

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by Region V staff on this date.

FACILITY: WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM
WNP-2
DOCKET NO. 50-397
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

Emergency Classification
☐ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: WNP-2 REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM UPDATE

As a result of the NRC administered requalification examination during the weeks of February 25 - March 8, 1991, Region V determined that the requalification program at WNP-2 is unsatisfactory based on unsatisfactory crew and individual performance.

In response to the requalification failure results (see PNO-V-91-04), Region V conducted an operational evaluation of four shift crews on March 21-22, 1991. One of these four crews was a reconstituted crew, consisting of licensed operators who had not all worked together as part of the same crew. The NRC team and licensee evaluators independently agreed that this crew (one out of four) failed the operational evaluation. On March 22, 1991, this crew was removed from licensed duties in accordance with NRC Examiner Standard ES-601. The other three crews passed. Three of 17 licensed operators were also removed from shift for remedial training. Two other operators were evaluated as satisfactory, but require some minor remedial training.

The licensee submitted a revised basis for continued operation on March 22, 1991, which describes an enhanced three-shift staffing rotation for the remaining three weeks of the current operating cycle. The unit is scheduled to begin a refueling outage on April 14, 1991.

Region V intends to revise the existing confirmatory action letter dated March 15, 1991, to address the licensee's compensatory measures which include: 1) placing a third SRO on each crew; 2) assigning STAs to the Control Room, rather than within 10 minutes; and 3) enhanced management oversight of control room activities, including periods of backshift.

WNP-2 is currently operating at full power. Regional and Headquarters staff are coordinating to provide enhanced NRC oversight of control room activities, including backshift.

The licensee is planning to hold a press conference on March 26, 1991, to discuss the results of the requalification examination and operational evaluation.

This information is current as of 4:00 p.m., March 25, 1991.

The PN is issued for information only.

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RV FORM 211

Revised: 8/19/87