

April 6, 1994

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

DISTRIBUTION:

~~██████████~~ OPA
NRC & Local PDRs KPerkins, RV
PDV R/F ACRS (10)
JRoe TQuay
EAdensam
TPolich/LTran
DFoster-Curseen
OGC, 15B18
EJordan, 3701

Mr. William F. Conway
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Arizona Public Service Company
Post Office Box 53999
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

Dear Mr. Conway:

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING
OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (TAC NOS. M79226, M79227 AND M79228)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact." The Environmental Assessment relates to your request dated November 13, 1990, as supplemented by letters of additional information dated May 27, 1992, May 13, 1993, and November 12, 1993, for amendments to the Palo Verde Technical Specifications to increase the pressurizer safety valve (PSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +3 percent and -1 percent, the main steam safety valve (MSSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +/-3 percent, reduce the high pressurizer pressure trip setpoint (HPPT) response time from 1.15 seconds to 0.5 second, and reduce the Technical Specifications minimum auxiliary feedwater (AFW) pump flow requirement from 750 gallons per minute (GPM) to 650 GPM.

The environmental assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Linh N. Tran, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

* See previous concurrence

OFC:	LA/PDIV-3 <i>dfc</i>	PM/PDIV-3 <i>lo</i>	PM/PDIV-3*	OGC*	D/PDIV-3
NAME:	DFoster-Curseen	LTran	TPolich	CBarth	TQuay <i>TKA</i>
DATE:	4/5/94	4/5/94	02/23/94	02/03/94	4/6/94

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

DOCUMENT NAME: PV79226.EA2

9404180054 940406
PDR ADOCK 05000528
P PDR

ENCLOSURE COPY

100090

CP1
DF01

April 6, 1994

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

Mr. William F. Conway
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Arizona Public Service Company
Post Office Box 53999
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File OPA
NRC & Local PDRs KPerkins, RV
PDV R/F ACRS (10)
JRoe TQuay
EAdensam
TPolich/LTran
DFoster-Curseen
OGC, 15B18
EJordan, 3701

Dear Mr. Conway:

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING
OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (TAC NOS. M79226, M79227 AND M79228)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact." The Environmental Assessment relates to your request dated November 13, 1990, as supplemented by letters of additional information dated May 27, 1992, May 13, 1993, and November 12, 1993, for amendments to the Palo Verde Technical Specifications to increase the pressurizer safety valve (PSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +3 percent and -1 percent, the main steam safety valve (MSSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +/-3 percent, reduce the high pressurizer pressure trip setpoint (HPPT) response time from 1.15 seconds to 0.5 second, and reduce the Technical Specifications minimum auxiliary feedwater (AFW) pump flow requirement from 750 gallons per minute (GPM) to 650 GPM.

The environmental assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:
Linh N. Tran, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

* See previous concurrence

OFC:	LA/PDIV-3 <i>dfc</i>	PM/PDIV-3 <i>W</i>	PM/PDIV-3*	OGC*	D/PDIV-3
NAME:	DFoster-Curseen	LTran	TPolich	CBarth	TQuay <i>TK</i>
DATE:	4/5/94	4/5/94	02/23/94	02/03/94	4/6/94

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

DOCUMENT NAME: PV79226.EA2



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 6, 1994

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

Mr. William F. Conway
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
Arizona Public Service Company
Post Office Box 53999
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

Dear Mr. Conway:

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING
OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (TAC NOS. M79226, M79227 AND M79228)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an "Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact." The Environmental Assessment relates to your request dated November 13, 1990, as supplemented by letters of additional information dated May 27, 1992, May 13, 1993, and November 12, 1993, for amendments to the Palo Verde Technical Specifications to increase the pressurizer safety valve (PSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +3 percent and -1 percent, the main steam safety valve (MSSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +/-3 percent, reduce the high pressurizer pressure trip setpoint (HPPT) response time from 1.15 seconds to 0.5 second, and reduce the Technical Specifications minimum auxiliary feedwater (AFW) pump flow requirement from 750 gallons per minute (GPM) to 650 GPM.

The environmental assessment has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linh N. Tran".

