

May 2, 1990

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

Mr. W. F. Conway  
Executive Vice President, Nuclear  
Arizona Nuclear Power Project  
P.O. Box 52034  
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

Dear Mr. Conway:

Subject: Initial Examination Continuation Report for March 21, 1990

On March 21, 1990 the NRC administered a simulator operating continuation examination to an employee of your company who had applied for a Senior Reactor Operator's license to operate your Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Units 1, 2, and 3. At the conclusion of the examination the simulator operating examination and simulator performance were discussed with the member of your staff identified in Examination Report 50-528/OL-90-02, which is Enclosure 1 of this letter.

The Senior Reactor Operator candidate passed the examination.

During the administration of the simulator operating examination an issue of operator procedural compliance was identified. The procedural non-compliance was committed by an operator who was not being examined but was filling in as a crew member for the operator candidate taking the examination. This operator ordered actions to be taken, which were not in accordance with the alarm response procedures for low pressurizer level. The action ordered by the operator caused the simulated plant to exceed the Technical Specification limit for pressurizer level. The operator's actions were discussed with a licensee representative, who committed to ensuring that the operator involved will be remedially trained and appraised as stated in the procedures of Reference 3.

Procedural compliance was addressed in two previous examination reports in the past nine months, References 1 and 2. The Arizona Nuclear Power Project submitted a program for addressing the procedure compliance problem, Reference 3. This new instance of procedural noncompliance renews our concern, since it indicates that some operators still are not routinely complying with procedures.

The simulator scenarios for this continuation examination were prerun by the NRC and a licensee representative, prior to the examination. The scenarios were set up and run on an updated simulator modeling program. The modeling for the events run during the examination scenarios appeared to more closely emulate actual expected plant responses than prior PVNGS simulator modeling programs. This improvement is a welcome sign that your recent corrective actions in this area have been effective.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission regulations, a copy of this letter and Enclosures 1 and 2 will be placed in the Public Document Room. Enclosure 3 is Personal Privacy Information and will be withheld from public disclosure in accordance with 10 CFR 9.80a.

Should you have any questions concerning this examination or findings please contact Mr. L. Miller or Mr. M. Royack of my staff at 415-943-3700.

Sincerely,

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R. P. Zimmerman, Director  
Division of Reactor Safety and Projects

References:

1. Letter from Mr. R. P. Zimmerman, NRC, to Mr. Conway, ANPP, dated September 29, 1990, Subject: Replacement Examination Report for August 22 through August 29, 1989.
2. Letter from Mr. B. H. Faulkenberry, NRC, to Mr. Conway, ANPP, dated December 22, 1989, Subject: NRC Evaluation of Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Licensed Operator Requalification Program.
3. Letter From Mr. J. M. Levine, ANPP, to Mr. J. B. Martin, NRC, dated February 2, 1990, #161-02831-JML/GEC, Subject: PVNGS Units 1,2,and 3, Licensed Operator Requalification Program and Status of Ongoing Corrective Actions.

Enclosures:

1. Examination Report No. 50-528/OL-90-02
2. Simulation Facility Fidelity Report
3. Power Plant Examination Results Summary



May 2, 1990

cc w/enclosures 1, 2, and 3:  
E. Firth, Training Manager, PVNGS  
R. Cross, RV (2 Copies)

cc w/enclosures 1 and 2:  
J. Martin, RV  
B. Faulkenberry, RV  
R. Zimmerman, RV  
A. Chaffee, RV  
D. Kirsch, RV  
S. Richards, RV  
L. Miller, RV  
H. Wong, RV  
W. Ang, RV  
M. Royack, RV  
K. Perkins, NRR/OLB  
N. Hunemuller, NRR/OLB  
T. Chan, NRR/PD V  
D. Coe, SRI

cc w/enclosure 3 only:  
J. Lanning, NRR/LOLB

*cover letter only*

REQUEST COPY YES / NO	REQUEST COPY YES / NO	REQUEST COPY YES / NO	REQUEST COPY YES / NO	REQUEST COPY YES / NO
ROYACK <u>✓</u>	LMILLER <u>✓</u>	WONG <u>✓</u>	KIRSCH <u>K</u>	CHAFFEE <u>✓</u>
4/1/90	3/13/90	4/11/90	4/10/90	1/90

REQUEST COPY YES / NO	REQUEST COPY YES / NO
RICHARDS <u>✓</u>	ZIMMERMAN <u>RPZ</u>
4/11/90	5/2/90

SEND TO PDR YES / NO
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