## AUG 11 1988

50-27,16

Dr. William Wilson, Associate Director Washington State University Nuclear Radiation Center Pullman, Washington 99163

Dear Dr. Wilson,

Subject: Notification of Changes in Operator or Senior Operator Status

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of NRC's interpretation of Section 10 CFR 50.74(a), which states: "Permanent reassignment from the position for which the licensee has certified the need for a licensed operator or senior operator under 55.31(a)(3) of this chapter" regarding notification of changes in operator or senior operator status.

The requirement for notification to the NRC applies in the event that an operator is permanently reassigned from a licensed position to an non-licensed position and there is no intent to return that operator to a licensed position. If an operator goes from a licensed position to a non-licensed position (while in the non-licensed position the license can be maintained in an active or inactive status) and the possibility exists for future reassignment to a licensed position, then 50.74 does not apply, and notification is not required.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 943-3868.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Pate, Chief Reactor Safety Branch

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