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

Mr. E. E. Van Brunt, Jr.
Vice President - Nuclear Projects
Arizona Public Service Company
Post Office Box 21666
Phoenix, Arizona 85036

Dear Mr. Van Brunt:

Subject: Request for Information on Setpoint Methodology - Palo Verde

To expedite the review of the setpoint methodology used to develop the Palo Verde Technical Specifications, we ask that you provide the information requested in the enclosure.

Please advise us as to when you plan to respond to this request. If you have any questions regarding the request, you should contact Manny Licitra, the Licensing Project Manager.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
George W. Knighton

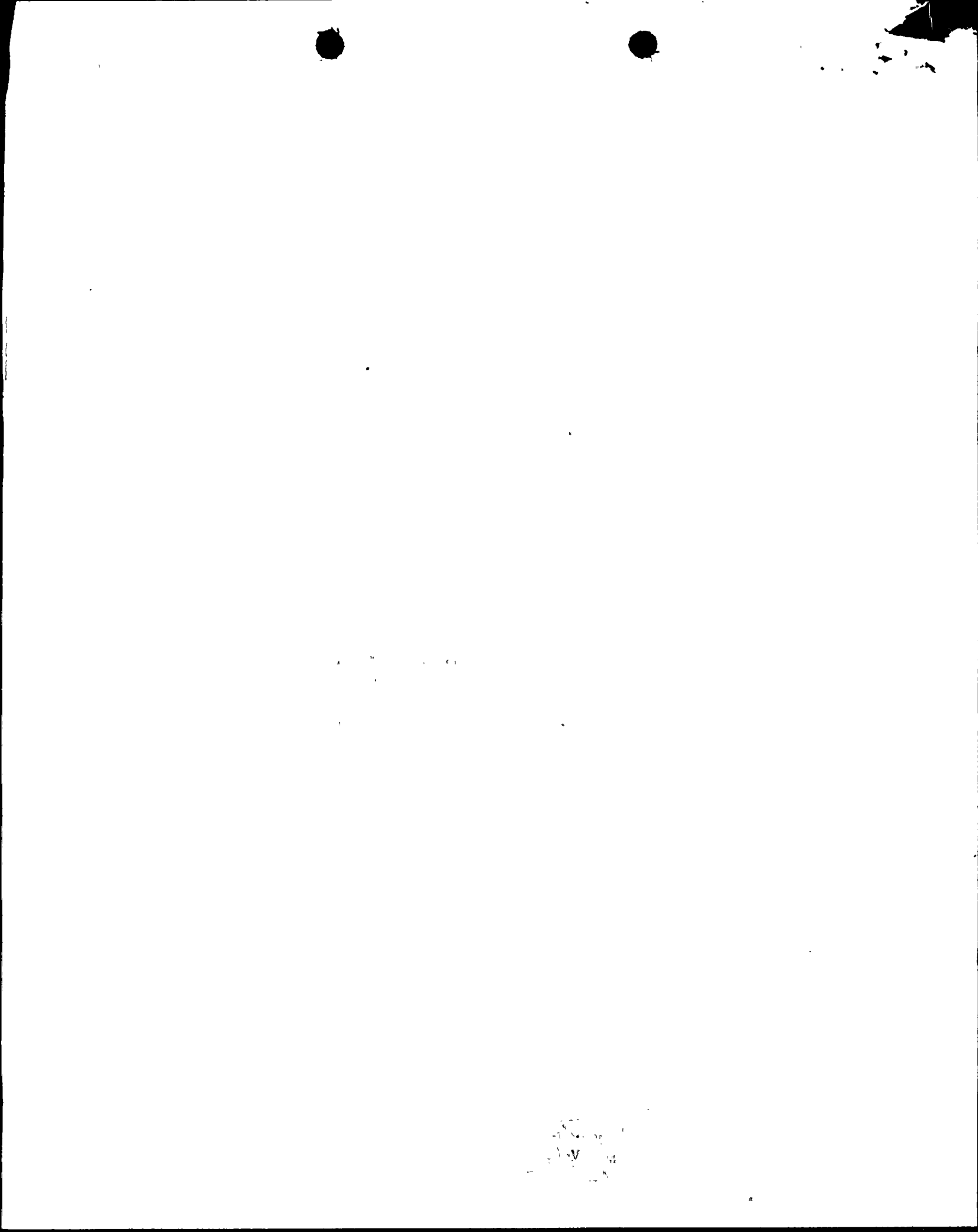
George W. Knighton, Chief
Licensing Branch No. 3
Division of Licensing

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

To expedite the review of the setpoint methodology used to develop the Palo Verde technical specifications, we request that you provide, in an expeditious manner, a detailed discussion on the methodology used to establish the technical specification trip setpoints and allowable values for the Reactor Protection System and Engineered Safety Feature channels assumed to operate in the FSAR Chapter 15 analyses. Include the following information:

- (a) The trip setpoint and allowable value for the technical specifications,
- (b) The analytical limit of the monitored process variable prior to which a desired action is to be initiated,
- (c) The safety limit necessary to protect the integrity of the physical barriers which guard against the uncontrolled release of radioactivity,
- (d) The margin (i.e., the difference between the safety limit and the setpoint less the combined channel error allowance),
- (e) The values assigned to each component of the combined channel error allowance (e.g., modeling uncertainties, analytical uncertainties, transient overshoot, response time, trip unit

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setting accuracy, test equipment accuracy, primary element accuracy, process measurement accuracy, sensor calibration accuracy, sensor drift, nominal and harsh environmental allowances, trip unit drift), the basis for these values, and the methodology used to combine these errors.

- (f) Identify any trip for which the setpoint and allowable value in the currently proposed technical specifications have been assigned best estimate values and for which you do not have an analysis of errors and/or uncertainties to confirm that the trip function will occur before the actual value of the measured parameter exceeds that assumed in the plant safety analysis. Provide justification for this nonanalytical approach.

OCT 20 1983

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