

Docket Nos. 50-397

Mr. A. Lee Oxsen, Assistant Managing  
Director for Operations  
Washington Public Power Supply System  
P. O. Box 968  
Richland, Washington 99352

MAR 21 1991

DESIGNATED ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Oxsen:

SUBJECT: OPERATIONAL EVENTS WHILE SHUTDOWN

The NRC has just issued Information Notice 91-22, "Four Plant Outage Events Involving Loss of AC Power or Coolant Spills," which addresses recent events that occurred during shutdown operations.

The chief purpose of this information notice is to notify each licensee that the high rate of precursor events to loss of decay heat removal during shutdown is a source of concern to the NRC. All of the events discussed in this information notice occurred during a one-week period in March 1991. Because of the potential for loss of a critical safety function in these and similar events, I believe a high level of management attention is required in the planning, coordination, and execution of shutdown operations.

While this information notice does not require specific licensee action or response, I urge you to give this important matter your personal attention.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
Thomas E. Murley

Thomas E. Murley, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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Washington Public Power Supply System

WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2  
(WNP-2)

cc:

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