

March 1, 2002

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 January 17, 2002, you requested approval to delay submitting the special nuclear material (SNM) balance reports for 2002 that are 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. These regulations require licensees to compile such reports as of March 31 and September 30, of each year, and to submit these reports within 30 days of these dates. However, the regulation in 10 CFR 74.13(a)(1) contains the provision that "[t]he Commission may permit a licensee to submit the reports at other times when good cause is shown."

In your letter, you stated that the SNM balance reports for the Palo Verde units are required to be submitted during the period when the refueling outages for the Palo Verde units usually occurs. You requested that the delay in submitting the reports for March 31 and September of this year be delayed by 30 days (i.e., submit the reports 60 days after the March 31 and September 30 dates in the regulations) because there are refueling outages in the March-April and September-October periods of each year, and the Nuclear Fuel Management personnel who compile these reports are usually also involved in the refueling outages.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed your generic request for the year 2002 and concludes that good cause has been shown for delaying, by an additional 30 days, the submittal of the SNM balance reports for March 31 and September 30, 2002, which are due on April 30 and October 30, 2002, respectively. Therefore, the NRC staff finds acceptable the request to delay until (1) May 30, 2002, the submittal of the report due April 30, 2002, and (2) November 29, 2002, the submittal of the report due October 30, 2002. Previously the NRC has approved similar requests from you for a 30-day delay in the submittal of these reports in our letters of October 27, 2000, and March 14, 2001. As stated in your letter, there is an effort to revise the reporting requirements in 10 CFR 70.53(a)(1) and 10 CFR 74.13(a)(1) to annually, and the SNM balance reporting requirement in the regulations may be changed for 2003 and beyond.

G. Overbeck

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If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at 301-415-1307, or through the internet at [jnd@nrc.gov](mailto:jnd@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
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

G. Overbeck

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

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August 2001