



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555
August 15, 1990

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

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

Dear Mr. Conway:

SUBJECT: NRC BULLETIN NO. 88-11, "PRESSURIZER SURGE LINE THERMAL STRATIFICATION" - EVALUATION OF COMBUSTION ENGINEERING OWNERS GROUP BOUNDING ANALYSIS (TAC NO. 72152, 72153, AND 72154)

By letters dated March 6, 1989 and April 13, 1990, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) responded to Item 1.b of NRC Bulletin No. 88-11, "Pressurizer Surge Line Thermal Stratification." The letters stated that APS supported the bounding analysis performed by the Combustion Engineering Owners Group (CEOG) for which Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS) Units 1, 2 and 3 are applicable. The analysis indicated that the integrity of the pressurizer surge line (PSL) satisfies the ASME Section III Code criteria for the life of the plant, taking into account the effects of thermal stratification.

The staff has completed its review of the CEOG bounding analysis and finds that although sufficient information has been provided to justify continued plant operation until PVNGS completes its final report in accordance with the schedule delineated by the Bulletin, adequate bases have not been provided for the staff to conclude that the PSL meets all appropriate Code limits for 40-year plant life. A copy of the evaluation which was sent to the CEOG is enclosed for your information. Also enclosed is the staff's evaluation of CE's response to items discussed during a September 1989 audit at CE's office.

APS may work collectively through the CEOG effort to address the issues identified in the evaluation, but APS is responsible to ensure that the Bulletin requested actions are fully implemented at PVNGS.

The staff will assess the conformance of the PSL to applicable Codes and

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Mr. William F. Conway

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August 15, 1990

regulatory requirements for 40-year plant life when the CEQG report regarding Item 1.d of the Bulletin is submitted.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Sheri R. Peterson, Project Manager
Project Directorate V
Division of Reactor Projects - III,
IV, V and Special Projects
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/enclosure:
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Arizona Public Service Company

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