter category of issues involves a limited commitment of staff resources. These issues are:

- a. Alternative sites. The NRC Staff has completed their alternative site review and issued it in the form of a Final Supplement to the Final Environmental Statement in April of 1980. This review needs to be addressed in hearings.
- b. Environmental effects of the uranium fuel cycle, including coal vs. nuclear health effects. Although the record was substantially complete in 1978, it may be in need of further updating.

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DUPLICATE

Portland General Electric Company

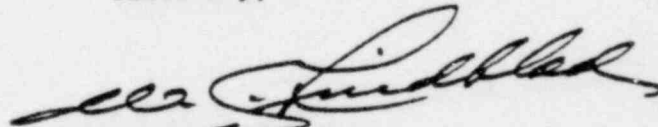
Honorable John F. Ahearne
September 30, 1980
Page 2

- c. Appendix I to 10 CFR Part 50. NRC Staff analysis has been completed and only needs to be considered in future hearings to complete the record.
- d. Accident Considerations under NEPA. In accordance with the Commission's Statement of Interim Policy dated June 13, 1980, an NRC Staff determination is needed to ascertain if any "special circumstances" exist for Pebble Springs that would warrant reconsideration of accidents at the Construction Permit stage of review.

We appreciate the manpower difficulties the NRC is experiencing and recognize that greater priority should be properly afforded to near-term Operating License applicants. Consistent with this situation, we have endeavored to close out only those environmental and site suitability issues currently pending in our proceeding which do not induce a significant commitment of staff resources and which would not fall within the purview of the Commission's TMI licensing policy for Construction Permit applications. We believe this is a reasonable, efficient and prudent course to pursue. However, your Staff has been unwilling to provide even the most minimum of resources necessary to support the completion of hearings on the foregoing matters.

I respectfully request that you ask your Staff to give due consideration to the Pebble Springs application and to provide the support needed to go forward with final stages of hearings on the remaining environmental and site suitability matters identified herein.

Sincerely,



W. S. Lindblad
Vice President
Engineering-Construction

c: Mr. Lynn Frank, Director
State of Oregon
Department of Energy

Elizabeth S. Bowers, Esq.
Dr. Walter H. Jordan
Dr. William E. Martin
Bernard M. Bordenick, Esq.
Frank Ostrander, Jr., Esq.
Lloyd K. Marbet