



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

July 18, 2018

Mr. Robert S. Bement  
Executive Vice President Nuclear/  
Chief Nuclear Officer  
Arizona Public Service Company  
P.O. Box 52034, MS 7602  
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2034

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 -  
NOTIFICATION OF NRC RETAKE OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION  
APPROVAL 05000528/2018302; 05000529/2018302; 05000530/2018302

Dear Mr. Bement:

In a telephone conversation on July 11, 2018, between John Rodgers, Senior Operations Training Instructor, and Daniel Bacon, Chief Examiner, arrangements were made for the administration of a retake licensing examination at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 during the week of September 24, 2018.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the retake examination (operating examination for two senior reactor operator applicants) based on the guidelines in NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," Revision 11, and NUREG-1122, "Knowledge and Abilities Catalog for Nuclear Power Plant Operators," Revision 2, Supplement 1. The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examination is administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the operating examination outline by July 27, 2018. The operating examination and supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by August 17, 2018. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outline and examination before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examination to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested operating examination, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-302. In addition, Appendix E to NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examination is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit signed applications certifying that all training has been completed by September 10, 2018. If the final signed applications are not received by that date, a postponement may be necessary.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by OMB, under approval number 3150-0018, which expires on June 30, 2019. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of these information collections, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Records and FOIA/Privacy Services Branch (T-5 F52), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail to [INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV](mailto:INFOCOLLECTS@NRC.GOV).

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In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the electronic Reading Room page of the NRC's public Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Rodgers has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Daniel Bacon at 404-997-4518, or myself at 817-200-1159.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Vincent G. Gaddy, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530  
License Nos. NPF-41, NPF-51, and NPF-74

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