

# CATEGORY 1

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 COLEMAN, L. W.    Washington Public Power Supply System  
 RECIPIENT NAME    RECIPIENT AFFILIATION  
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SUBJECT: Documents util outage schedule change & that licensee  
 performed SE in support of current outage plan, per 980416  
 request for amend re ECCS suction strainers.

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WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

P.O. Box 968 • Richland, Washington 99352-0968

May 20, 1998  
GO2-98-087

Docket No. 50-397

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Subject: **WNP-2 OPERATING LICENSE NPF-21  
UPDATED INFORMATION REGARDING REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT:  
EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEM SUCTION STRAINERS**

Reference: Letter GO2-98-071 dated April 16, 1998, P.R. Bemis (Supply System) to NRC Document Control Desk, WNP-2 Operating License NPF-21 Request for Amendment: Emergency Core Cooling System Suction Strainers

The referenced letter requests a change to the WNP-2 Operating License by May 22, 1998 to allow the newly designed Emergency Core Cooling System (ECCS) pump suction strainers to be fabricated from cold-worked austenitic stainless steel with a surface yield strength in excess of 90,000 psi. We requested this amendment as required by 10 CFR 50.59(c) - a change in the facility described in the Safety Analysis Report which involves an unreviewed safety question (USQ). In Reference 1, we committed to install the suction strainers only when their respective ECCS systems are not required to be operable (some in Mode 4 and the remainder in Mode 5). As of May 13, 1998, all new suction strainers were installed in accordance with this commitment.

Approval of the proposed change is still necessary to allow restart of WNP-2 following completion of the R-13 refueling. However, the outage is ahead of schedule and the updated outage plan is to commence vessel drain down on May 21, 1998. We have re-evaluated this condition in accordance with 10 CFR 50.59 and found that exceeding the 90,000 psi yield strength does not constitute a USQ in Modes 4 or 5 with reactor vessel water temperature  $\leq 200^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

9805290073 980520  
PDR ADDCK 05000397  
P PDR

**UPDATED INFORMATION REGARDING REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT:  
EMERGENCY CORE COOLING SYSTEM SUCTION STRAINERS**

We have previously discussed this outage schedule change, and our plans to use 10 CFR 50.59 to determine that a USQ does not exist in Modes 4 or 5 with reactor vessel water temperature  $\leq 200^{\circ}$  F, with members of the NRC staff. This letter is intended to document our outage schedule change and that we have performed a safety evaluation in support of the current outage plan.

The revised suction strainer safety evaluation identifies that a USQ exists with the 90,000 psi yield stress acceptance limit exceeded when the reactor vessel temperature is above  $200^{\circ}$  F. Therefore, this letter does not request a change in your schedule to review and approve the amendment by May 22, 1998 as requested in Reference 1 to support reactor restart following completion of R-13.

Should you have any questions or desire additional information regarding this matter, please contact me or P. J. Inserra at (509) 377-4147.

Respectfully,



D.W. Coleman  
Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
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