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Washington Public Power Supply System

P.O. Box 968 3000 George Washington Way Richland, Washington 99352 (509) 372-5000
February 15, 1985

G01-85-0037
G03-85-081

W. J. Dircks
Executive Director for Operations
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Dircks:

Subject: FUTURE LICENSABILITY OF WNP-1 AND WNP-3

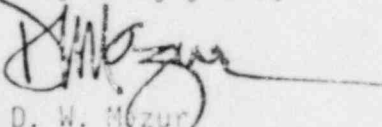
As you are aware, the Supply System stopped construction on WNP-1 and WNP-3 in May 1982 and July 1983, respectively. At present, these plants are being maintained in an extended construction delay status pending future resolution of financing problems, at which time construction of the projects will be resumed. Various agencies responsible for the forecasting of future Northwest energy needs and resources have recently expressed concern over the future licensability of these two projects in light of the extended construction delay period. At the present, a restart date is uncertain. Budgets recently prepared by the Bonneville Power Administration through September 1987 do not contain funds for construction of either of the two units.

In view of these uncertainties, your position on the following two items would be beneficial in assessing the future licensability of the plants:

- 1) Assuming that the Supply System maintains equipment and structures in accordance with the QA Program and the Preservation Program which have been reviewed with Region V, do you consider the delay period to adversely affect the NRC's decision to issue operating licenses at a future date?
- 2) Is there concern on the part of the NRC that future regulatory changes could seriously challenge the licensability of the plants (B&W 205 and CE System 80) prior to their completion (assuming completion is not until early 1990s)?

Your response is appreciated.

Very truly yours,



D. W. Mezur
Managing Director

GCS/kef

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