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October 29, 1975

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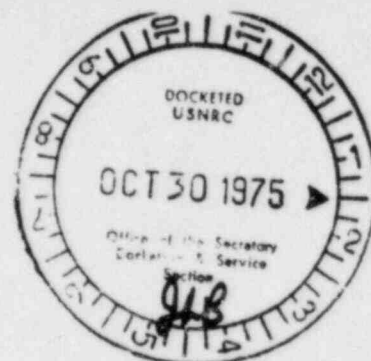
In the Matter of Washington Public Power Supply System
(Nuclear Projects No. 1 and No. 4)
Docket Nos. 50-460 and 50-513

Dear Madam and Gentlemen:

By letter to the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board dated October 15, 1975, we transmitted, inter alia, prepared testimony regarding the financial qualifications of the Washington Public Power Supply System ("Applicant") to construct and operate WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 1 ("WNP-1"). We stated that this financial testimony regarding WNP-1 would be introduced at the evidentiary hearing on radiological health and safety matters now scheduled to commence on November 11, 1975, in Richland, Washington.

We also requested that the time for filing testimony or other appropriate submissions regarding the financial qualifications of the Applicant to construct and operate WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 4 ("WNP-4"), which is to be financed independently of WNP-1, be extended until October 31, 1975. The Board granted the request, and so informed counsel for the Applicant by telephone. The instant letter, together with the attachment hereto, constitutes Applicant's submission at this time regarding the Supply System's financial qualifications in the context of WNP-4.

Margaret M. Laurence, Esq.
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By the attached letter to the NRC Regulatory Staff dated October 22, 1975, the Applicant requested that the Staff temporarily defer consideration of the Applicant's financial qualifications in the context of WNP-4. The basis for Applicant's request is that execution of the Participants' Agreements for WNP-4 has been delayed pending completion of secondary environmental impact statements pursuant to the Washington State Environmental Policy Act ("SEPA"). Certain of the Participants face litigation or the threat of litigation based on the theory that secondary SEPA statements are required under recent interpretations of SEPA. To avoid potential legal obstacles to the execution of the Participants' Agreements, the SEPA statements should be completed before the Participants can execute the Agreements.

Accordingly, the Applicant hereby requests that the Board likewise defer its consideration of the Applicant's financial qualifications in the context of WNP-4 until such time as the SEPA statements are completed and thereby the obstacle to execution in due course of the Participants' Agreements is removed. We presently anticipate that this will require approximately six months. In any event, we will keep the Board informed as matters develop. It bears emphasis that this request relates only to WNP-4 and not to WNP-1, which is financed independently of WNP-4.

We believe that the foregoing in no way should affect the schedule for the evidentiary hearing commencing on November 11, 1975, and the prompt issuance of a construction permit for WNP-1 thereafter.

Sincerely,


Joseph B. Knotts, Jr.

JBK:sr

Enclosure

cc: (see next page)

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