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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

March 10, 2010

J.V. Parrish
Chief Executive Officer
Energy Northwest
P.O. Box 968
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Parrish:

I understand that Energy Northwest has submitted a license renewal application for the Columbia Generating Station to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a twenty year extension of the operating license. I am pleased to support your efforts to pursue license renewal.

As Washington state and the nation look to produce cleaner, cheaper energy, it is my strong belief that nuclear power is an essential part of an all-of-the-above energy strategy. The Columbia Generating Station currently provides six percent of Washington's power supply both safely and efficiently. As the demands on our power supply grow, it is important that the Northwest region's only nuclear power facility remain a significant producer of energy to support our growing economy.

Nuclear power has been proven safe, economical, and non carbon emitting and should play an ever increasing role in reducing our nation's dependence on foreign oil. Columbia Generating Station's license extension will further this goal and create and sustain jobs in the Tri-Cities community.

I would like to thank you and the employees of Energy Northwest for their contributions in making the Columbia Generating Station a vital, valuable resource to our region, and I look forward to hearing of the success of your operating license renewal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doc Hastings".

Doc Hastings
Member of Congress