

**From:** Singal, Balwant  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 10, 2012 7:42 AM  
**To:** russell.stroud@aps.com  
**Cc:** 'Thomas.N.Weber@aps.com'  
**Subject:** Acceptance of Application - License Amendment Request to Eliminate the Use of the Term CORE ALTERATIONS in the Technical Specifications (TACs ME8160, ME8161, and ME8162)

By letter dated March 8, 2012, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) submitted an amendment request for approval of the License Amendment Request to eliminate the use of term CORE ALTERATIONS throughout the Technical Specifications for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. APS stated that the proposed amendment incorporates changes reflected in Technical Specification Task Force (TSTF) Traveler 471-A, Revision 1.

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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed alternative in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Balwant K. Singal  
Senior Project Manager (Comanche Peak, STP, and Palo Verde)  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
[Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov](mailto:Balwant.Singal@nrc.gov)  
Tel: (301) 415-3016  
Fax: (301) 415-1222

