



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

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 29 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-41,
AMENDMENT NO. 16 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-51
AND AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-74
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.
PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT NOS. 1, 2 AND 3
DOCKET NOS. STN 50-528, STN 50-529 AND STN 50-530

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated December 4, 1987, 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 the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2 and 3 (Appendix A to Facility Operating License Nos. NPF-41, NPF-51 and NPF-74, respectively). The application requests a change to Section 6, "Administrative Controls," of the Technical Specifications to reflect a proposed change to the licensees' nuclear organizational structure.

2.0 DISCUSSION

The proposed change requests an amendment to the Palo Verde Units 1, 2 and 3 Technical Specifications, Section 6, Figures 6.2-1 and 6.2-2, "Offsite Organization" and "Onsite Unit Organization." The change is administrative in nature in that the Manager of Nuclear Fuels will now report to the Vice President of Nuclear Production in lieu of reporting to the Director of Engineering and Construction. The change is intended to facilitate communications between the management of the Arizona Nuclear Power Project and the nuclear fuel supply vendor.

3.0 EVALUATION

The staff has evaluated the proposed change and finds that the change should enhance management effectiveness with regards to fuel management. The Nuclear Fuels Department is responsible for fuels management and core analysis for the Palo Verde Units. The Manager of Nuclear Fuels provides nuclear fuel design, contracting and utilization expertise, nuclear fuel core and plant transient and accident analysis, and alternative core operating strategies. The areas of responsibility will remain the same.

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The change will not affect the day to day operation of the units. No physical changes are being made to the facility; the change affects the organization only and is administrative in nature. The change in this organization reflects an operational approach to Palo Verde and will not reduce the margin of safety as defined in the basis for any Technical Specification.

Based on the above discussion the staff finds that the proposed change is 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 these changes. No comments were received.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The amendments involve an administrative change. Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(10). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need to be prepared in connection with the issuance of these amendments.

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 these amendments 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 change is acceptable.

Principal Contributor: M. Davis

Dated: March 7, 1988



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