

DETAILS

1. Meeting Participants

USNRC

J. B. Martin, Regional Administrator
D. F. Kirsch, Director, Division of Reactor Safety and Projects
G. W. Knighton, Director, Project Directorate V, NRR
F. A. Wenslawski, Chief, Emergency Preparedness and Radiological Protection Branch
A. D. Johnson, Enforcement Officer
E. A. Licitra, Palo Verde Project Manager, NRR
S. A. Richards, Chief, Engineering Section
T. J. Polich, Senior Resident Inspector, Palo Verde Site

Arizona Nuclear Power Project (ANPP)

E. E. Van Brunt, Executive Vice President
J. G. Haynes, Vice President, Nuclear Production
L. G. Papworth, Director, Quality Assurance
R. M. Butler, Director, Standards and Technical Support
J. E. Allen, Director, Engineering and Construction
W. E. Ide, Unit 2 Plant Manager
T. D. Shriver, Compliance Manager

2. Meeting Purpose

An enforcement conference and management meeting was held on February 29, 1988, at the NRC Region V offices in Walnut Creek, California. The enforcement conference related to the licensee's inadvertently rendering inoperable the steam driven auxiliary feedwater (AFW) pumps in Units 1 and 2, as described in Licensee Event Report (LER) 50-528/87-025. The management meeting focused on several recent events at Palo Verde, an update on previously discussed issues, and a discussion of the recently issued SALP report. A summary of each area discussed is provided below.

3. Enforcement Conference

Mr. Martin opened the discussion by stating his desire that the dialogue be both open and to the point. Mr. Martin stated that recent events at Palo Verde indicate a need to focus on personnel performance and that any developing problems should be addressed now by the licensee, rather than acting later in response to a significant event. Mr. Martin expressed concern that his recent visit to Palo Verde was generally unfavorable, particularly with regard to the working atmosphere in the Unit 2 control room. He also expressed his concern that ANPP management is not devoting sufficient personal time to direct, meaningful observation of plant activities. Mr. Van Brunt concurred that several indicators point to a need to reaffirm management expectations with his staff and stated that his staff shared Mr. Martin's concern over recent events.



the design basis manual for the AFW system be provided to Region V for review and Mr. Van Brunt agreed.

Mr. Butler than led a discussion on the status of the licensee's system engineer program. A schedule for completion of milestones is contained in enclosure 2 of this report. Mr. Martin emphasized the need to ensure that the expectations for system engineers is clearly defined. Mr. Martin also observed that it would be worthwhile for management to periodically talk directly to the system engineers to ensure that they are properly directed. Mr. Butler concurred in these comments.

Mr. Allen then described the corporate engineering involvement in onsite activities. This lead to a discussion of the need to be technically self-sufficient. Mr. Allen noted that ANPP intends to continue to use outside engineering resources to accomplish part of their workload. Mr. Martin agreed that a division of work was acceptable; however, he felt that the licensee's engineering personnel needed to be technically capable of overseeing the work of contractors. Additionally, Mr. Martin suggested that a strong utility requires excellence in three components: operations, quality assurance, and engineering. Mr. Martin observed that ANPP needs to promote engineering involvement and ownership in the plant, and then hold engineering accountable for problems that should have been foreseen by the engineers.

10. Update on Simulator Utilization

Mr. Van Brunt described the licensee's efforts to achieve their commitment of providing 60 hours of simulator time to each licensed operator each year. This action is on schedule and expected to be achieved. Additionally, actions have been taken to receive feedback from the operations department on the type of training being received by the operators.

11. Status of the Maintenance Backlog

Mr. Butler briefly discussed the status of licensee efforts to manage the number and type of outstanding maintenance items. Senior management is reportedly now receiving monthly status reports. Goals have been established for the number of various priority levels of maintenance items and a comparison of the licensee's data with the INPO industry average is favorable. The licensee maintains that the maintenance data base is now accurate and that their focus is on reducing the total long-term backlog to the degree possible.

12. Status of Quality Assurance Director Development

Mr. Van Brunt briefly described actions being taken to develop Mr. Papworth as the new Director of Quality Assurance (QA), which will include formal training from an outside contractor. Mr. Martin expressed his concern that ANPP did not seem to have a strong commitment to ensuring that QA is a major factor in the operation of Palo Verde. Mr. Martin questioned the degree to which QA has participated in the resolution of the events discussed during the meeting and questioned whether QA had detected early on any indications of declining performance. Mr. Martin



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