

October 27, 2000

Mr. Gregg R. Overbeck
Senior Vice President, Nuclear
Arizona Public Service Company
P. O. Box 52034
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2034

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 -
EXTENSION REQUEST FOR SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL BALANCE
REPORTS

Dear Mr. Overbeck:

By letter dated October 13, 2000, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) requested NRC approval to delay submitting the special nuclear material balance reports required by 10 CFR 70.53(a)(1) and 10 CFR 74.13(a)(1) for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2 and 3.

The above-referenced regulatory requirements require licensees to compile special nuclear material balance reports as of March 31 and September 30 of each year, and to submit those reports within 30 days of those dates. The regulation at 10 CFR 74.13(a)(1) also contains the provision that "[t]he Commission may permit a licensee to submit the reports at other times when good cause is shown."

The special nuclear material balance report for the Palo Verde units for the period ending on September 30, 2000, is required to be submitted by October 30, 2000. Due to the need to utilize personnel resources in the current Palo Verde Unit 2 outage for refueling activities, APS requested NRC approval to delay the submittal of this report until December 15, 2000.

The staff has reviewed this request and concludes that good cause has been shown for delaying the submittal of this report. Therefore, the staff finds acceptable APS's request to delay, until December 15, 2000, the submittal of the special nuclear material balance report that was due on October 30, 2000.

APS also requested standing approval to delay the submittal of each semiannual special nuclear material balance report to 60 days after March 31 and September 30 of each year. This delay was requested because the refueling outages for the Palo Verde units usually occur in the March-April and September-October periods each year, and licensee personnel who compile the reports are usually also involved in the outages. The staff is reviewing this request and will provide its decision at a later date.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mel B. Fields, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate IV & Decommissioning
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. STN 50-528, STN 50-529,
and STN 50-530

cc: See next page

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Palo Verde Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

cc:

Mr. Steve Olea
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Douglas Kent Porter
Senior Counsel
Southern California Edison Company
Law Department, Generation Resources
P.O. Box 800
Rosemead, CA 91770

Senior Resident Inspector
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
P. O. Box 40
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Harris Tower & Pavillion
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011-8064

Chairman
Maricopa County Board of Supervisors
301 W. Jefferson, 10th Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Mr. Aubrey V. Godwin, Director
Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency
4814 South 40 Street
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Ms. Angela K. Krainik, Director
Regulatory Affairs
Arizona Public Service Company
P.O. Box 52034
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2034

Mr. John C. Horne
Vice President, Power Generation
El Paso Electric Company
2702 N. Third Street, Suite 3040
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Mr. David Summers
Public Service Company of New Mexico
414 Silver SW, #1206
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Mr. Jarlath Curran
Southern California Edison Company
5000 Pacific Coast Hwy Bldg DIN
San Clemente, CA 92672

Mr. Robert Henry
Salt River Project
6504 East Thomas Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Terry Bassham, Esq.
General Counsel
El Paso Electric Company
123 W. Mills
El Paso, TX 79901

Mr. John Schumann
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power
Southern California Public Power Authority
P.O. Box 51111, Room 1255-C
Los Angeles, CA 90051-0100

August 18, 1999