

FORD 1

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

ACCESSION NBR: 9107310153 DOC. DATE: 91/07/15 NOTARIZED: NO DOCKET #
 FACIL: 50-397 WPPSS Nuclear Project, Unit 2, Washington Public Powe 05000397
 AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 BAKER, J.W. Washington Public Power Supply System
 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 MARTIN, J.B. Region 5 (Post 820201)

SUBJECT: Special rept: on 910604, time history triaxial acceleration sensor found malfunctioning during performance of seismic sys maint activities. Failed unit returned under warranty to supplier for repair. Sys now fully operational.

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WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

P.O. Box 968 • 3000 George Washington Way • Richland, Washington 99352

Docket No. 50-397

July 15, 1991
G02-91-135

Mr. J.B. Martin
Regional Administrator
USNRC, Region V
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596

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Dear Mr. Martin:

Subject: NUCLEAR PLANT NO. 2, LICENSE NO. NPF-21 SPECIAL REPORT: SEISMIC
MONITORING INSTRUMENTATION

This Special Report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of WNP-2
Technical Specification section 3.3.7.2 "Seismic Monitoring Instrumentation"
which requires the instruments to be operable at all times.

The seismic monitoring system has been designed and installed to record the
response of plant buildings and systems to ground motions produced by
earthquakes. This information would be used by plant operators to immediately
gauge the relative size of the event and, over the long term, to verify the
performance of plant design.

The action statement for this specification requires that "with one or more of
the above required seismic monitoring instruments inoperable for more than 30
days, in lieu of any other report required by Specification 6.9.1, prepare and
submit a Special Report to the Commission pursuant to Specification 6.9.2
within the next 10 days outlining the cause of the malfunction and the plans
for restoring the instrument(s) to operable status."

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On June 4, 1991 with the plant in Mode 4 (cold shutdown) during the extended maintenance outage the Time History Triaxial Acceleration Sensor (SEIS-SMA-3) was found to be malfunctioning during the performance of Seismic System maintenance activities. This free-field accelerometer is located 1000 feet from all large structures and transmits electrical signals to the main control room where they are recorded on magnetic tape. The operator can obtain a visual output on paper tape by removing the magnetic tape from the tape recorder and playing it back on the Playback Unit located immediately above the recorder. There are no alarms or lights in the control room associated with this sensor. This sensor is normally not energized unless the reactor building foundation experiences accelerations greater than 0.01g, at which time the seismic trigger will activate all of the triaxial time history accelerometers and recorders.

Performance of maintenance work to determine the cause of spurious noise pulses on the seismic system tape recording, found the accelerometer to not be responding in one of the three axis. The failed unit was returned, under warranty, to the supplier for repair. The supplier of the failed accelerometer is Kinemetrics/Systems 222 Vista Avenue Pasadena, CA 91107. The cause of the failure is unknown. No failure analysis was done at WNP-2 because of warranty considerations. At the time of the event, all of the WNP-2 spare accelerometers were at the suppliers being re-spanned and no accelerometers were available to replace the failed unit. A accelerometer was received from the supplier, and it was installed on July 10, 1991. The system is now fully operational.

Very truly yours,



J.W. Baker (M/D 927M)
WNP-2 Plant Manager

cc: NRC Document Control Desk
Mr. C. Sorenson, NRC Resident Inspector - (M/D 901A)
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