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UNITED STATES

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

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January 22, 1996

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

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 50-528/95-24, 50-529/95-24, 50-530/95-24 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. A. B. Earnest of this office on December 11-15, 1995, at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, facility. Mr. Earnest was assisted by Mr. M. Warren and three contractors from Safeguards Branch, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for your Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3. 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 you and those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

The physical security program areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress. In addition, the inspection included performance-based testing of protected area detection aids.

Based on the results of this inspection, the NRC has determined that three violations of NRC requirements occurred. These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (NOTICE) and the circumstances surrounding them are described in detail in the subject inspection report. The violations are of concern because they involved the potential for intrusion of the protected area to go undetected.

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Arizona Public Service Company

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C.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

The responses directed by this letter and the enclosed Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. No. 96.511.

The material enclosed herewith contains Safeguards Information as defined by 10 CFR 73.21 and its disclosure to unauthorized individuals is prohibited by Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Therefore, the material will <u>not</u> be placed in the Public Document Room.

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

Sincerely,

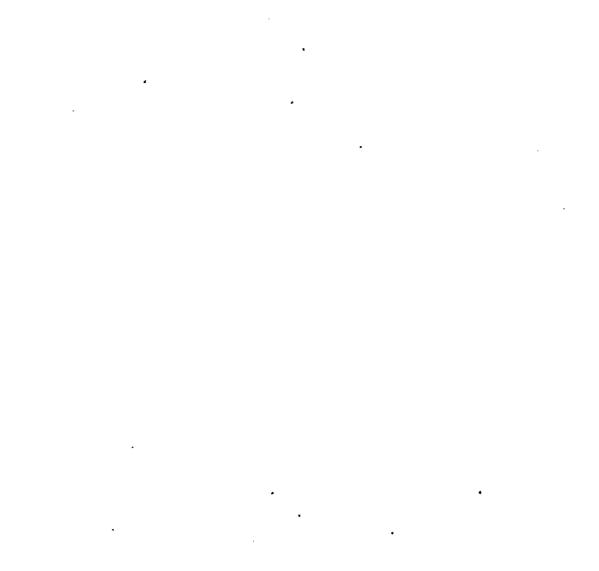
Thomas P. Gwynn, Director Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice of Violation
- 2. NRC Inspection Report
- 50-528/95-24; 50-529/95-24; 50-530/95-24 w/attachment

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Arizona Public Service Company

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cc w/copy of Notice of Violation and summary page: 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

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

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