

August 17, 2000

Mr. J. V. Parrish  
Chief Executive Officer  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968 (Mail Drop 1023)  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO EXEMPTION REQUEST FROM LOCATING THE  
INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION SECONDARY  
POWER SUPPLY FOR THE ALARM ANNUNCIATION AND NON-PORTABLE  
COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT IN A VITAL AREA (TAC NO. MA8868)

Dear Mr. Parrish:

By letter dated April 24, 2000, Energy Northwest requested an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 73.55(e)(1) which requires an onsite secondary power supply system for alarm annunciator equipment and non-portable communications equipment to be located within a vital area. As stated, this request applies only to the WNP-2 Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) which will be located in a separate protected area away from the operating reactor site.

Based on the review of your request, the staff has determined that an exemption is not required. A licensee meeting the requirements for a general license issued pursuant to 10 CFR 72.212 is not required to have a designated vital area within the ISFSI protected area since the dry cask storage containers provide an acceptable second barrier due to its size, weight, and construction characteristics to protect against the design basis threat of radiological sabotage. This position is consistent with the requirements of 10 CFR 73.51 which does not have vital areas located within the ISFSI.

Accordingly, the staff has determined that Energy Northwest need only commit to having a "secondary power supply for alarm annunciator equipment and non-portable communications equipment" in the WNP-2 ISFSI Physical Security Plan to meet the requirements for an uninterruptible power supply.

Should Energy Northwest desire to discuss the specific details of the security program for the WNP-2 ISFSI, the staff would be willing to participate in a conference call or meeting with your staff.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Jack Cushing, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

cc: See next page

Should Energy Northwest desire to discuss the specific details of the security program for the WNP-2 ISFSI, the staff would be willing to participate in a conference call or meeting with your staff.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Jack Cushing, Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

cc: See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC

PDIV-2 Reading

RidsNrrDlpmLpdiv (SRichards)

RidsNrrPMJCushing

RidsNrrLAEPeyton

RidsOgcRp

RidsAcrsAcnwMailCenter

RRosano

LSmith, Region IV

BManili

**Accession No.** ML003741958

OFFICE	PDIV-2/PM	PDIV-2/LA	IOLB	IOLB	OGC	PDIV-2/SC
NAME	JCushing:lcc	EPeyton	BManili	RRosano	RHoeffling	SDembek
DATE	08/0100	08/01/00	08/01/00	08/01/00	08/04/00	08/17/00

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

WNP-2

cc:

Mr. Greg O. Smith (Mail Drop 927M)  
Vice President, Generation  
Energy Northwest  
P. O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Mr. Rodney L. Webring (Mail Drop PE08)  
Vice President, Operations Support/PIO  
Energy Northwest  
P. O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Mr. Albert E. Mouncer (Mail Drop 1396)  
Chief Counsel  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Thomas C. Poindexter, Esq.  
Winston & Strawn  
1400 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3502

Ms. Deborah J. Ross, Chairman  
Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
P. O. Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98504-3172

Mr. Bob Nichols  
Executive Policy Division  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 43113  
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

Mr. D. W. Coleman (Mail Drop PE20)  
Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Ms. Lynn Albin  
Washington State Department of Health  
P.O. Box 7827  
Olympia, WA 98504-7827

Mr. Paul Inserra (Mail Drop PE20)  
Manager, Licensing  
Energy Northwest  
P.O. Box 968  
Richland, WA 99352-0968

Regional Administrator, Region IV  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Harris Tower & Pavilion  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Chairman  
Benton County Board of Commissioners  
P.O. Box 69  
Prosser, WA 99350-0190

Senior Resident Inspector  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
P.O. Box 69  
Richland, WA 99352-0069