

From: Hall, Randy
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2011 8:56 AM
To: Russell.Stroud@aps.com
Cc: Thomas.N.Weber@aps.com; Gibson, Lauren
Subject: Acceptance Review for License Amendment Request for Palo Verde Units 1, 2 and 3, Relocation of Surveillance Frequencies to Licensee-Controlled Program (TAC Nos. ME6010/1/2)

May 11, 2011

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

Rusty:

By letter dated March 31, 2011, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) submitted a license amendment request for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS), Units 1, 2, and 3.

The proposed amendment would modify the PVNGS technical specifications by relocating specific surveillance frequencies to a licensee-controlled program with the adoption of Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Traveler 425, Revision 3, "Relocate Surveillance Frequencies to Licensee Control - Risk Informed Technical Specification Task Force (RITSTF) Initiative 5b." Additionally, the change would add a new program, the Surveillance Frequency Control Program, to Technical Specification (TS) Section 5, Administrative Controls. The existing TS Bases information describing the bases for the surveillance frequencies will be relocated to the licensee-controlled Surveillance Frequency Control Program.

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 Lauren Gibson at (301) 415-1056.

Randy Hall, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
USNRC
(301) 415-4032
Randy.Hall@nrc.gov