

N376. Refueling, Power Uprate Outage Extended A Week At WNP-2

On day 49 of what was scheduled to be a 42-days outage, Wastinghouse Public Power Supply System(WPPSS) was still putting the finishing touches on the annual refueling outage at its WNP-2 nuclear power plant in Richland, Washington.

It will take them an additional week to finish some final tasks and some of the closeout paperwork. The other factor that might have contributed to extending the outage was work to increase steam flow to the turbines by 5 percent, boosting the plant's electrical output by 50 MWe to a total of 1162MWe. As a result, the utility had to change settings on two safety relief valves and about 30 plant instruments.

Personnel replaced 152 fuel bundles in the core of the boiling water reactor. Other outage tasks included maintenance on the plant's diesel generator, and inspection and reassembly of the high-pressure turbine.

For the fourth straight year, the snubbers at WNP-2 received top marks with zero failures, resulting in a U.S. nuclear industry record, according to WPPSS.

For additional information see, "Refueling, Power Uprate Outage Extended a Week," pg.20, Nuclear News, July 1995/Vol.38/No.9.