

November 2, 2007

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-07-010

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, Arlington, Texas, staff on this date.

Facility

Arizona Public Service Company
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
Wintersburg, AZ

Dockets: 50-528, 529, 530

Licenses: NPF-41, 51, 74

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (PVNGS) NOTIFICATION OF UNUSUAL EVENT DESCRIPTION:

On November 2, at approximately 7:44 am MST, the licensee for PVNGS declared a Notification of Unusual Event in response to a security event. Specifically, site security personnel at the entrance to the Owner-Controlled Area found a small capped pipe in the back of a contract employee's truck during normal security screening of vehicles entering the site. Palo Verde security processes worked as designed, and there was no hazard to the plant or to the public. At 8:11 am MST, the NRC made the decision to enter the monitoring mode in accordance with the agency's emergency response procedures.

Plant conditions in all three units are stable. Unit 1 is operating at 2 percent power and holding, Unit 2 is at 100 percent power and stable, and Unit 3 is defueled for a refueling outage.

NRC resident inspectors are following this event at the site, and NRC headquarters and Region IV staff activated and are following the licensee's activities in response to this event.

The Maricopa County Sheriffs Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, responded to the incident.

The state of Arizona has been informed. This information has been discussed with licensee management and is current as of 1:40 pm, MST on November 2, 2007.

The licensee completed the actions specified by its security procedures, restored ingress and egress to the facility, and exited the Notification of Unusual Event at 3:04 pm MST. Heightened security measures will be implemented while the investigation of this incident continues. The NRC exited the monitoring mode at 3:28 pm MST. The NRC staff will continue to follow up on the licensee's actions.

This preliminary notification is issued for information only.

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