



*A subsidiary of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation*

Palo Verde Nuclear  
Generating Station

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102-06200-DCM/RAS/RJR  
May 27, 2010

ATTN: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Sirs:

**Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)  
Unit 2  
Docket No. STN 50-529  
Response to Request for Additional Information  
Relief Request No. 45 (TAC No. ME2311)**

By APS letter no. 102-06061, dated September 10, 2009 (Agencywide Document Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML092610069), Arizona Public Service Company (APS), submitted Relief Request No. 45 to the NRC. The enclosure to this letter contains responses to the questions provided to APS by the NRC Project Manager on March 26, 2010.

No commitments are being made to the NRC by this letter. Should you need further information regarding this response, please contact Russell A. Stroud, Licensing Section Leader, at (623) 393-5111.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John H. Hesser', written over a horizontal line.

DCM//RAS/RJR/gat

Enclosure: Response to Request for Additional Information Relief Request No. 45

cc: E. E. Collins, Jr. NRC Region IV Regional Administrator  
J. R. Hall NRC NRR Project Manager  
L. K. Gibson NRC NRR Project Manager  
R. I. Treadway NRC Senior Resident Inspector for PVNGS

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**ENCLOSURE**

**Response to Request for Additional Information  
Relief Request No. 45**

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
RELIEF REQUEST No. 45

By letter dated September 10, 2009, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) submitted Relief Request No. 45 for the second 10-year inservice inspection (ISI) interval, pursuant to paragraph 50.55a(g)(5)(iii) of Title 10 of *The Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR). RR No. 45 is a request for relief from the inservice inspection requirements of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME Code), Section XI, for several ASME Code Class 1 and 2 components for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 2. On March 26, 2010, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requested the following additional information:

**NRC Question**

In Part "A" of RR No. 45, the licensee indicated that the reactor vessel (RV) nozzle-to-vessel welds received volumetric examinations, with an overall combined examination volume that was limited to 85.1 percent of the weld volume, compared to 90% coverage required by the ASME Code, Section XI. Please discuss the results of these limited volumetric examinations, including whether any relevant indications were found during these examinations, and how any such indications were dispositioned.

**APS Response:**

All B-D, B3.90 reactor vessel nozzle-to-vessel weld examinations were acceptable with no relevant indications. During the course of the volumetric examinations for the reactor vessel nozzle-to-vessel weld 1-18, three indications were noted. The indications were determined to be acceptable in accordance with ASME Section XI, IWB 3512, Standards for Examination Category B-D, Full Penetration Welds of Nozzles in Vessels and, therefore, not relevant.