



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 12 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-41
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.
PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NO. 1
DOCKET NO. STN 50-528

1.0 INTRODUCTION

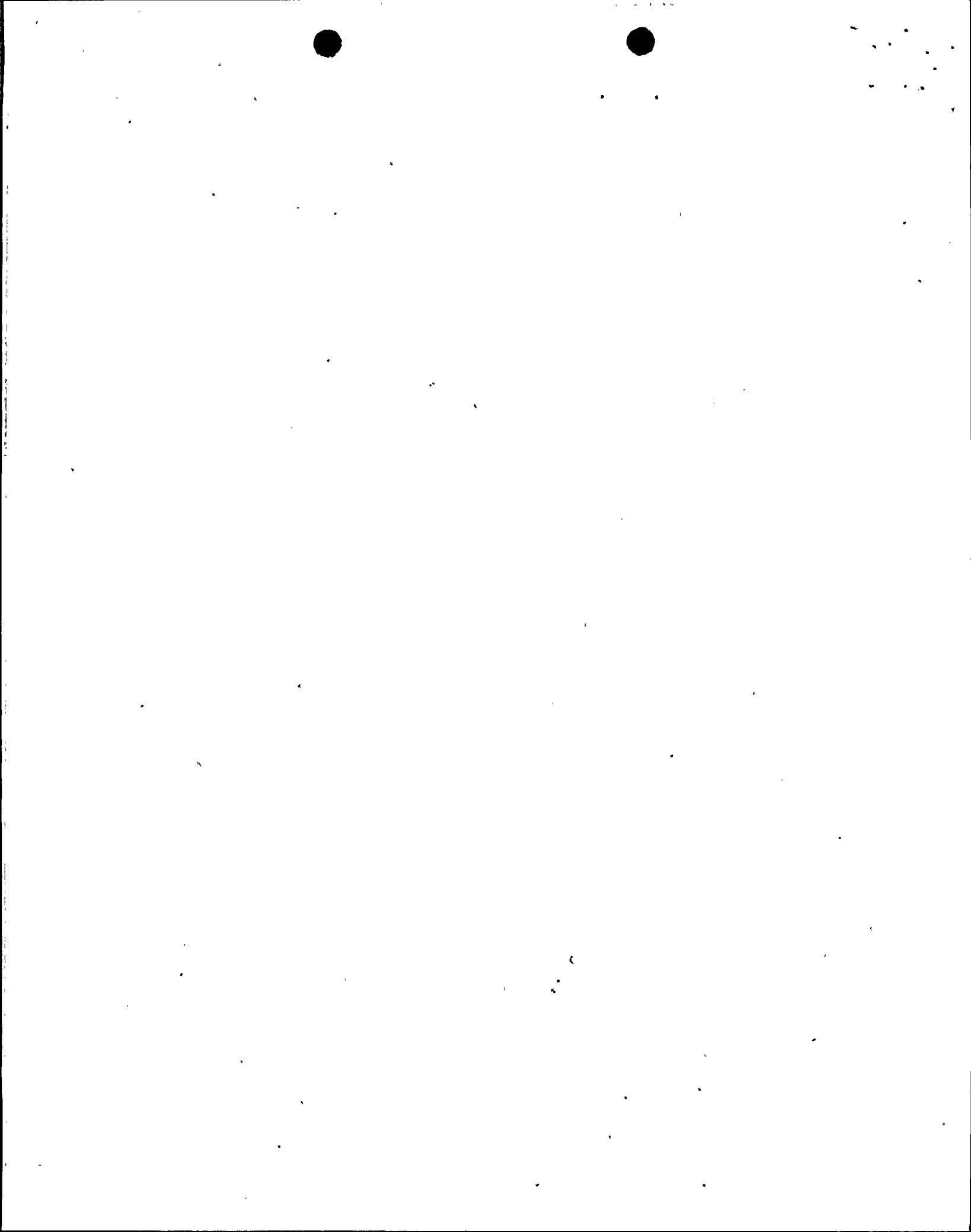
By letter dated August 21, 1986, the Arizona Public Service Company (APS) on behalf of itself, the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, Southern California Edison Company, El Paso Electric Company, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Southern California Public Power Authority (licensees), requested a change to the Technical Specifications for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 1 (Appendix A to Facility Operating License NPF-41). The application requests that the surveillance requirements for charcoal filters in several sections of the Technical Specifications be revised to be consistent with the guidance provided in Generic Letter 83-13 and with those same sections in the Palo Verde, Unit 2 Technical Specifications (Appendix A to Facility Operating License NPF-51) previously reviewed and approved by the staff.

2.0 DISCUSSION

Sections 4.6.4.3, 4.7.7, 4.7.8 and 4.9.12 of the Palo Verde, Unit 1 Technical Specifications provide the surveillance requirements for the containment hydrogen purge cleanup system, the control room essential filtration system, the engineered safety features (ESF) pump room air exhaust cleanup system, and the fuel building essential ventilation system, respectively. Subsection f for each of those sections specifies that the removal efficiency of the charcoal adsorbers in these systems be equal or greater than 99.95% for removal of a halogenated hydrocarbon refrigerant test gas.

By application dated August 21, 1986, APS proposed that the charcoal adsorber removal efficiency for the above four systems be changed from 99.95% to 99.0% for removal of a halogenated hydrocarbon refrigerant test gas. In support of its request, APS stated that the 99.0% efficiency is consistent with the guidance provided in Generic Letter No. 83-13, "Clarification of Surveillance Requirements for HEPA Filters and Charcoal Adsorber Units in Standard Technical Specifications on ESF Cleanup Systems", dated March 2, 1983. In addition, APS stated that the 99.0% removal efficiency is consistent with the 95% radioiodine removal efficiency for the ESF filtration system as assigned in the Palo Verde Safety Evaluation Report.

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3.0 EVALUATION

The staff has evaluated the licensees' proposed amendment request. Based on that evaluation, the staff finds that the proposed removal efficiency of 99.0% for halogenated hydrocarbon refrigerant test gas removal in the above four systems is consistent with an ESF filtration system radioiodine removal efficiency of 95%, which is in accordance with the guidance provided in Generic Letter No. 83-13.

The staff had previously reviewed and approved a 99.0% removal efficiency for halogenated hydrocarbon refrigerant test gas for the above systems in Palo Verde, Unit 2, which is identical to Palo Verde, Unit 1, prior to issuing the Technical Specifications for Unit 2. The proposed changes on Unit 1 make these portions of the Unit 1 Technical Specifications consistent with those previously approved on the Unit 2 Technical Specifications.

Therefore, the staff concludes that the proposed changes on the Palo Verde, Unit 1 Technical Specifications are acceptable.

4.0 CONTACT WITH STATE OFFICIAL

The Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency has been advised of the proposed determination of no significant hazards consideration with regard to this request for changes to the Technical Specifications. No comments were received.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This amendment involves a change in the installation or use of facility components located within the restricted area. The staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued proposed findings that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such findings. Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR Sec. 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need to be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The staff has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public. We, therefore, conclude that the proposed changes are acceptable.

Principal Contributor: C. Nichols
Dated: January 7, 1987

