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SUBJECT: Special Rept 1-SR-91-001: on 910111, fuel bldg ventilation sys
 high-range radioactive gaseous effluent monitor inoperable
 for more than 72 h. Caused by need to replace power supply.
 Monitors returned to operable status on 910113.

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Arizona Public Service Company
PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
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192-00712-JML/TRB/KR
February 4, 1991

JAMES M. LEVINE
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

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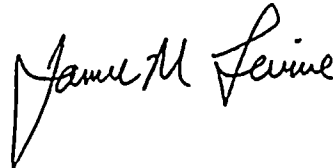
Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 1
Docket No. STN 50-528 (License No. NPF-41)
Special Report 1-SR-91-001
File: 91-020-404

Attached please find Special Report 1-SR-91-001 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42(b) and 6.9.2. This report discusses a radiation monitor being inoperable for a period greater than 72 hours.

If you have any questions, please contact T. R. Bradish, Compliance Manager at (602) 393-2521.

Very truly yours,



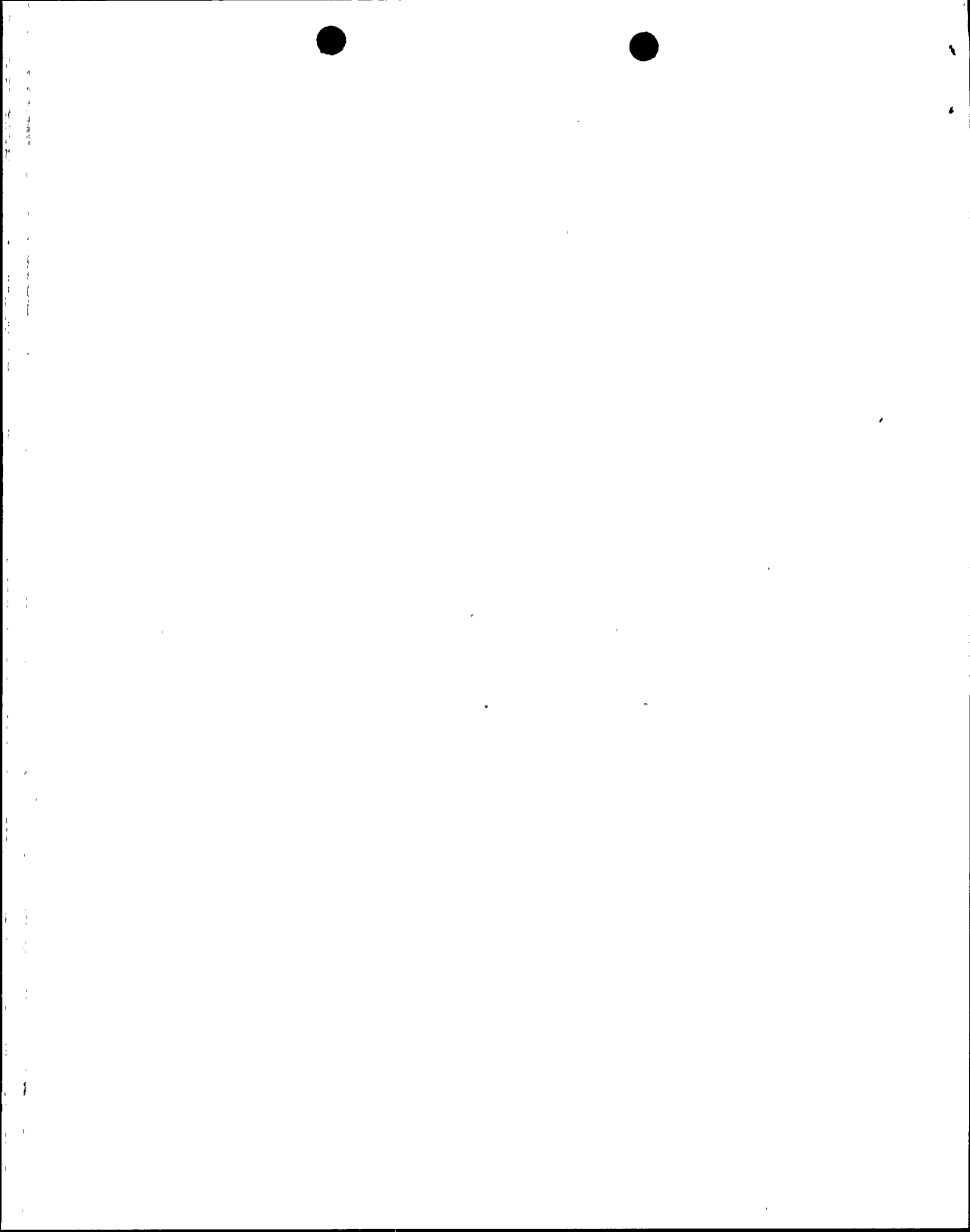
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Attachment

