From: Robert Kuntz
To: "tmcollis@energy-northwest.com"
Subject: Acceptance of Columbia TSTF-585 and TSTF-597 amendment request
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 8:33:00 AM

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: AMENDMENT TO ADOPT TSTF-585 "REVISE LCO 3.0.3 TO REQUIRE MANAGING RISK" AND TSTF-597 "ELIMINATE LCO 3.0.3 MODE 2 REQUIREMENTS" (EPID L-2026-LLA-0092)

Dear Ms. Collis:

By letter dated April 28, 2026 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML26118B773), Energy Northwest submitted a license amendment for Columbia Generating Station to adopt Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Traveler 585 "Revise LCO [Limiting Condition for Operation] 3.0.3 to Require Managing Risk" and TSF-597 "Eliminate LCO 3.0.3 Mode 2 Requirements." The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed to determine whether the application contains sufficient technical information to allow the NRC staff to complete a detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify any readily apparent deficiencies related to the characterization of the regulatory requirements or plant licensing basis.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an application for an amendment to a license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it includes technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the more limited scope and depth of the acceptance review compared to the detailed technical review, issues that affect the NRC staff's ability to complete the technical review may still be identified despite the acceptance review being deemed adequate. If additional information is needed, you will be notified by separate correspondence.

The NRC staff has evaluated precedence related to this request. For this request, the staff used the Graded Estimate Method (GEM) for licensing actions, which was discussed with industry during a public workshop on August 5, 2025 (ML25217A212). Based on the GEM approach, our estimate for this review is 40 hours and the staff expects to complete the review by July 28, 2026 (2 months). If achieved, this represents a significant reduction in hours to complete the review and in review time.

If emergent complexities or challenges arise during the NRC staff's review that affect the

initial forecasted completion date or result in significant changes to the estimated review hours, the reasons for those changes—along with updated estimates—will be communicated during routine interactions with the assigned project manager. These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application and may change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated expansion of the review scope, hearing-related activities, or if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance of or concurrently with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Robert Kuntz, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

cc: Listserv