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**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**REGION IV  
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125**

November 20, 2009

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

**SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - NRC SECURITY INSPECTION  
REPORT 05000397/2009403**

Dear Mr. Parrish:

On October 23, 2009, 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 October 8, 2009, with Mr. S. Oxenford, Vice President, Nuclear Generation/Chief Nuclear Officer, and other members of your staff. On October 23, 2009, the final inspection results were telephonically presented to Mr. G. Cullen, Manager, Regulatory Programs, 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 one finding of very low security significance (i.e., Green as determined by the Physical Protection Significance Determination Process). The deficiency was 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. Additionally, a licensee identified violation which was determined to be of very low security significance is listed in this report (Section 4OA7). However, because of the very low security significance and because they are entered into your corrective action program, the NRC is treating these violations as non-cited violations (NCVs) consistent with Section VI.A.1 of

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- 2 -

the NRC Enforcement Policy. If you contest these non-cited 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 D.C. 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 Inspector at Columbia Generating Station.

The finding had a crosscutting aspect in the area of Human Performance associated with decision making, because the licensee did not effectively communication decisions and the basis for decisions in order for individuals to perform in a timely manner (H1.c). If you disagree with the characterization of the finding in this report, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your disagreement, to the Regional Administrator, Region IV, and the NRC Resident Inspector at Columbia Generating Station. The information you provide will be considered in accordance with Inspection Manual Chapter 0305.

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 component of 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/

Robert C. Johnson, Acting Chief  
Plant Support Branch-1  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket: 50-397  
License: NPF-21

Enclosure: Inspection Report 05000397/2009403  
w/Attachment Supplemental Information

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- 3 -

cc w/o enclosure:

Gregory V. Cullen

Manager, Regulatory Programs

Energy Northwest

P. O. Box 968, Mail Drop PE20

Richland, WA 99352-0968

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- 4 -

Distribution w/enclosure:

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Senior Resident Inspector ([Ronald.Cohen@nrc.gov](mailto:Ronald.Cohen@nrc.gov))  
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Security Related Complete Report - OUO:

ADAMS: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: JLB		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive		
Category A.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		
KEYWORD: <b>MD 3.4 Non-Public A.</b>				
PSI:PSB1	PSI:PSB1	C:PSB1	C:DRP/A	C:PSB1
JLBuchanan	PRFrechette	CJohnson	WCWalker	CJohnson
/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/
11/10/09	11/12/09	11/13/09	11/13/09	11/20/09

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ADAMS: <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: JLB
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive
Category A.	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive
KEYWORD: <b>SUNSI Review Complete</b>		

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