

DR Central files

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September 10, 1974

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Dr. Donald F. Knuth
Director of Regulatory Operations
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U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Dr. Knuth:

Your letter dated August 28, 1974, to Mr. J. F. Bonner was referred to me for reply. The semiannual report covering the first half of 1974 operating experience of our Humboldt Bay Power Plant Unit No. 3 was submitted on August 29, 1974, prior to receipt of your letter. With respect to the information you have requested, the Maximum Dependable Capacity (MDC) for the unit on a year round basis is 65 MWe gross and 63 MWe net. Our historic operating practice at the end of each operating cycle has been to "coast down" from this rating to 52 MWe gross and 50 MWe net for the purpose of extending nuclear fuel life. No derating of this kind occurred during the first half of 1974. The Reserve Shutdown Hours (RSH) during the first half of 1974 were zero.

Please advise us if these two pieces of information are routinely required so that we may include them in future semiannual reports.

Very truly yours,

F. T. Searls