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Washington Public Power Supply System

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October 8, 1984
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Mr. H. R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

Subject: FOLLOW-UP FROM SEPTEMBER 25 NRC/SUPPLY SYSTEM MEETING

As you are aware, I and members of my staff, met with members of your staff on September 25. The purpose of that meeting was to discuss the actions we are taking at WNP-1 and WNP-3 to assure that a smooth and orderly restart of construction can occur. Just prior to the meeting, the Bonneville Power Administration released a draft report recommending at least an additional 27 month delay in restart of construction at both plants. At present, our plans are to restart in July of 1985 on WNP-3 and July 1986 on WNP-1. Need for power and lack of conventional financing were cited by Bonneville as the primary reasons for the additional delay. We will keep you advised as this situation develops.

With regard to WNP-3, the NRC staff had completed a substantial part of their review of our Final Safety Analysis Report prior to the shutdown of construction. We feel that the issuance of a draft SER, to document the review that has been accomplished, takes on even more importance if the plant will indeed be shutdown for an extended period. I encourage you to complete that effort so that the time already expended on the review will not be lost. I am willing to support that effort as needed.

During the subject meeting, members of your staff expressed interest in the maintenance programs being followed at WNP-1 and WNP-3 to prevent equipment deterioration during this shutdown phase. My staff would be pleased to have members of your staff visit the sites for a detailed review of the preventive maintenance programs.

The Supply System has been developing a program for verification of completed plant activities and for acceptance of work to be performed after restart. These concepts were discussed with Region V personnel on September 24th and with your staff at the September 25th meeting. We are also reviewing the program being developed by Georgia Power Co. to address this same issue.

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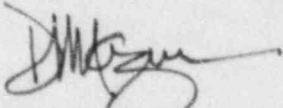
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Our program is aimed at establishing a closer relationship between NRC review and acceptance of work, and the actual accomplishment of the work. At restart, we would like to have had all work which is already completed, reviewed and accepted by NRC. From that point forward we would be looking to have NRC review and acceptance accomplished as the work is completed. We feel very strongly that a program of this nature is necessary to the future of not only our plants, but others which are also in a construction delay mode. The industry cannot continue in a mode where last minute allegations are permitted to delay progress toward plant operation.

We will continue to work with your staff as well as I&E and the Region to further develop these concepts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. W. Mazur', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

D. W. Mazur
Managing Director

GCS/kd