

From: Hall, Randy
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 9:56 AM
To: Russell.Stroud@aps.com
Subject: Acceptance Review for License Amendment Requests for Palo Verde Units 1, 2 and 3, re: TS Table 3.3.5-1 ESFAS, and RWT Minimum Volume (TAC NOs, ME2842/3/4)

January 14, 2010

Russell A. (Rusty) Stroud
Licensing Section Leader
Regulatory Affairs
Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
Arizona Public Service Company

Rusty:

By letter dated November 30, 2009, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) submitted a license amendment request for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS), Units 1, 2, and 3.

The proposed amendments would revise Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.5, "Engineered Safety Features Actuation System Instrumentation," Table 3.3.5-1, to raise the refueling water tank (RWT) low level Allowable Values for the Recirculation Actuation Signal (RAS); raise the minimum required RWT volume shown in TS Figure 3.5.5-1, and implement a time-critical operator action to close the RWT isolation valves, including consideration of a potentially more limiting single failure of a low pressure safety injection (LPSI) pump to automatically stop, as designed, on a RAS.

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this amendment request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-4032.

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