



NEPC

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CENTER

To: Collins, NRR
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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

Date: November 19th, 2002

To: William Travers, Executive Director for Operations

Company: U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

FAX #: 301-415-2700

Phone #:

From: Thomas Saporito

Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 2

Message: If you fail to receive the entire FAX, please contact Thomas Saporito at 623-386-6863 or send an email message to NEPC@THEPOSTMASTER.NET

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National Environmental Protection Center

From: National Environmental Protection Center [NEPC@THEPOSTMASTER.NET]
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2002 6:59 AM
To: Gary Sanborn
Subject: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
Importance: High

Hello Gary

This serves to acknowledge receipt of your email letter this date regarding the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station ("PVNGS"). Your letter appears to be responsive to NEPC's earlier request that the NRC arrange for "escorted" access for NEPC to meet with the NRC senior resident inspector and with the NRC "onsite" at the PVNGS facility. In your November 19th, email letter the NRC again requests that NEPC meet with the NRC at a location in the Phoenix, Arizona area, and that "... it is not the NRC's practice - nor its responsibility - to provide escorted access to members of the public onto nuclear facilities ..."

The position of NEPC is unchanged and NEPC again requests that the NRC act to intervene with the NRC licensee, Arizona Public Service Company ("APS") to secure "escorted" access to the PVNGS facility in order that NEPC can meet with the NRC resident inspector and with the NRC to discuss its concerns related to the NRC licensee's nuclear facility. NEPC notes here that in the **current heightened state of security at all nuclear power facilities**, it is imperative that the NRC cooperate in assisting public organizations like NEPC in gaining "escorted" access to nuclear facilities in order that the NRC can be made aware of information which could possibly assist the agency in protecting public safety and health and in furtherance of the protection of the overall environment as a whole.

In addition, NEPC strongly believes that it has a right to meet with the NRC at the PVNGS facility insofar as the area utilized by the NRC at the PVNGS facility is sovereign government property and therefore "outside" the control of the NRC licensee. Although the NRC licensee is required to authorize all "escorted and unescorted" access to the PVNGS facility, it is incumbent upon the NRC, a sovereign government agency "to act on behalf of the public in assisting the public in gaining escorted access to the PVNGS facility in order that the NRC might carry out its congressional mandate to ensure public safety and health.

Therefore, NEPC declines the NRC's offer to meet at a location in the greater Phoenix, Arizona area and again seeks the NRC's assistance on behalf of the public and the environment in intervening with the NRC's licensee to provide NEPC escorted access to the PVNGS facility to meet with the NRC. Through this reference, NEPC maintains all supportive points and arguments raised in its previous correspondence with the NRC in this matter.

Tom

Cc: William Travers, Executive Director for Operations
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