

**From:** [Orenak, Michael](mailto:Michael.Orenak@nrc.gov)  
**To:** ["Matthew.Cox@aps.com"](mailto:Matthew.Cox@aps.com)  
**Cc:** ["Michael.Dilorenzo@aps.com"](mailto:Michael.Dilorenzo@aps.com)  
**Subject:** NRC Acceptance Review for Relief Requests (RR) 60 and 61  
**Date:** Monday, September 10, 2018 3:43:00 PM

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Matthew,

By letter dated August 17, 2018, Arizona Public Service Company submitted Relief Request (RR) 60 and RR 61 for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 3 (Agencywide Document Access and Management System Accession No. ML18229A335; EPID L-2018-LLR-0111 and EPID-L-2018-LLR-0112), to allow the alternative repair of a reactor vessel bottom-mounted instrument nozzle, and the alternative repair of a pressure instrument nozzle on Reactor Coolant Pump 2A, respectively. The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance reviews of these proposed alternatives. The acceptance reviews were performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical reviews. The acceptance reviews are also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical reviews and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed alternatives in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance reviews as compared to the detailed technical reviews, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. If additional information is needed, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that RR 60 and RR 61 will take approximately 180 hours and 120 hours to complete, respectively. The NRC staff expects to complete these reviews in approximately 5 months, which is January 2019. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our reviews that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial reviews of the application and they could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated addition of scope to the reviews, and reviews by NRC advisory committees or hearing-related activities. Additional delay may occur if the submittal is provided to the NRC in advance or in parallel with industry program initiatives or pilot applications.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Michael D. Orenak

Palo Verde, Vogtle, and SNC Fleet Project Manager

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