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SUBJECT: Submits Rev 6 to salt deposition & impact monitoring plan for PVNGS.

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WILLIAM F. CONWAY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR

161-03961-WFC/JRP

May 21, 1991

Docket Nos. STN 50-528/529/530

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Document Control Desk
Mail Station P1-37
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Units 1, 2, and 3
Proposed Change to the Salt Deposition
and Impact Monitoring Plan
File: 91-001-001-8; 91-056-026

Pursuant to the requirements of Facility Operating License Nos. NPF 41, NPF 51, and NPF 74, Appendix B, Environmental Protection Plan (Non-Radiological) Section 4.2.2., enclosed for your review and approval is proposed Revision 6 to the Salt Deposition and Impact Monitoring Plan for PVNGS.

The purpose of the Salt Deposition and Impact Monitoring Plan is to assess the impacts of cooling tower salt drift on soils, native vegetation and agricultural crops in the PVNGS vicinity. The monitoring program associated with the plan was implemented prior to the commercial operation of Unit 1, and was required for a minimum of three full years after the commercial operation of all three PVNGS Units, or until such time that PVNGS can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the NRC that the objectives of the study have been fulfilled.

Since January 28, 1986, (commercial operation, Unit 1) PVNGS has monitored salt drift emissions from the operation of the mechanical draft cooling towers to determine the environmental impact. This information has been transmitted annually to the NRC Staff.

Between March 1989 and April 1990, the Palo Verde Units experienced outages of various durations which resulted in reduced mechanical draft cooling tower usage. Therefore, APS has decided to continue the monitoring of salt drift emissions for an additional year, beyond the required three full year period.

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APS and NUS Corporation have reviewed the results to date of salt deposition monitoring and have determined that program modifications are appropriate. Enclosed with this letter, is the NUS report entitled "A Study of the ANPP Drift Deposition Monitoring Program After Four Years of PVNGS Operation." Section 5.0 of the NUS report describes the proposed program modifications. The proposed modifications would result in a positive economic impact on the organization, while maintaining a program adequate to detect any environmental impact of cooling tower operation. These proposed modifications are reflected in the proposed Revision 6 to the Salt Deposition and Impact Monitoring Plan for PVNGS, and will be implemented following NRC approval.

If you should have any questions, please call Michael E. Powell of my staff at (602) 340-4981.

Sincerely,

WFC/JRP/pmm

Enclosure

cc: C. M. Trammell
J. B. Martin
D. H. Coe
A. H. Gutterman
A. C. Gehr