

NEWS FROM

WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

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Page 1 of 2

WPPSS RECEIVES CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FOR WNP-3/5

RICHLAND -- The Washington Public Power Supply System Tuesday received a Construction Permit from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to complete construction of the Supply System's Nuclear Projects 3 and 5 (WNP-3/5) in Grays Harbor County.

Site preparation work on the two 1,240,000-kilowatt power stations began on April 11, 1977 under a Limited Work Authorization from the NRC. This permitted only such activities as site preparation, excavation and building of construction support facilities.

The Supply System first accepted sponsorship of WNP-3 on June 9, 1972 and filed an application for a State Site Certificate on December 17, 1973. The application was amended to add WNP-5 on July 17, 1974. The Site Certification Agreement was signed on October 26, 1976.

The Federal NRC licensing process began in August 1974 with the filing of Preliminary Safety Analysis and Environmental Reports.

The two projects have been the subject of two public hearings before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. At the first hearing, environmental matters and site suitability were discussed. The second hearing concerned radiological health and safety.

The Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, an independent body, also has reviewed the projects and reported favorably to the NRC.

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WNP-3 and WNP-5 will be duplicate nuclear electric generating stations, each with a Combustion Engineering nuclear steam supply system which uses a pressurized water reactor. The plants will have hyperbolic, natural-draft cooling towers for cooling of the turbine condenser.

The project site is about 16 miles east of Aberdeen and 27 miles west of Olympia.

WNP-3 is expected to be in commercial operation in 1984 and WNP-5 in 1985.

The Supply System owns 70 percent of WNP-3 and 90 percent of WNP-5. The remaining 30 percent of WNP-3 is owned by Pacific Power and Light Co., 10 percent; Portland General Electric, 10 percent; Puget Sound Power and Light Co., 5 percent and the Washington Water Power Co., 5 percent. Pacific Power and Light Co. also will own 10 percent of WNP-5.

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