

NEWS FROM

WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM

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Page 1 of 1

COST ESTIMATES REVISED FOR NUCLEAR PROJECTS

Revised cost estimates for twin nuclear power projects in Grays Harbor County were given today by the Washington Public Power Supply System.

The revised estimates, given in a preliminary official statement prior to a Jan. 31, 1978 bond sale, reflect a four-month delay in completion of the projects due to delays in the licensing process and increased excavation requirements associated with an intense erosion control effort.

The project site, near the town of Satsop, has had unusually heavy rainfall, exceeding all records, in November and December, resulting in a need for the extensive erosion control measures. All major excavation activities have been suspended since mid-November.

The four month delay will result in estimated cost increases of \$36 million for WNP-3 and \$97 million for WNP-5. The new total estimated costs are \$1.459 billion for WNP-3 and \$2.129 billion for WNP-5.

The Supply System's 70 per cent ownership share of WNP-3 will be an estimated \$1.021 billion and its 90 per cent share of WNP-5 will cost an estimated \$1.916 billion.

Commercial operation of WNP-3 is rescheduled for January 1984 and WNP-5 for July 1985.

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