Dr. Clinton M. Pattea, President Fort McDowell Yavapai Tribal Council P.O. Box 17779 Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Dr. Pattea:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

We would like your assistance in our review by your participation in the NRC's environmental review scoping process. The NRC's process includes an opportunity for public and intergovernmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51, Section 51.28(b), the NRC invites your tribe to provide input relating to the NRC's environmental review of the application. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The NRC has sent copies of this letter to the tribal contacts for the following Federallyrecognized tribes: Fort McDowell Yavapai Tribal Council, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council, San Carlos Tribal Council, Tohono O'odham Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation Tribal Council, Gila River Indian Community Council, Ak Chin Indian Community Council, Yavapai-Prescott Board of Directors, Tonto Apache Tribe, and Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for Palo Verde will expire for Unit 1 on June 1, 2025; for Unit 2 on April 24, 2026; and for Unit 3 on November 25, 2027.

C. Pattea

The GEIS considered the environmental impacts of renewing nuclear power plant operating licenses for a 20-year period on all currently operating sites. In the GEIS, the NRC staff identified 92 environmental issues and developed generic conclusions related to environmental impacts for 69 of these issues that apply to all plants or to plants with specific design or site characteristics. For the remaining 23 issues, plant-specific analyses will be documented in a supplement to the GEIS.

A SEIS will be prepared for Palo Verde to document the staff's review of environmental impacts related to terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, cultural resources, and socioeconomic issues (among others), and will contain a recommendation regarding the environmental acceptability of the license renewal action.

Please submit any comments that you may have to offer on the scope of the environmental review by July 27, 2009. Written comments should be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at <u>PaloVerde.EIS@nrc.gov</u>. At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached, and mail a copy to you.

To accommodate interested members of the public, the NRC will hold two public scoping meetings for the Palo Verde license renewal supplement to the GEIS on June 25, 2009. The afternoon session will be held from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Tonopah Valley High School, 38201 West Indian School Road, Tonopah, AZ 85354. The evening session will be held from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at the Estrella Mountain Community College, 3000 North Dysart Road, Avondale, AZ 85392. Additionally, the NRC staff will host informal discussions one hour before the start of each session.

The Palo Verde LRA and the GEIS are available on the internet at <u>http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/palo-verde.html</u>. In addition, the Litchfield Park Branch Library, 101 West Wigwam Boulevard, Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340, has agreed to make the LRA and the GEIS available for public inspection.

C. Pattea

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mrs. Lisa Regner, License Renewal Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-1906 or by email at Lisa.Regner@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Ms. Diane Enos, President Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council 10005 East Osborn Scottsdale, AZ 85256

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Ms. Enos:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

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D. Enos

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D. Enos

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/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Wendsler Nosie, Sr., Chairperson San Carlos Tribal Council P.O. Box 0 San Carlos, AZ 85550

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Nosie:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

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W. Nosie

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W. Nosie

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Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Ned Norris, Jr., Chairperson Tohono O'odham Nation P.O. Box 837 Sells, AZ 85634

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Norris:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

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N. Norris

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N. Norris

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Sincerely,

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Ronnie Lupe, Chairman White Mountain Apache Tribe P.O. Box 700 Whiteriver, AZ 85941

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Lupe:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

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R. Lupe

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R. Lupe

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Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Thomas Beauty, Chairman Yavapai-Apache Nation Tribal Council 2400 West Datsi Camp Verde, AZ 86322

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Beauty:

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T. Beauty

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/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Peter Yucupicio, Chairman Pascua Yaqui Tribe 7474 South Camino De Oeste Tuscon, AZ 85746

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Yucupicio:

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P. Yucupicio

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Please submit any comments that you may have to offer on the scope of the environmental review by July 27, 2009. Written comments should be submitted by mail to the Chief, Rulemaking and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Mail Stop TWB-05-B01M, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington DC 20555-0001. Electronic comments may be submitted to the NRC by e-mail at <u>PaloVerde.EIS@nrc.gov</u>. At the conclusion of the scoping process, the NRC staff will prepare a summary of the significant issues identified and the conclusions reached, and mail a copy to you.

