



Palo Verde Nuclear  
Generating Station

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102-05726-TNW/DFH  
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Mr. J. F. Drake  
Chief Examiner, Region IV  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400  
Arlington, TX 76011-4005

Dear Mr. Drake:

**Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)  
Units 1, 2 and 3  
Docket Nos. STN 50-528/529/530  
Senior Reactor Operator and Reactor Operator Written Examination  
Results**

Arizona Public Service Company (APS) has completed its review of the Operator Examination conducted on July 20 to 26, 2007. The result of the written examination and a challenge to the Operational exam are provided in Enclosure 1. Enclosure 2 forwards final exam grading support materials as required by NUREG 1021, Section ES-501.C.1

There are no commitments made to the NRC by this letter.

Please call John Wood at (623) 393-6826 or Warren Potter at (623) 393-6165 if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

TNW/DGM/DFH

Enclosure: 1.) Results of Written Exam and Challenge to Operational Exam  
2.) Final Exam Grading and Written Exam Grading Supporting Materials

Cc: w/o enclosures

B. S. Mallett	NRC Region IV, Regional Administrator
A. T. Gody	NRC Region IV, Chief, Operations Branch
M. T. Markley	NRC NRR Project Manager
G. G. Warnick	NRC Senior Resident Inspector for PVNGS
L. A. Hurley	NRC Region IV, Licensing Assistant, Operations Branch

**ENCLOSURE 1**

**Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station**

**Results of Written Exam  
and  
Operational Exam Challenges**

**Enclosure 1**  
**Result of Written Exam**  
**and**  
**Operational Exam Challenges**

**Written Exam**

A review of the NRC RO and SRO written exams administered to the Palo Verde license candidates July 20, 2007 has been completed by an exam grader and facility reviewer. Based on exam results, the exam grading review, and an exam review with the candidates, there are no challenges to either the RO or SRO exam. All questions missed by 50% or more of the candidates have been evaluated. This evaluation concluded that the questions and answers provided were valid as given. Those missed were treated as knowledge deficiencies and were covered with the candidates during an exam review.

**Operation Exam (JPM) Challenge**

After the Operational portion of the exam was concluded, one of the SRO candidates challenged the validity of the key answer for administrative JPM SA-5. The candidate proposed that the correct EPIP classification was Site Area Emergency (SAE) and not General Emergency (GE) as specified in the JPM. Based on a review by Emergency Planning personnel and the exam development team, the SAE classification is correct. Palo Verde is sending the corrected version of JPM SA-5 as a substitute for the as-given version for NRC approval.

## 2007 Exam Questions/Clarifications

SRO #7 (Mike Taney)

Q - What does completed 50.59 review mean in the C & D answers? It could mean that no review is required.

A - It means that the 50.59 review process is completed.

SRO #19 (Lance Sharret)

Q - Does SGN-PT-1001 really mean SBCV-1001?

A - Yes

RO #9 (Johnny Turner)

Q - Does .3 psig mean 0.3 psig

A - Yes

RO #26 (Steve Wackenstedt)

Q - Does HPSI flow decrease along with LPSI flow in answers A & B

A - Yes, complete the sentence it implies that HPSI flow is decreasing

RO #47 (Lance Sharret)

Q - Last bullet says RO positions valves, is that locally or with handswitches

A - it means with handswitches