

October 22, 2007

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-07-007

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region IV, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

**Facility**

Arizona Public Service Company  
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1  
Wintersburg, AZ

Dockets: 50-528  
Licenses: NPF-41

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

Notification of Unusual Event  
 Alert  
 Site Area Emergency  
 General Emergency  
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION REQUIRED REACTOR SHUTDOWN

DESCRIPTION:

On October 22, at approximately 3:11 a.m., MST, the licensee commenced shutdown of Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1, as required by its technical specifications. The unit was shut down at approximately 5:15 a.m., MST.

On October 15, 2007, Auxiliary Feedwater System (AFW) steam supply bypass Valve 138A failed to close after being opened during testing. The licensee disassembled the valve and found metallic material, internal to the valve, which they concluded prevented the valve from closing. The AFW system is a safety system, which is designed to remove decay heat from the reactor. The licensee decided to shut down the unit because they had not been able to identify and correct the cause of failure for Valve 138A within the required technical specification action statement completion time of 7 days. Valves of the same design in the redundant train of the Unit 1 AFW system and in Unit 2 have not exhibited this problem.

NRC resident inspectors will continue to follow the licensee's maintenance and testing activities and monitor licensee equipment restoration activities.

The state of Arizona has been informed. This information has been discussed with licensee management and is current as of 10:25 a.m., MST on October 22, 2007.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML072950602

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