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 FACIL: 50-397 WPPSS Nuclear Project, Unit 2, Washington Public Powe 05000397  
 AUTH. NAME: SORENSEN, G.C. AUTHOR AFFILIATION: Washington Public Power Supply System  
 RECIP. NAME: SCHWENCER, A. RECIPIENT AFFILIATION: Licensing Branch 2

SUBJECT: Clarifies request for full power, 40 yr OL. Full load planned for Nov 1983 w/commercial operation by May 1984.

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## Washington Public Power Supply System

P.O. Box 968 3000 George Washington Way Richland, Washington 99352 (509) 372-5000

September 13, 1983  
G02-83-826

Docket No. 50-397

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Attention: Mr. A. Schwencer, Chief  
Licensing Branch No. 2  
Division of Licensing  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Schwencer:

Subject: NUCLEAR PROJECT NO. 2  
REQUEST FOR FULL POWER, 40-YEAR OPERATING LICENSE

Reference: 1) Letter, D. L. Renberger (SS) to S. A. Varga (NRC),  
dated March 17, 1978, Tendering of FSAR, WNP-2  
2) Letter, G. C. Sorensen (SS) to A. Schwencer (NRC),  
dated August 24, 1983, WNP-2 Fuel Load Schedule

In its application for an operating license, which was filed with Reference 1, the Washington Public Power Supply System requested that the NRC issue a Class 103 License for WNP-2 for a 40-year term. The purpose of this letter is to clarify that our request is for the issuance of a full power Class 103 License to operate WNP-2 for a term of 40 years from the date of issuance.

As noted in Reference 2, we plan to load fuel at WNP-2 in November 1983, with commercial operation by May 1984.

In making this request, we have reviewed our application, including the FSAR, Environmental Report (ER-OL), and the NRC Final Environmental Statement to assure that the safety and environmental assessments are consistent with the term requested. With the exception of the minor discrepancies in the FES, which are addressed in the following paragraphs, we find that our application is consistent with this request.

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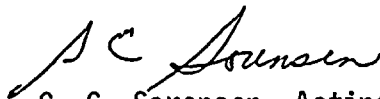
A. Schwencer  
Page Two  
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In accordance with Regulatory Guide 4.2, projected environmental effects are presented in the ER-OL primarily in units per unit time (mostly per annum). The duration of operation was only factored into estimates of economic benefits and costs. At two locations (pages 8.1-4 and 8.2-5) the ER-OL refers to an operating period of 40 years. The Supply System's intentions regarding a 40-year operating term are also supported by population projections to the year 2030 (ER-OL Table 2.1-1 and FSAR Table 2.1-1).

In the FES, however, the Staff has frequently referred to a 30-year operating period. We believe this is more a reflection of general practice (manifested in NEPA statements for other plants) than a specific judgement regarding WNP-2. Mention of the operating life in the FES is mostly in association with economic and socioeconomic assessments (pages 2-3, 5-13, 5-14, 6-1). A term of 40 years will not alter judgements made with respect to the benefits and costs of 30-year power operation since both sides of the benefit/cost ledger are affected during a period well into the future. The 30-year operating period is also used incidentally in discussion of radiation dose commitments from fuel cycle exposure or routine operation (pages 5-18, C-3, and L-2). Effects are summarized in terms of dose commitments per year such that the base year, whether at a fifteen-year or twenty-year mid-point makes very little difference. Elsewhere, the FES (page K-6) uses a 30-year period to estimate radon-induced fuel cycle cancer fatalities. Use of a 40-year period, however, would still leave the effects associated with WNP-2 insignificant when compared to the potential health effects to the population from natural sources.

In summary, we are aware of no environmental or safety issues which would preclude the issuance of a full power operating license for WNP-2 in the term of 40 years from the date of issue.

Very truly yours,



G. C. Sorensen, Acting Manager  
Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Programs

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