



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 18, 2019

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

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 3 – REVIEW OF THE
2018 STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTIONS DURING REFUELING
OUTAGE 20 (EPID L-2018-LRO-0046)

Dear Mr. Bement:

By letter dated November 2, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML18306A999), Arizona Public Service Company (the licensee) submitted information summarizing the results of the spring 2018 steam generator tube inspections performed at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 3. These inspections were performed during Refueling Outage 20. The SG tube inspection report was submitted in accordance with Technical Specification (TS) 5.6.8, "Steam Generator Tube Inspection Report."

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its review of the submittal and concludes that the licensee provided the information required by PVNGS, Unit 3, TS 5.6.8. In addition, the NRC staff concludes that there are no technical issues that warrant followup actions at this time. Enclosed is the NRC staff's review of the PVNGS, Unit 3, SG tube inspection report.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-1564 or via e-mail at Siva.Lingam@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Siva P. Lingam".

Siva P. Lingam, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch IV
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. STN 50-530

Enclosure:
Review of SG Tube Inspection Report

cc: Listserv

REVIEW OF THE SPRING 2018 STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTIONS

PERFORMED DURING REFUELING OUTAGE 20

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 3

DOCKET NO. STN 50-530

By letter dated November 2, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management Systems Accession No. ML18306A999), Arizona Public Service Company (the licensee) submitted information summarizing the results of the spring 2018 steam generator (SG) tube inspections performed at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Nuclear Station (PVNGS), Unit 3 during Refueling Outage (RFO) 20.

PVNGS, Unit 3, has two replacement SGs manufactured by Ansaldo. Each SG has 12,580 thermally treated Alloy 690 tubes with an outside diameter of 0.750 inches and a wall thickness of 0.042 inches. Ferritic stainless steel eggcrate tube supports, diagonal bars, and vertical straps support the tubes at various locations.

The licensee provided the scope, extent, methods, and results of its SG tube inspections in the letter dated November 2, 2018. After reviewing the information provided by the licensee, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has the following observation:

- The licensee performed an inspection of the blowdown patch plate welds in SGs 31 and 32 that were found to be cracked during RFO 15. The licensee stated that these inspections confirmed that the weld material in the vicinity of the cracked weld on all four patch plates is intact, and a loose parts concern is not being created.

Based on a review of the information provided, the NRC staff concludes that the licensee provided the information required by its technical specifications. In addition, the staff concludes that there are no technical issues that warrant followup action at this time since the inspections appear to be consistent with the objective of detecting potential tube degradation, and the inspection results appear to be consistent with industry operating experience at similarly designed and operated units.

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 3 – REVIEW OF THE
 2018 STEAM GENERATOR TUBE INSPECTIONS DURING REFUELING
 OUTAGE 20 (EPID L-2018-LRO-0046) DATED MARCH 18, 2019

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML19064A799

***SE memorandum dated**

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