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January 6, 1975

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In the Matter of Washington Public Power Supply System
(WPPSS Nuclear Project Nos. 1 and 2)
Docket Nos. 50-460 and 50-513

Gentlemen:

By letter dated December 19, 1974, counsel for the AEC Regulatory Staff requested that the matter of Applicant's financial qualifications be addressed in the radiological health and safety phase of this proceeding. The request was made so that the Staff could provide the Board with the latest available financial information prior to closing the record, and to relieve the Staff of the obligation of preparing more than one analysis on financial qualifications. At the prehearing conference held in Richland, Washington on December 5, 1974, the Board had stated that it might want to cover financial qualifications in the environmental phase of the proceeding.

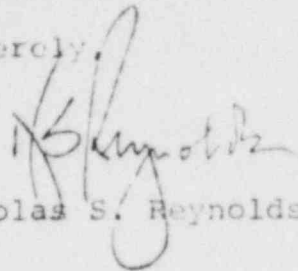
The Applicant has no objection to the Staff's proposal that financial qualifications be considered at the radiological health and safety phase of the proceeding. Such an approach would be consistent with the Commission's regulations governing pre-construction activities, viz., 10 CFR 5550.10(e)(2) and (3), which provide that a limited work authorization may be granted after findings have been made regarding all environmental

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and site suitability issues (i.e., without consideration of financial qualifications matters), and after the Board has determined that there are no unresolved safety issues relating to any activities subject to Appendix B, 10 CFR Part 50.

Sincerely,



Nicholas S. Reynolds

NSR/co

cc: Mr. Oswald Greager
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