



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION V

1450 MARIA LANE, SUITE 210  
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

MAY 30 1991

Docket Nos. 50-528, 50-529 and 50-530

Arizona Public Service Company  
P. O. Box 52034  
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

Attention: Mr. William F. Conway, Executive Vice President, Nuclear

Gentlemen:

Subject: NRC INSPECTION OF PALO VERDE UNITS 1, 2 AND 3

This letter refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. W. TenBrook on May 20-28, 1991. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units One, Two and Three. At the conclusion of the inspection, our findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during this inspection are described in the enclosed inspection report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector.

Section 3 of the report discusses strontium-89 and strontium-90 measurement disagreements between your laboratories, your quality assurance sample vendor, and the NRC. We are concerned about these disagreements as they affect the amount of radioactive material permitted in the reactor coolant. These inconsistencies have also been noted in prior inspections. We request that you respond to this letter within sixty days, specifically addressing what corrective actions you will take to assure consistent results.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified within the scope of this inspection.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter and the enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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

Sincerely,

*G. P. Yuhas*  
Gregory P. Yuhas, Chief  
Reactor Radiological Protection Branch

Enclosures:

Inspection Report No. 50-528/91-20, 50-529/91-20 and 50-530/91-20  
Criteria For Measurement Comparisons.

IE01

cc w/enclosure:

Mr. O. Mark DeMichele, APS  
Mr. James M. Levine, APS  
Mr. Jack N. Bailey, APS  
Mr. E. C. Simpson, APS  
Mr. Blaine E. Ballard, APS  
Mr. Thomas R. Bradish, APS  
Mr. Robert W. Page, APS  
Mr. Arthur C. Gehr, Esq., Snell & Wilmer  
Mr. Al Gutterman, Newman & Holtzinger P. C.  
Mr. James A. Boeletto, Esq., Assistant Council, SCE  
Mr. Charles B. Brinkman, Combustion Engineering, Inc.  
Mr. Charles Tedford, Director, Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency  
Chairman, Maricopa County Engineer Board of Supervisors  
Mr. Steve M. Olea, Chief, Arizona Corporation Commission  
Ignacio R. Troncoco, El Paso Electric Company  
Roy P. Lessy, Jr., Esq., Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Feld  
Bradley W. Jones, Esq., Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer and Feld

MAY 30 1991

-3-

bcc w/enclosure:  
Docket File  
Project Inspector  
Resident Inspector  
G. Cook  
B. Faulkenberry  
J. Martin

bcc w/o enclosure:  
M. Smith  
J. Zollicoffer

REGION V/ann  
WtenBrook      GYuhás  
5/30/91      5/30/91

WKT	REQUEST COPY	REQUEST COPY
YES / NO	YES / NO	YES / NO

SEND TO PDR
YES / NO