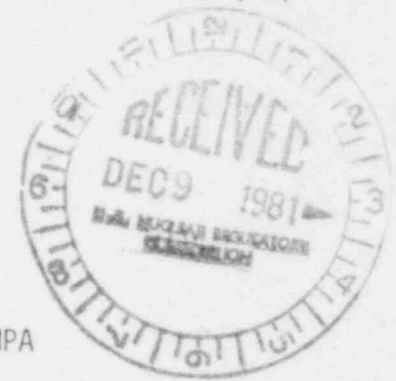


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Docket Nos. 50-460
and 50-513

Mr. R. L. Ferguson
Managing Director
Washington Public Power Supply System
Post Office Box 968
3000 George Washington Way
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

Subject: Results of WNP-1 Caseload Forecast Panel Visit

This letter is to advise you of the results of the NRC Caseload Forecast Panel visit to the WNP-1 plant site during the period October 21 - 23, 1981. The Panel consisted of the Licensing Project Manager (R. W. Hernan) and the Office of Management and Program Analysis Construction Analyst (W. H. Lovelace). The primary purpose of this visit was to assess construction progress of the WNP-1 project and estimate an NRC construction completion date from the standpoint of operating license need date. The date estimated by the NRC will provide a basis for the operating license review schedule used by the staff and will be used by the staff and Commission in establishing licensing priorities. In view of the recent major changes in the construction management scheme, the date established by the Panel during the course of this evaluation will be considered a baseline date and reassessments will be made on an annual basis to adjust the NRC's estimated date and review schedule as appropriate.

Summary

The Caseload Forecast Panel estimated that the construction of WNP-1 will be completed in February 1986. The Supply System estimates completion to be in December 1985 and estimates that the project is currently about 46% complete. The Supply System's estimated date is based upon achieving and maintaining a rate of 1.5% completion per month.

Basis of NRC's Estimate

The Panel's estimate of February 1986 is based upon information provided by appropriate project management personnel (WPPSS, UE&C, Bechtel, B&W) on October 21 and upon actual inspection of the facility on October 22. The following areas of concern were taken into consideration:

- (a) Installation of power, control and instrumentation cable in the General Service Building, Reactor Building and Turbine Building has not yet begun. Although raceway (cable tray) has progressed well, a large quantity of conduit still remains to be installed. The installation rate needed to achieve a December 1985 completion date is well above the average rate generally achieved throughout the industry. Actual rates for this project have not yet been established since bulk cable pulling has not started.

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- (b) Based on the typical number of terminations (or connections) per circuit in similar plants, the Panel considers that the number of terminations for WNP-1 may have been underestimated.
- (c) The current completion estimates (NRC and WPPSS) assume minimal disruptions due to labor conflicts. Significant labor problems such as low productivity, lack of availability and/or labor strikes would have an adverse affect on the estimates. The northwest region appears to have a history of more-than-average labor problems. The organizations involved in this project are having difficulty in employing the desired number of engineers due in part to a general shortage of qualified engineers throughout the country.
- (d) The preoperational testing program is only in its initial planning stage and is expected by WPPSS to take about 17 months to complete. The Panel considers that the program will more likely take 22 - 24 months to complete when fully developed.
- (e) Several major welds in the reactor coolant system (RCS) are not yet complete. This work, however, is not considered to be critical path work.
- (f) Delays in final design, fabrication and installation of the control room panels and consoles could delay critical path work. Actual installation of control room equipment has not yet been started.

General Comments

The NRC has confidence that the management and organization changes made during the past year will be effective in improving construction progress of WNP-1. A number of scheduling and construction management systems are now in place. The overall engineering and design effort appears to be ahead of construction progress and ahead of other utilities constructing B&W plants in some aspects. All TMI Action Plan items appear to be receiving adequate evaluation by all organizations concerned. This evaluation did not include WNP-1 since that unit is being put in "mothballs" until June 30, 1983, at which time WPPSS will make an evaluation of the desirability of continuing construction.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
Robert L. Tedesco

Robert L. Tedesco, Assistant Director
for Licensing
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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WNP

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