Linh N. Tran, Project Manager
Project Directorate IV-3
Division of Reactor Projects III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
Environmental Assessment

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

Mr. William F. Conway
Arizona Public Service Company

Palo Verde

cc:

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

Jack R. Newman, Esq.
Newman & Holtzinger, P.C.
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20036

James A. Beoletto, Esq.
Southern California Edison Company
P. O. Box 800
Rosemead, California 91770

Mr. Curtis Hoskins
Executive Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
Palo Verde Services
2025 N. 3rd Street, Suite 220
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Senior Resident Inspector
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
5951 S. Wintersburg Road
Tonopah, Arizona 85354-7537

Roy P. Lessey, Jr., Esq.
Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Feld
El Paso Electric Company
1333 New Hampshire Ave., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036

Regional Administrator, Region V
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1450 Maria Lane
Suite 210
Walnut Creek, California 94596

Ms. Angela K. Krainik, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
Arizona Public Service Company
P. O. Box 52034
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

Mr. Charles B. Brinkman, Manager
Washington Nuclear Operations
ABB Combustion Engineering Nuclear Power
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 330
Rockville, Maryland 20852

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

Jacqueline Wyland (5 copies)
Environmental Review Coordinator
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Chairman
Maricopa County Board of Supervisors
111 South Third Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.
DOCKET NOS. STN 50-528, STN 50-529, AND STN 50-530
PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION UNITS 1, 2, AND 3
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74 issued to Arizona Public Service Company, (the licensee), for operation of Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Units 1, 2, and 3 located in Wintersburg, Arizona.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Identification of Proposed Action:

The proposed action would revise the provisions in the Technical Specifications (TS) related to increasing the pressurizer safety valve (PSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +3 percent and -1 percent, increasing the main steam safety valve (MSSV) setpoint tolerance from +/-1 percent to +/-3 percent, reducing the high pressurizer pressure trip setpoint (HPPT) response time from 1.15 seconds to 0.5 second, and reducing the Technical Specifications minimum auxiliary feedwater (AFW) pump flow requirement from 750 gallons per minute (GPM) to 650 GPM.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated November 13, 1990, as supplemented by letters of additional information dated May 27, 1992, May 13, 1993, and November 12, 1993.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed changes to the TS are required in order to provide the licensee with operational flexibility in meeting surveillance requirements for auxiliary feedwater (AFW) flow, and pressurizer safety valve (PSV) and main steam safety valve (MSSV) lift setpoint tolerances. The proposed change to the TS also involves a reduction of the high pressurizer pressure trip (HPPT) response time. This reduction is necessary to ensure that the peak pressures during postulated accident scenarios for the other changes (AWF, PSV, and MSSV) do not violate safety limits.

Environmental Impact of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the TS and the licensee's assessment of increased radiological release as a result of the safety valve setpoint tolerance change and the proposed reduction in auxiliary feedwater flow. For the most limiting SGTR scenario, this results in an increase in the 2-hour thyroid dose from 200 rem to less than 248 rem. Adding the increased dose due to the expanded PSV and MSSV setpoint tolerances (which the licensee calculated as a 5-percent dose increase), results in a 2-hour dose of 260 rem. This value provides adequate margin to the 10 CFR Part 100 guideline of 300 rem. The licensee also evaluated radiological release for the reactor coolant pump (RCP) shaft seizure event, and determined that the calculated 0.5 rem increase was insignificant compared to the 246 rem dose reported in Supplement 2 to the staff's Safety Evaluation Report related to the Combustion Engineering Standard Safety Analyses Report (CESSAR) for System 80, and the 300 rem SRP acceptance criteria. The staff finds the analysis results, utilizing proper conservatisms, to be within 10 CFR guidelines.

Therefore, the proposed changes do not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed changes do not affect nonradiological plant effluents and have no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the Federal Register on December 27, 1990 (55 FR 53220). Two petitions for leave to intervene and request for hearing were filed following this Notice. One request was denied and the other granted. However, the party that was granted the hearing later voluntarily withdrew their contention.

Alternative to the Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement related to operation of the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Units 1, 2, and 3, dated February 1982 (NUREG 0841).

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The staff consulted the State of Arizona official regarding environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the licensee's application for amendment dated November 13, 1990, and supplemented by letters of additional information dated May 27, 1992, May 13, 1993, and November 12, 1993, which are available for public inspection at the

Commission's Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20555 and at the local public document room at the Phoenix Public Library, 12 East McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85004. Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 6th day of April 1994.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Theodore R. Quay, Director
Project Directorate IV-3
Division of Reactor Project III/IV
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation