

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket No: 50-508

Construction Permit No.: CPPR-154

Report No: 50-508/98-201

Permit Holder: Washington Public Power Supply System

Facility: Washington Nuclear Project Units 3

Location: Elma, Washington

Dates: October 27-28, 1998

Inspectors: Marvin M. Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
Paul V. Doyle, Reactor Engineer
Robert S. Jolly, Environmental Engineer
James H. Wilson, Senior Project Manager

Approved by: Seymour H. Weiss, Director
Non-Power Reactors and Decommissioning
Project Directorate
Division of Reactor Program Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This routine, announced inspection included onsite review of selected construction permit conditions related to the termination of the construction permit for the Washington Nuclear Project Unit 3. The permit holder's programs were directed toward the transfer of the facility to the Satsop Redevelopment Project. No safety concerns or violations of regulatory requirements were identified.

Report Details

The facility was being maintained in preparation for termination of the construction permit (CP) and for transfer of the facility to the Satsop Redevelopment Project (SRP). Further, the CP holder's activities are being directed to ensure that all applicable regulatory requirements are satisfied and will continue to be satisfied after transfer of the facility.

1. Plans for the Site

a. Scope

From discussions and record review, the inspectors determined whether the plans for site transfer were acceptable for CP termination.

b. Observations and Findings

The CP holder is finalizing an agreement to transfer the facility after the NRC CP is terminated. The agreement is planned to be completed in December 1998. The current agreement is to maintain the necessary functions (e.g., fire protection, lighting, access control, etc.) to ensure continued safety.

Under the agreement, 22 acres (with an option for an additional 20 acres) are to be maintained under the ownership of the CP holder for the combustion turbine project. This will be regulated by the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC).

Currently, the agreement is to transfer the remainder of the site to the SRP after the CP is terminated. The SRP is an inter-local organization consisting of Grays Harbor County, Port of Grays Harbor, and Grays Harbor Public Utility District. Selected buildings, structures and facilities will be stabilized and transferred to the SRP. The remaining buildings, structures and facilities will be removed or demolished by the CP holder. The SRP indicated that the transferred portion of the site will be maintained in accordance with applicable county and State requirements.

To provide additional, general information on current site status, the CP holder plans to send the NRC a copy of the Scope of the Restoration Project agreement signed in May 1998. However, the CP holder indicated that the minor details could change on this Scope of the Restoration Project and the NRC will be informed of significant changes.

c. Conclusions

The site is to be maintained in a safe condition by the CP holder until the CP is terminated. Also, regulatory responsibilities once the CP is terminated were understood.

2. Sources, Byproduct and Special Nuclear Materials

a. Scope

The inspectors determined if possession of source, byproduct or special nuclear materials was controlled as authorized.

b. Observations and Findings

The inspectors reviewed records to verify the disposition of the sealed neutron sources for this facility. By letter dated September 19, 1984, the CP holder requested that the sealed neutron sources be shipped to their Washington Nuclear Project (WNP) Unit 2 facility under the authorization of the license for that facility. The acceptability of that transfer was confirmed by CP holder letter dated September 18, 1984, to the NRC, and reconfirmed by letter dated February 13, 1987. The inspectors verified that possession was authorized under the WNP Unit 2 license. Further, observation of site facilities found no source, byproduct or special nuclear material at the facility.

c. Conclusion

No source, byproduct or special nuclear material was at the facility under the authorization of the CP.

3. Site Controls

a. Scope

The inspectors determined whether site controls were acceptably maintained for CP conditions.

b. Observations and Findings

The inspectors observed selected portions of the Ranney wells, barge slip, cooling towers, containment, auxiliary, warehouse and other site buildings. These facilities include all the remaining Unit 5 structures that have been subsumed in the Unit 3 CP authorization. The inspectors observed security was consistent with CP conditions. The inspectors also observed that additional barriers to control access had been added since the last NRC site visit. The inspectors observed that erosion controls were being maintained. The inspectors observed that lighting and access control in the buildings had ensured personnel safety. Further, the inspectors observed that fire protection controls were being maintained consistent with the facility condition.

c. Conclusions

The facilities were being maintained in a stable, safe condition.

4. Exit Meeting

The inspection scope and results were summarized on October 28, 1998, with CP holder representatives. The inspectors discussed the findings for each area reviewed. The CP holder acknowledged the findings and did not identify as proprietary any of the material provided to or reviewed during the inspection.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Washington Public Power Supply System

- * Jack W. Baker, Vice President for Resource Development
- * Charles Butros, Washington Nuclear Project Units 3 and 5 Site Manager
- * Craig Doupe, Special Counsel
- * William A. Kiel, Senior State Liaison
- * J. L. Perreault, Washington Nuclear Project Unit 3 Engineering/Technical Manager
- * Laura Schinnel, Project Scientist Satsop Power Plant

Satsop Redevelopment Project

- * Bill Banks, Executive Director, Grays Harbor Regional Planning Commission

Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council

- * Sarah Blocki, Staff Member
- * Michael E. Mills, Contracts Administrator
- * Deborah J. Ross, Chair

NRC

- * Paul V. Doyle, Rector Engineer
- * Robert S. Jolly, Environmental Engineer
- * Marvin M Mendonca, Senior Project Manager
- * James H. Wilson, Senior Project Manager

- * Attended Exit Meeting