

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

11/19/79

In the Matter of)

WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER)
SUPPLY SYSTEM)

) Docket No. 50-397-OL
)

(WPPSS Nuclear Project No. 2))

APPLICANT'S ANSWER TO PETITIONERS' REQUEST
FOR WAIVER OF 10 C.F.R. §2.708(b)

In a pleading dated January 10, 1979, petitioners Darby, Garrett and Hanford Conversion Project ("HCP") requested that this Board waive that part of 10 C.F.R. §2.708(b) which requires double spacing of the text of documents filed with the Board. The Washington Public Power Supply System ("Applicant") hereby opposes the request for waiver of this Rule.

While the rule might impose slightly higher costs on petitioners, the benefits of the rule clearly outweigh such costs. Single spaced documents such as petitioners' second Amended Petition to Intervene dated January 10, 1979, are difficult to read, reproduce, and telecommunicate. For example, Applicant's counsel was unsuccessful in attempting to telecommunicate to Applicant (from Washington, D.C. to Richland, Washington) the second Amended Petition because the document was single spaced. The result of such efforts was an illegible document on the receiving end. Accordingly,

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for the convenience of the parties, we request that petitioners comply with the Rules of Practice which require that all documents be double spaced.

In addition, we note that petitioners imply that their nominal reproduction costs to date (\$50.00) have been substantial and apparently are onerous. In Applicant's view, such claims are inconsistent with petitioners' statement in their first Amended Petition to Intervene (at p. 7) where they stated that "HCP has fund raising (sic) abilities and abilities to finance transportation and witness fees of expert witnesses." Needless to say, all parties to a proceeding must assume the procedural and financial responsibilities of conducting the proceeding. We trust that petitioners' request is not an indication that they intend to shirk these responsibilities.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBEVOISE & LIBERMAN



Nicholas S. Reynolds
Counsel for the Applicant

January 19, 1978

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "Applicant's Answer To Petitioners' Request For Waiver of 10 C.F.R. §2.708(b)," dated January 19, 1979, in the captioned matter have been served upon the following by deposit in the United States mail this 19th day of January, 1979:

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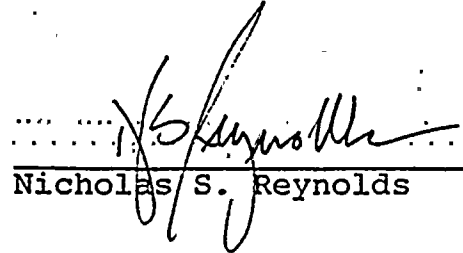
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