



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 23, 2011

Mr. Bradley J. Sawatzke
Vice President Nuclear Generation
and Chief Nuclear Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968, MD PE08
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT PLANT-SPECIFIC
SUPPLEMENT 47 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS REGARDING
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. ME3121)

Dear Mr. Sawatzke:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed the draft plant-specific Supplement 47 to NUREG-1437, "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" (GEIS), regarding the renewal of operating license NPF-21 for an additional 20 years of operation for Columbia Generating Station. Enclosed is a copy of the draft supplement and the associated *Federal Register* Notice of Availability. This notice advises the public that the draft supplement is publicly available at the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/html>. The accession number for draft Supplement 47 to the GEIS is ML11227A007. In addition, a copy of the document will be available for public review at the Richland Public Library located at 955 Northgate Drive, Richland, Washington 99352, and at the Kennewick Branch of Mid-Columbia Libraries located at 1620 South Union Street, Kennewick, Washington 99338.

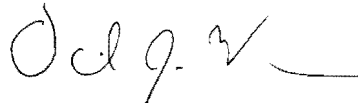
As discussed in Section 9.4 of the draft supplement, the NRC's preliminary recommendation is that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Columbia Generating Station are not great enough to deny the option of license renewal for energy-planning decisionmakers. This recommendation is based on (1) the analysis and findings in the GEIS; (2) the environmental report submitted by Energy Northwest; (3) consultation with Federal, State and local agencies; (4) the NRC's environmental review; and (5) consideration of public comments received during the scoping process.

B. Sawatzke

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A separate notice of filing of the draft supplemental environmental impact statement will be placed in the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the NRC Environmental Project Manager, Daniel Doyle, at 301-415-3748 or by e-mail at Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. J. Wrona", followed by a horizontal line.

David J. Wrona, Chief
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Listserv

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ENERGY NORTHWEST

COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

DOCKET NUMBER 50-397

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT SUPPLEMENT 47 TO THE GENERIC
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS
AND PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE LICENSE RENEWAL OF
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION

[NRC-2010-0029]

Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has published a draft plant-specific supplement to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants (GEIS), NUREG-1437, regarding the renewal of operating license NPF-21 for an additional 20 years of operation for Columbia Generating Station. Columbia Generating Station is located in Richland, Washington. Possible alternatives to the proposed action (license renewal) include no action and reasonable alternative energy sources.

Any interested party may submit comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS for consideration by the NRC staff. To be considered, comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS and the proposed action must be received by November 16, 2011. The NRC staff is able to ensure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any one of the following methods. Please include Docket ID **NRC-2010-0029** in the subject line of your comments. Comments submitted in writing or in electronic form will be posted on the NRC website and on the Federal rulemaking

website Regulations.gov. Because your comments will not be edited to remove any identifying or contact information, the NRC cautions you against including any information in your submission that you do not want to be publicly disclosed.

The NRC requests that any party soliciting or aggregating comments received from other persons for submission to the NRC inform those persons that the NRC will not edit their comments to remove any identifying or contact information, and, therefore, they should not include any information in their comments that they do not want publicly disclosed.

Federal Rulemaking Website: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for documents filed under Docket ID **NRC-2010-0029**. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher at 301-492-3668 or by e-mail at Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.

Mail comments to: Cindy Bladey, Chief, Rules, Announcements, and Directives Branch (RADB), Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, Mail Stop: TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Faxes may be sent to RADB at 301-492-3446.

You can access publicly available documents related to this notice using the following methods:

NRC's Public Document Room (PDR): The public may examine and have copied, for a fee, publicly available documents at the NRC's PDR, Public File Area O-1F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): Publicly available documents created or received at the NRC are available electronically at the NRC's Electronic Reading Room at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. From this website, the public can gain entry into ADAMS, which provides text and image files of NRC's public documents. If you do not have access to ADAMS or if there are problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS, contact the NRC's PDR reference staff at 1-800-397-4209,

301-415-4737, or by e-mail at pdr.resource@nrc.gov. The Accession Number for draft Supplement 47 to the GEIS is ML11227A007.

Federal Rulemaking Website: Public comments and supporting materials related to this notice can be found at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for Docket ID **NRC-2010-0029**.

In addition, a copy of the draft supplement to the GEIS is available to local residents near the site at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Drive, Richland, Washington 99352 and at the Kennewick Branch of Mid-Columbia Libraries, 1620 South Union Street, Kennewick, Washington 99338.

All comments received by the NRC, including those made by Federal, State, and local agencies; Native American Tribes; or other interested persons, will be made available electronically at the NRC's PDR in Rockville, Maryland, and through ADAMS. Comments received after the due date will be considered only if it is practical to do so.

The NRC staff will hold public meetings prior to the close of the public comment period to present an overview of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and to accept public comments on the document. Two meetings will be held at the Red Lion Hotel, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, Washington, on Tuesday, September 27, 2011. The first session will convene at 2:00 p.m. and will continue until 5:00 p.m., as necessary. The second session will convene at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until 10:00 p.m., as necessary. The meetings will be transcribed and will include: (1) a presentation of the contents of the draft plant-specific supplement to the GEIS and (2) the opportunity for interested government agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide comments on the draft report. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour prior to the start of each session at the same location. No comments on the draft supplement to the GEIS will be accepted during the informal discussions. To be considered, comments must be provided either at the transcribed public meeting or in writing. Persons may pre-register to attend or present oral comments at the

meeting by contacting Mr. Daniel Doyle, the NRC Environmental Project Manager, at 1-800-368-5642, extension 3748, or by e-mail at Daniel.Doyle@nrc.gov no later than Friday, September 23, 2011. Members of the public may also register to provide oral comments within 15 minutes of the start of each session. Individual oral comments may be limited by the time available, depending on the number of persons who register. If special equipment or accommodations are needed to attend or present information at the public meeting, the need should be brought to Mr. Doyle's attention no later than September 23, 2011, to provide the NRC staff adequate notice to determine whether the request can be accommodated.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mr. Daniel Doyle, Division of License Renewal, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop O-11F1, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Mr. Doyle may be contacted at the aforementioned telephone number or e-mail address.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 23rd day of August 2011.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. J. Wrona', followed by a horizontal line.

David J. Wrona, Chief
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

B. Sawatzke

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Sincerely,

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief
Projects Branch 2
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-397

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Listserv

DISTRIBUTION:
See next page

ADAMS Accession Nos.:

1. Package: ML11090A001
2. Letter: ML11090A002
3. *Federal Register* Notice : ML11091A028
4. GEIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants, Supplement 47: ML11227A007
*concurrence via email

OFFICE	LA: DLR*	PM: DLR/RPB2	OGC	BC: DLR/RPB2
NAME	SFigueroa	DDoyle	LSubin	DWrona
DATE	04/04/2011	06/17/2011	06/29/2011	08/23/2011

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Bradley Sawatzke from David J. Wrona dated August 23, 2011

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SUPPLEMENT 47 TO THE GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL OF NUCLEAR PLANTS REGARDING
COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION (TAC NO. ME3121)

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