cc: W. F. Conway (all with attachment)
J. B. Martin
D. H. Coe
A. C. Gehr
A. H. Gutterman

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PDR ADCK 05000528
S PDR

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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION UNIT 1

Radiation Monitoring Unit Inoperable Greater Than 72 Hours

License No. NPF-41

Docket No. 50-528

Special Report 1-SR-91-001

Initial Conditions:

On January 11, 1991 Palo Verde Unit 1 was in Mode 1 (POWER OPERATION) at approximately 100 percent power.

Description of Event:

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42b and TS 6.9.2 to report an event in which the Fuel Building Ventilation System High Range Radioactive Gaseous Effluent Monitor (RU-146) was inoperable for a period greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour period for returning the monitor to service was exceeded at approximately 1355 MST on January 11, 1991.

On January 8, 1991 at approximately 1355 MST, Radiation Monitors RU-145 (Fuel Building Ventilation System Low Range Radioactive Effluent Monitor) and RU-146 were removed from service in accordance with an approved work document for scheduled 18 month calibration and surveillance tests (ST). Radiation Monitors RU-145 and RU-146 monitor the Fuel Building Ventilation Exhaust for release of radioactivity due to a fuel handling accident. Radiation Monitors RU-145 and RU-146 work as a pair with RU-145 being the low range monitor for normal radioactive gaseous effluents and RU-146 being the high range monitor for post-accident radioactive gaseous effluents. Normal configuration consists of RU-145 operating and RU-146 in standby. When RU-145 reaches a predetermined setpoint, RU-146 starts and RU-145 goes to standby. RU-145 initiates a Fuel Building Essential Ventilation Actuation Signal (FBEVAS) when the activity exceeds a predetermined limit. Since RU-145 and RU-146 work in tandem, RU-146 must be declared inoperable if RU-145 is out of service. Pursuant to TS 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42.a, the Preplanned Alternate Sampling Program was initiated to monitor the Fuel Building Ventilation System.

During the performance of the calibration and surveillance, the RU-145 detector would not pass the surveillance testing acceptance criteria due to a faulty low voltage power supply. While waiting for a replacement power supply, testing began on RU-146. Additional corrective maintenance was also performed to replace the hexadecimal display board for RU-145. Corrective maintenance and the 18 month STs were completed and the monitors were returned to service at approximately 1250 MST on January 13, 1991.



Cause of Event:

The length of time to complete the 18 month STs and perform the corrective maintenance (i.e., replace the power supply and the hexadecimal display board) exceeded the 72 hour period allowed by TS.

Corrective Actions:

Radiation monitors RU-145 and RU-146 were returned to an OPERABLE status at approximately 1250 MST on January 13, 1991 following satisfactory completion of the STs. The power supply failure has been addressed in previous root cause of failure (RCF) evaluations. Based on the RCF, when the power supply malfunction is detected, an upgraded replacement power supply is being installed in the monitors.

