

## NRR-DMPSPeM Resource

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**From:** Orenak, Michael  
**Sent:** Friday, October 5, 2018 4:09 PM  
**To:** Matthew.Cox@aps.com  
**Cc:** Pascarelli, Robert  
**Subject:** NRC Acceptance Review for Relief Request 62

Matthew,

By letter dated August 31, 2018, Arizona Public Service Company submitted a proposed alternative, Relief Request 62, for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (Palo Verde), Units 1, 2, and 3 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18243A544; EPID L-2018-LLR-0120) regarding the repair of pressurizer heater sleeves. The purpose of this e-mail is to provide the results of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's acceptance review of this relief request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is 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.

For 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 review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the relief request 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 review as compared to the detailed technical review, 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.

Additionally, the proposed alternative stated that the request was inadvertently not submitted for the third inservice testing (ISI) interval for all three units. Palo Verde, Unit 1, starts its fourth ISI interval on June 1, 2019. Palo Verde, Unit 2, starts its fourth ISI interval on November 1, 2018. Palo Verde, Unit 3, started its fourth ISI interval on June 1, 2018. The failure to submit a proposed alternative prior to its use at the beginning of the third ISI interval for all three units and the beginning of the fourth ISI interval for Palo Verde, Unit 3, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(z), will be referred to the NRC Region IV office for possible enforcement action.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 140 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 9 months, which is the end of June 2019. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review 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 review of the application and they could change due to several factors, including requests for additional information, unanticipated addition of scope to the review, and review 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.

If you have any questions, please contact me

Michael D. Orenak  
Palo Verde, Vogtle, and SNC Fleet Project Manager

NRR - Division of Operating Reactor Licensing

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**From:** Orenak, Michael

**Created By:** Michael.Orenak@nrc.gov

**Recipients:**

"Pascarelli, Robert" <Robert.Pascarelli@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Matthew.Cox@aps.com" <Matthew.Cox@aps.com>  
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