

April 6, 1990

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

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Mr. William F. Conway
Executive Vice President.
Arizona Public Service Company
Post Office Box 52034
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

Dear Mr. Conway:

SUBJECT: MULTIPLE CONTROL ELEMENT ASSEMBLY (CEA) DROP EVENTS - PALO VERDE
NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (PVNGS)

By letter dated October 25, 1989, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) forwarded to the NRC "Justification for Continued Operation-Control Element Assembly (CEA) Drop Events, Revision 3." This document provided the basis for APS' conclusion that Unit 2 could safely operate until the end of its operating cycle, with known ground faults in certain CEA coil assemblies.

The JCO also described a program which would be implemented to identify and evaluate improvements that would ensure the remoteness of multiple CEA drop events or to ensure that fuel design limits are maintained in the event of multiple CEA drops.

We request that within 30 days from receipt of this letter, APS provide a progress summary of efforts in this area which include discussions of identified and proposed improvements, and implementation schedules of the selected improvements for each Palo Verde unit. We also ask that you describe the means by which APS will verify the effectiveness of the immediate corrective actions with regard to eliminating lift coil ground faults (i.e., sleeving of electrical leads, limited replacement of coils and inspection of coils), and substantiate the certainty of the postulated failure mechanism of the lift coil leads.

If you should have any questions on this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

original signed by Terence L. Chan
Terence L. Chan, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate V
Division of Reactor Projects - III
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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PDR ADOCK 05000528
PDC

cc: See next page

*See previous concurrence

DRSP/PD5*
PShea
3/27/90

DRSP/PD5*
SPeterson
4/3/90

flc
DRSP/PD5
TChan:sg
4/4/90

CT
DRSP/D:DRSP
CTrammell
4/5/90

[MULTIPLE CONTROL ELEMENT]

MAY 4

DF01
110



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

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Executive Vice President
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Post Office Box 52034
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

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SUBJECT: MULTIPLE CONTROL ELEMENT ASSEMBLY (CEA) DROP EVENTS - PALO VERDE
NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION (PVNGS)

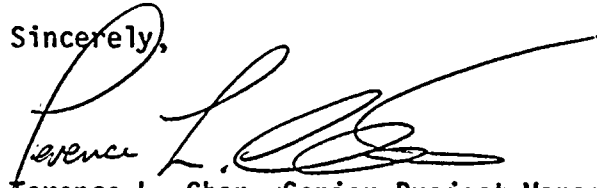
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Terence L. Chan, Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate V
Division of Reactor Projects - III
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page



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Mr. William F. Conway
Arizona Public Service Company

Palo Verde

cc:

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(10)

