

PRIORITY 1

(ACCELERATED RIDS PROCESSING)

REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Special rept: on 940825, loose part detection sys channel
 number eight actuated associated MCR alarm & on 940908 subj
 channel began alrming again due to electronic noise
 originating in drywell. Electronic module of channel removed.

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WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

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September 26, 1994
GO2-94-223

Docket No. 50-397

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

Gentlemen:

Subject: **WNP-2, OPERATING LICENSE NPF-21**
SPECIAL REPORT: LOOSE-PART DETECTION SYSTEM

This special report is submitted pursuant to the requirements of WNP-2 Technical Specification 3.3.7.10, "Loose-Part Detection System", which requires the associated instruments to be operable during plant Startup and Power Operation. The associated ACTION statement requires that "with one or more loose-part detection system channels 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 ten days outlining the cause of the malfunction and the plans for restoring the channel(s) to OPERABLE status."

The Loose-Part Detection System (LPDS) detects the presence of internal loose parts in the Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV). This system uses ten permanently-mounted sensors in various locations around the RPV. A signal of twice the general background noise for each sensor actuates an alarm in the main control room. The alarm would alert personnel to listen to the signal via headphones to determine the cause. Associated LPDS equipment would automatically record the signal and make the recording available for analysis.

On August 25, 1994, LPDS channel number eight actuated an associated main control room alarm. Investigation did not reveal a noise indicative of a loose part. Operations personnel subsequently bypassed the channel, declared it inoperable, and entered the applicable LPDS ACTION statement. The system engineer was called to help investigate, but the channel stopped alarming before he could begin. The system engineer requested that the channel be placed back

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SPECIAL REPORT: LOOSE-PART DETECTION SYSTEM

in its OPERATE mode (while still in the ACTION statement) so he could monitor the channel and obtain data for analysis. The applicable surveillances were performed for this channel during the time that it was in OPERATE. On September 8, 1994, this channel began alarming again, and from recorded data, the system engineer determined that the channel's signal was electronic noise originating in the Drywell.

Technicians have removed the electronic module for LPDS channel number eight to prevent further spurious alarms until the channel can be repaired. Channel number eight detector is one of four loose-part detectors located in close proximity to one another at the bottom of the RPV. Thus, a single inoperable LPDS channel in this area has minimal impact on the ability for the LPDS to detect a loose part. Channel number eight will remain inoperable until the Drywell is available to make the necessary repairs. The remainder of the LPDS is operable.

Should you have any questions or desire additional information regarding this matter, please call me or Mr. D.A. Swank at (509) 377-4563.

Sincerely,



J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)
Assistant Managing Director, Operations

KBL/ml

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