

Washington Public Power Supply System

3000 George Washington Way P.O. Box 968 Richland, Washington 99352-0968 (509)372-5000

Docket No. 50-508

November 2, 1984

G03-84-688

Mr. H. R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Subject: SUPPLY SYSTEM NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 3
CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AMENDMENT REQUEST

Dear Mr. Denton:

As we previously advised you, the Supply System approved, on July 8, 1983, an immediate construction delay of WNP-3 until an assured source of funding for continued construction can be obtained. It took this action after the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) informed the Supply System that financing for completion of the construction of WNP-3 from BPA revenues was not available and that in its opinion a three-year delay in construction would not seriously jeopardize the availability of an adequate economical power supply.

The present plans call for construction restart in July 1985 and completion in July 1989. In view of these developments and in consideration of the requirement that the Construction Permit extension application be submitted no later than December 1, 1984, the Supply System requests that the Construction Permit for WNP-3 be amended to extend the latest construction completion deadline from January 1, 1985 until July 1, 1989.

*3001 w/ check \$150⁰⁰
1/0 #495*

8411120257 841102
PDR ADOCK 05000508
A PDR

On November 1, 1984, BPA made a decision that funds for the construction of WNP-3 will not be included in its budgets for fiscal years 1986 and 1987 or in its rate case for the period extending from July 1, 1985 to September 30, 1987. The decision further indicated that preservation costs for WNP-3 will be included in FY-1986 and 1987 budgets and in BPA rates to preserve the project as a viable option. The decision of BPA in this regard is based on its projections for further power demands in the Region, which indicate that the electricity to be generated by WNP-3 may not be needed until the early 1990's. Should the recent BPA decision lead to a change in schedule, the Supply System will promptly notify the NRC and modify this request for Construction Permit extension.

The temporary lack of demand for the energy to be produced by WNP-3 and the temporary inability to finance the continued construction of WNP-3 are beyond the control of the Supply System. In addition, the deferral of construction in light of these developments is for valid business purposes. Finally, the duration of the requested Construction Permit is reasonable because it will not frustrate regulatory oversight by the NRC and because it is commensurate with the reasons for the requested Construction Permit extension. Accordingly, there is good cause for the requested extension and it is for a reasonable period of time. 10 C.F.R. § 50.55(b); Public Service Co. of New Hampshire (Seabrook Station, Unit 2), CLI-84-6, 19 NRC 975 (1984); Washington Public Power Supply System (WNP-1), ALAB-771, 19 NRC 1183 (1984).

The requested Construction Permit amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. This is because the requested amendment would not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated, create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety. 10 C.F.R. § 50.92.

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 170.21, a check is enclosed for \$150.00 as is required for a Construction Permit amendment application.



G. C. Sorensen
Manager, Regulatory Programs

cc: J. A. Adams, NESCO
G. W. Knighton, NRC
N. S. Reynolds, Bishop, Liberman, Cook, Purcell, & Reynolds
B. K. Singh, NRC
J. P. Sluka, Ebasco
D. Smithpeter, BPA
S. F. Swearingin, BPA
A. A. Tuzes, CE
Ebasco Files, Elma
WNP-3 Files, 703