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AUTH. NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
SORENSEN, G.C. Washington Public Power Supply System
RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
ENG, P.L. Project Directorate V

SUBJECT: Discusses 911029 meeting re update on status of new simulator being mfg for util. Contractor experiencing technical difficulties in developing necessary computer models. Extension of 920630 deadline requested.

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TITLE: Simulator Facility Certification

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November 15, 1991

Docket No. 50-397
GO2-91-209

Patricia L. Eng, Project Manager
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Project Directorate V
M/S 13H15
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Ms. Eng:

Subject: NUCLEAR PLANT NO. 2, OPERATING LICENSE NPF-21
MEETING TO DISCUSS SIMULATOR STATUS

Reference: Letter, P. L. Eng (NRC) to G. C. Sorensen (Supply System), Scheduling
Exemption to 10 CFR 55.45 (b)(2)(iii) for Simulation Facility Certification, dated
March 26, 1991

At the meeting held in NRC offices on October 29, 1991, the Supply System provided you and other NRC staff with an update on the status of the new WNP-2 simulator which is being manufactured for the Supply System. As presented at that meeting, in spite of the best efforts of the Supply System to expedite the process, the contractor is experiencing technical difficulties in development of the computer models necessary to make the simulator function properly.

In the reference letter, the NRC granted the Supply System an exemption from the requirements of 10 CFR 55.45(b)(2)(iii) to allow for submittal of Form NRC-474, "Simulation Facility Certification," after the March 26, 1991 deadline provided in the rule, but no later than June 30, 1992. As was presented in the October 29 meeting, it is apparent that the contractor will not be able to provide the simulator in time to allow the Supply System to meet the June 30, 1992 certification date. Therefore, it will be necessary for the Supply System to request an additional scheduling exemption prior to the June 30, 1992 deadline. We have recently received from the contractor a revised schedule for completion of the simulator. However, we do not have sufficient confidence at this time in the contractor's ability to meet that schedule to request an

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Ms. P. L. Eng
November 15, 1991

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MEETING TO DISCUSS SIMULATOR STATUS

additional exemption. We will keep the staff aware of the simulator status and, as the June 30, 1992 deadline approaches (and our confidence in the schedule increases), we will formally request an additional exemption. We are pleased that you and other staff members will be able to visit the simulator manufacturing facility in the near future and look forward to further discussion on this topic at that time.

As discussed at the October meeting, the unavailability of the new simulator will require that the Supply System receive authorization from the NRC to use the existing WNP-2 simulator for operator licensing exams to be conducted in the November/December 1992 time period. We are working with NRR and the Region V NRC staff to assure that this schedule and continued use of the existing WNP-2 simulator is acceptable to them. We recognize that use of the existing simulator beyond June 30, 1992 must also be granted through an exemption from the rule (10 CFR 55.45[b][2][iii]). This will be included in the exemption to be requested prior to June 30, 1992.

We appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and other NRC staff on October 29 and will keep you informed as the simulator progresses. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 372-5238.

Very truly yours,



G. C. Sorensen, Manager
Regulatory Programs

cc: JB Martin/NRC Region V
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