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ACCESSION NBR: 8709100371 DDC DATE: 87/09/01 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET # 05000397
 FACIL: 50-397 WPPSS Nuclear Project, Unit 2, Washington Public Power
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SUBJECT: Discusses supplemental response to Insp Rept 50-397/87-09 re plans to make post-trip review committees more effective in determining causative factors of events. Implementation of planned changes does not supplant existing procedure.

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Washington Public Power Supply System

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September 1, 1987
G02-87-238

Docket No. 50-397

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: NUCLEAR PLANT NO. 2
LICENSE NO. NPF-21
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Reference: Letter, G02-87-218, G. C. Sorensen (SS) to J. B. Martin
(NRC-RV), same subject, dated July 17, 1987

In the referenced letter the Supply System committed to provide this supplemental response to NRC Inspection Report 50-397/87-09 regarding our plans to make post-trip review committees more effective in the determination of causative factors pertaining to events.

A detailed evaluation of Plant Procedure 1.3.5, "Reactor Trip and Recovery", has been performed and, as a result, the procedure will be revised to include the following improvements:

1. The followup review committee will be assembled immediately following any reactor trip unless otherwise directed by the Plant Manager.
2. When personnel performance is a contributing factor to an event, a peer review committee will be formed to evaluate the decision processes.
3. Predetermined experts will be relied upon for cause investigation in support of the restart decision process. It should be noted that this aspect is currently effectively performed and the change is to document who the resources are and facilitate management of the group.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Page Two
September 1, 1987
NRC INSPECTION REPORT 87-09

4. If the cause(s) of a reactor trip are indeterminate, a surveillance method will be developed, if possible, to monitor the component/system response following restart.
5. Independent verification will be required of significant conclusions relied upon in the restart decision process and root cause assessment.

It is anticipated that the procedure will be revised by November 30, 1987; however, in the interim, a management letter has been issued which directs personnel to follow the intent of the changes. It should be noted that implementation of these planned changes does not supplant the existing procedure. Until such time that the procedure is revised, these changes are to be considered as enhanced process policy, with Plant Management as the primary implementor of this policy.

Should you have any questions regarding our response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



G. C. Sorensen, Manager
Regulatory Programs

JDA/tmh

cc: J. B. Martin - NRC RV
R. B. Samworth - NRC
C. J. Bosted - 901A