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The Palo Verde LRA and the GEIS are available on the internet at <u>http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/palo-verde.html</u>. In addition, the Litchfield Park Branch Library, 101 West Wigwam Boulevard, Litchfield Park, Arizona 85340, has agreed to make the LRA and the GEIS available for public inspection.

P. Yucupicio

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mrs. Lisa Regner, License Renewal Project Manager, by phone at 301-415-1906 or by email at <u>Lisa.Regner@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Ivan Smith, Chairman Tonto Apache Tribe #30 Tonto Apache Reservation Payson, AZ 85541

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Smith:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

We would like your assistance in our review by your participation in the NRC's environmental review scoping process. The NRC's process includes an opportunity for public and intergovernmental participation in the environmental review. We want to ensure that you are aware of our efforts and pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 51, Section 51.28(b), the NRC invites your tribe to provide input relating to the NRC's environmental review of the application. In addition, as outlined in 36 CFR 800.8(c), the NRC plans to coordinate compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 through the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The NRC has sent copies of this letter to the tribal contacts for the following Federallyrecognized tribes: Fort McDowell Yavapai Tribal Council, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council, San Carlos Tribal Council, Tohono O'odham Nation, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Yavapai-Apache Nation Tribal Council, Gila River Indian Community Council, Ak Chin Indian Community Council, Yavapai-Prescott Board of Directors, Tonto Apache Tribe, and Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant is issued for up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. The current operating licenses for Palo Verde will expire for Unit 1 on June 1, 2025; for Unit 2 on April 24, 2026; and for Unit 3 on November 25, 2027.

I. Smith

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I. Smith

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Sincerely,

/RA/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. Ernest Jones, Sr., President Yavapai-Prescott Board of Directors 530 East Merritt Prescott, AZ 86301-2038

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Jones:

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E. Jones

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E. Jones

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Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Ms. Delia M. Carlyle, President Ak Chin Indian Community Council 42507 West Peters & Nail Road Maricopa, AZ 85239

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Ms. Carlyle:

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D. Carlyle

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Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

Mr. William R. Rhodes, Governor Gila River Indian Community Council P.O. Box 97 Sacaton, AZ 85247

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

Dear Mr. Rhodes:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or the staff) has recently received an application from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde) for the renewal of operating licenses NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74. Palo Verde is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, approximately 26 miles west of the Phoenix metropolitan area boundary. The NRC is in the initial stages of developing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), which will document the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed license renewal of Palo Verde.

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W. Rhodes

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W. Rhodes

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Sincerely,

/**RA**/

David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

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Sincerely,

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David J. Wrona, Chief Projects Branch 2 Division of License Renewal Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530

Enclosures: As stated

cc w/encls.: See next page

Identical letters have been sent to the following persons: Clinton M. Pattea, Diane Enos, Wendsler Nosie, Sr., Ned Norris, Jr., Ronnie Lupe, Thomas Beauty, Peter Yucupicio, Ivan Smith, Ernest Jones, Sr., Delia M. Carlyle, and William R. Rhodes.

ADAMS Accession Nos.: ML091390376 (Pkg) ML091390581 (Ltr) ML091390369 (Encl.)

OFFICE	PM:DLR:RPB2	LA:DLR	BC:DLR:RPB2
NAME	LRegner	YEdmonds	D Wrona
DATE	05/29/2009	06/01/2009	06/01/2009

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Letter to Clinton M. Pattea from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to Diane Enos from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to Wendsler Nosie, Sr. from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to Ned Norris, Jr. from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to Ronnie Lupe from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

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Letter to Thomas Beauty from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to Peter Yucupicio from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to Ivan Smith from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

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Letter to Delia M. Carlyle from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Letter to William R. Rhodes from David J. Wrona dated June 1, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SCOPING COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3, LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION REVIEW

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Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

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