



10 CFR 50.90

Palo Verde Nuclear
Generating Station

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102-04864-CDM/TNW/DWG
November 7, 2002

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
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Washington, DC 20555-0001

Reference: 1) NRC Safety Evaluation (SE), Acceptance for Referencing of Topical Report CENPD-396-P, Rev. 01, "Common Qualified Platform" and Appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4, Rev. 01 (TAC No. MA1677), dated August 11, 2000

Dear Sirs:

**Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Units 1, 2 and 3
Docket Nos. STN 50-528/529/530
Request for Amendment to Technical Specifications:
3.2.4, Departure From Nucleate Boiling Ratio (DNBR),
3.3.1, Reactor Protective System (RPS) Instrumentation - Operating,
3.3.3, Control Element Assembly Calculators (CEACs)**

Pursuant to 10 CFR 50.90, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) hereby requests an amendment to Technical Specification (TS) Sections 3.2.4, Departure From Nucleate Boiling Ratio (DNBR), 3.3.1, Reactor Protective System (RPS) Instrumentation - Operating, and 3.3.3, Control Element Assembly Calculators (CEACs), for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS) Units 1, 2, and 3. This proposed amendment is needed to support upgrade of the Core Protection Calculator System (CPCS) in each PVNGS unit.

APS intends to replace the CPCS in all three units due primarily to parts obsolescence associated with existing equipment. All CPC and CEAC systems at PVNGS will be replaced with a functionally equivalent, digital Common Qualified (or Common-Q) Core Protection Calculator System (CPCS) provided by Westinghouse Electric Power LLC (CE Nuclear Power LLC). The basic Common Q CPCS design concept was approved by NRC Safety Evaluation (SE) for the Common Qualified Platform (Reference 1).

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Based on the evaluation contained within this license amendment request (LAR), APS concludes that this change presents no significant hazards consideration under the standards set forth in 10 CFR 50.92 and accordingly, a finding by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of no significant hazards consideration is justified. In accordance with the PVNGS Quality Assurance Program, the Plant Review Board and Offsite Safety Review Committee have reviewed and concurred with this proposed amendment.

By copy of this letter, this request is being forwarded to the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency (ARRA) pursuant to 10 CFR 50.91(b)(1). APS requests that the enclosed LAR be reviewed and approved by July 01, 2003 with an allowance of 90 days for implementation of the approved amendment.

The following commitment is being made to the NRC by this letter:

APS will ensure that all plant specific action items described in Section 6.0 of Reference 1 are completed prior to implementation of the Common Q CPCS at PVNGS.

Should you have any questions, please contact Thomas N. Weber at (623) 393-5764.

Sincerely,



CDM/TNW/DWG/kg

Enclosures:

- Notarized affidavit
- Arizona Public Service Company's Evaluation of the LAR

Attachments:

1. Proposed Technical Specification Pages (mark-up)
2. Proposed Technical Specification Pages (retyped)
3. List of Regulatory Commitments
4. Changes to Technical Specifications Bases (Information Only)

cc: E. W. Merschoff
J. N. Donohew
N. L. Salgado
A.V. Godwin

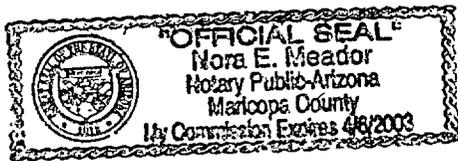
STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF MARICOPA)

I, David Mauldin, represent that I am Vice President Nuclear Engineering and Support, Arizona Public Service Company (APS), that the foregoing document has been signed by me on behalf of APS with full authority to do so, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made therein are true and correct.

David Mauldin
David Mauldin

Sworn To Before Me This 7th Day Of November, 2002.

Nora E. Meador
Notary Public



Notary Commission Stamp