

March 29, 2006

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-06-003

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region IV staff on this date.

Facility

Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Unit 1
Arizona Public Service Company
Tonopah, Arizona
Docket No: 50-528
License No. NPF-41

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
 Alert
 Site Area Emergency
 General Emergency
 Not Applicable

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE UNIT 1 EXTENDED SHUTDOWN TO REPAIR SHUTDOWN COOLING VALVE VIBRATION

DESCRIPTION: On March 25, 2006, the licensee announced that Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Unit 1 will remain shutdown for an extended period to correct high vibration on a shutdown cooling suction valve. The licensee had not yet determined the length of this forced outage. The licensee is currently developing an outage plan and schedule.

Unit 1 had been operating at a reduced power level (approximately 25 percent), since December 25, 2005, due to high vibration levels on the Train A shutdown cooling suction valve. On March 18, 2006, the licensee shutdown Unit 1 to perform additional testing to confirm the source of the shutdown cooling line vibration.

The NRC will conduct inspections of licensee repair activities and perform a detailed review of design modifications.

The state of Arizona has been notified.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 9:00 a.m. (CST) on March 29, 2006.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML 060880090

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