

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

November 24, 1995

Arizona Public Service Company
ATTN: William L. Stewart
Executive Vice President, Nuclear
P.O. Box 53999
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-528/95-15; 50-529/95-15; 50-530/95-15

This refers to the inspection conducted by Ryan Lantz on October 11-27, 1995 at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, facility. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. J. Levine and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report. Appropriate licenses have been issued to seven applicants, who successfully completed their examinations.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. The inspection consisted of a review of the qualifications of applicants for senior operator licenses at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, which included an eligibility determination and administration of comprehensive written examinations and operating tests. This initial operator examination was administered as part of a pilot examination process in accordance with Generic Letter 95-06, "Changes in the Operator Licensing Program." The results of this inspection are in the enclosed report.

We are concerned with the performance of one licensed reactor operator who was a candidate for a senior operator license. The licensed reactor operator's actions were unsatisfactory during an examination scenario when he was in the role of the secondary plant operator, a position normally occupied by a licensed reactor operator. During the exit meeting, your staff informed the chief examiner that this individual had been relieved of shift duties and that you would evaluate the individual further to assess his competency to stand watch as a licensed reactor operator. We request that you inform us of the results of your assessment and of any remedial action taken or planned to correct the observed deficiencies.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Gwynn, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Dockets: 50-528
50-529
50-530
Licenses: NPF-41
NPF-51
NPF-74

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report
50-528/95-15; 50-529/95-15;
50-530/95-15 w/attachments 1-3

cc w/enclosure and attachments 1-2:
Arizona Corporation Commission
ATTN: Mr. Steve Olea
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Southern California Edison Company
ATTN: T. E. Oubre, Esq.
P.O. Box 800
Rosemead, California 91770

Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency
ATTN: Aubrey V. Godwin, Director
4814 South 40 Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85040

Maricopa County Board of Supervisors
ATTN: Chairman
111 South Third Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

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Arizona Public Service Company

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Palo Verde Services

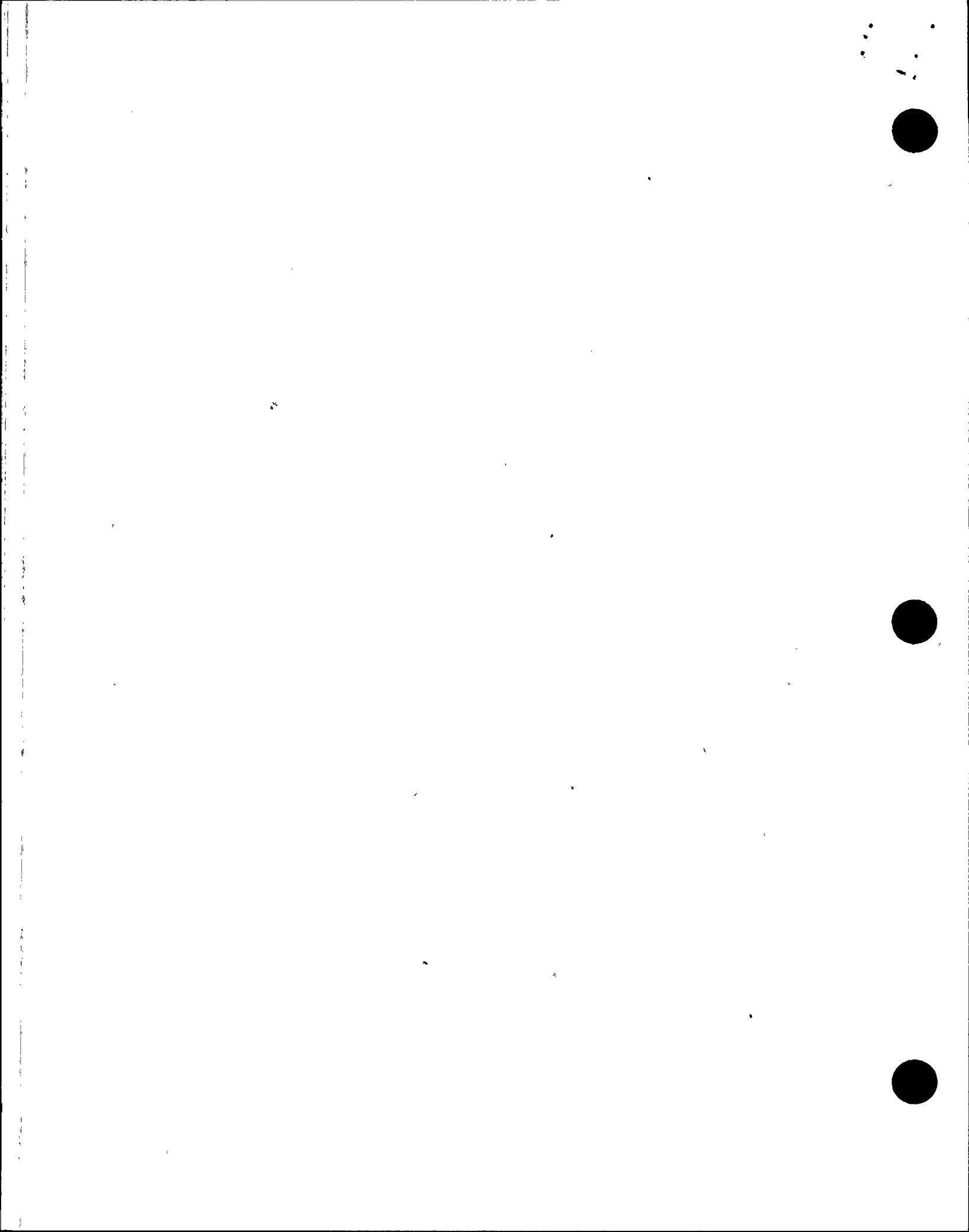
ATTN: Curtis Hoskins, Executive
Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer
2025 N. 3rd Street, Suite 220
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Feld
El Paso Electric Company

ATTN: Roy P. Lessey, Jr., Esq.
1333 New Hampshire Avenue, Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036

Arizona Public Service Company

ATTN: Angela K. Krainik, Manager
Nuclear Licensing
P.O. Box 52034
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034



E-Mail report to D. Nelson (DJN)
E-Mail report to NRR Event Tracking System (IPAS)

bcc to DMB (IE01)(IE42) w/attachments 1-3

bcc distrib. by RIV w/attachments 1-2:

L. J. Callan
DRSS-FIPB
Branch Chief (DRP/F, WCFO)
Senior Project Inspector (DRP/F, WCFO)
Leah Tremper (OC/LFDCB, MS: TWFN 9E10)
C. Thomas (NRR/DRCH, OWFN 10D24)

Resident Inspector
MIS System
RIV File
Branch Chief (DRP/TSS)
M. Hammond (PAO, WCFO)

bcc distrib. by RIVw/attachments 1-3:
S. Richards (NRR/HOLB, OWFN 10D22)

DOCUMENT NAME: R:\PV515rp.rel

*Previously concurred

To receive copy of document, indicate in box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

RIV:RE:OB	AC:OB	D:DRS	D:DRP	D:DRS
RLantz*	JTapia*	TPGwynn	JDyer	TPGwynn
12/ /95	12/ /95	12/ /95	12/ /95	11/22/95

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