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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

May 2, 2008

J. V. Parrish (Mail Drop 1023)
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352-0968

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - NRC SECURITY INSPECTION
REPORT 05000397/2008401

Dear Mr. Parrish:

On April 10, 2008, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed a security baseline inspection at your Columbia Generating Station. The inspection covered one or more of the key attributes of the security cornerstone of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process. The enclosed inspection report documents the inspection results, which were discussed on April 10, 2008, with Mr. S. Gambhir, Vice President, Technical Services and Acting CNO, and other members of your staff.

The inspection examined activities conducted under your license as they relate to security and compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspectors reviewed selected procedures and records, observed activities, and interviewed personnel.

This report documents three NRC identified findings of very low security significance (i.e., Green as determined by the Physical Protection Significance Determination Process). The deficiencies were promptly corrected or compensated for, and the plant was in compliance with applicable physical protection and security requirements within the scope of this inspection before the inspectors left the site. The findings had cross-cutting aspects in the areas of: 1) human performance associated with resources, in that, the licensee failed to ensure procedures were complete, accurate and up to date to ensure regulatory requirements were met. (H2.c); 2) human performance associated with resources, in that, procedure controls were not adequate to assure nuclear safety (H2.c) and; 3) work practices, in that, the licensee failed to ensure adequate supervisory and management oversight of work activities (H4.c). However,

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because of the very low security significance and because they are entered into your corrective action program, the NRC is treating these violations as noncited violations consistent with Section VI.A.1 of the NRC enforcement policy. If you contest these violations, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN.: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001; with copies to the Regional Administrator Region IV; the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001; and the NRC resident inspectors at the Columbia Generating Station.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's document system, ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). However, because of the security-related concerns contained in the enclosure, and in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, a copy of this letter's enclosure will not be available for public inspection.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1)(ii) the NRC is waiving the affidavit requirements for your response, if any. This practice will ensure that your response will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system, ADAMS. If Safeguards Information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21. Otherwise, mark your entire response "Security-Related Information—Withhold Under 10 CFR 2.390" and follow the instructions for withholding in 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael P. Shannon
Plant Support Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-397
License: NPF-21

Enclosure: Inspection Report 05000397/2008401
w/Attachment Supplemental Information

cc w/enclosure:
Energy Northwest
ATTN: Chuck R. Forrester
Manager, Nuclear Security
PE-02
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cc w/o enclosure:

Douglas W. Coleman (Mail Drop PE20)

Manager, Regulatory Programs

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