

CATEGORY 1

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BEMIS, P.R. Washington Public Power Supply System
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SUBJECT: Discusses request for extension of GL 88-01 Category C Exam
interval. Info has previously been discussed with WNP-2
Project Manager TG Colburn.

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WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

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

October 28, 1997
GO2-97-196

Docket No. 50-397

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

Gentlemen:

Subject: **WNP-2, OPERATING LICENSE NPF-21, GENERIC LETTER 88-01
CATEGORY C EXAMINATION INTERVAL EXTENSION
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- References:
1. Letter dated February 19, 1997, JV Parrish (SS) to NRC, "Request for Extension of Generic Letter 88-01 Category 'C' Examination Interval."
 2. Letter dated May 23, 1997, NRC to JV Parrish (SS), "Request for an Extension of the Examination Interval for IGSCC Category C Welds for Washington Nuclear Project NO. 2 (WNP-2) (TAC NO. M98036)."

The Supply System requested an extension of the Generic Letter 88-01 Category C examination interval for 12 welds (Reference 1). The extension was granted by the staff on May 23, 1997 (Reference 2). This letter provides clarification on two points made by the staff in Reference 2. This information has previously been discussed with WNP-2 Project Manager T.G. Colburn. 1/0
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In Reference 2, the staff referred to the favorable primary water chemistry at WNP-2 "which includes hydrogen injection..." We do not currently use hydrogen water chemistry (hydrogen injection) as an intergranular stress corrosion cracking mitigation method. As noted in Reference 1, our efforts to reduce radiation dose levels do include zinc injection into the feedwater system.

The second clarification pertains to primary water impurity ingress. As noted in Reference 2, a telephone conference call on March 5, 1997 included a discussion on sulfate concentrations in the primary coolant. It was stated that, "no action level trigger points were

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**GENERIC LETTER 88-01 CATEGORY C EXAMINATION INTERVAL EXTENSION
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

exceeded." The second clarification, based on actual plant experience during the last two operating cycles, is that no action levels were reached which required power reductions or a plant shutdown. WNP-2 uses a three tier action level system for water chemistry impurity ingress. Action level one does not trigger a reduction in reactor power, action level 2 may require a plant shutdown, and action level 3 requires an immediate plant shutdown. These action levels are derived from EPRI guidelines. Reference 2 also accurately notes that a plot of the continuous record of sulfate levels for the last two cycles showed that a rapid reduction of any sulfate "spikes" was accomplished.

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

Respectfully,



P. R. Bemis

Vice President, Nuclear Operations

Mail Drop PE23

cc: EW Merschoff - NRC RIV
KE Perkins, Jr. - NRC RIV, WCFO
TG Colburn - NRR
NRC Sr. Resident Inspector - 927N
DL Williams - BPA/399
PD Robinson - Winston & Strawn