



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

June 27, 2024

Robert Schuetz, Chief Executive Officer  
Energy Northwest  
MD 1023  
76 North Power Plant Loop  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF INVESTIGATION (OI 4-2023-013)

Dear Robert Schuetz:

This refers to an investigation conducted by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Office of Investigations regarding activities at Columbia Generating Station. The Office of Investigations initiated the investigation to determine whether, a former Pipefitter, formerly employed by Bechtel Hanford Incorporated (BHI) at Energy Northwest's (EN) Columbia Generating Station (CGS), was deliberately retaliated against for raising nuclear safety concerns.


Based on the evidence developed during the investigation, the concern that a former Pipefitter, formerly employed by BHI at Energy Northwest's Columbia Generating Station, was deliberately retaliated against for raising nuclear safety concerns, was not substantiated. The NRC plans no further action related to the discrimination aspect of this allegation and considers this investigation closed.

You should note that final NRC documents may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act subject to redaction of information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. Requests under the Freedom of Information Act should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, "Requests for Records." Information is accessible from the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/foia-request.html#how>.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,

**WILLIAM  
SCHAUP**

 Digitally signed by WILLIAM  
SCHAUP  
Date: 2024.06.27 12:11:42  
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William Schaup, Acting Team Leader  
Allegation Coordination and Enforcement Staff

Docket No. 50-397  
License No. NPF-21