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RELATED CORRESPONDENCE



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

March 7, 1985

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Robert M. Lazo, Esq., Chairman
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dr. Richard F. Cole
Administrative Judge
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
BRANCH

Dr. Dixon Callinan
Administrative Judge
Union Carbide Corporation
P.O. Box Y
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

In the Matter of
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.
(Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 2 and 3)
Docket Nos. STN 50-529 and STN 50-530 OC

Dear Administrative Judges:

For your information, enclosed is a recent license amendment to the Palo Verde Unit 2 Special Nuclear Material License.

Sincerely,

Lee Scott Dewey
Counsel for NRC Staff

Enclosure: As Stated

cc: w/enclosure
Service List

8503110358 850307
PDR ADOCK 05000529
PDR

DS07

FEB 5 1985

FCUP:NK
70-2984
SNM-1922, Amendment No. 2

Arizona Public Service Company
ATTN: Mr. E. E. Van Brunt, Jr.
Vice President Nuclear
ANPP Project Director
P. O. Box 21666
Phoenix, AZ 85036

Distribution w/encl:

Docket 70-2984
Docket 50-529
NMSS R/F
FCUP R/F
Region V
SHO
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NKetzlach (2)
VLTharpe
GBennington, SGMT
WBrown, SGFF
DWeiss, LFMB
LCobb, IE
ELicitra, NRR
LDewey, ELD
PPennington, IEAL

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your December 7, 1984 application and pursuant to Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 70, Condition 8.b of Special Nuclear Material License No. SNM-1992 is hereby amended to authorize an increase in the quantity of U-235 possessed from 36 g to 65 g contained U-235.

All other conditions of the license shall remain the same.

Enclosed is a copy of our Safety Evaluation Report in support of this amendment.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original Signed By:
W. T. Crow

W. T. Crow, Acting Chief
Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety, NMSS

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation Report

OFFICE	FCUP <i>vt</i>	FCUF	FCUF				
SURNAME	NKetzlach:vt	VLTharpe	WTCrow <i>WTC</i>				
DATE	02/05/85	02/05/85	02/05/85				



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

FEB 5 1985

DOCKET NO: 70-2984

LICENSEE: Arizona Public Service Company
Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement
and River District
Southern California Edison Company
El Paso Electric Company
Public Service Company of New Mexico
Southern California Public Power Authority

FACILITY: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS), Unit 2

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF LICENSE AMENDMENT APPLICATION DATED
DECEMBER 7, 1984

Background

By amendment application dated December 7, 1984, Arizona Public Service Company on behalf of itself and the other applicants listed above, requested an amendment to their license authorizing an increase in the number and quantity of contained U-235 in their excore and incore detectors and fission counters from 36 grams to 65 grams. The additional detectors and fission counters are spares to be used in Units 1, 2, and 3 located on property adjacent to each other.

Discussion

A. Radiation and Nuclear Criticality Safety

The incore and excore detectors and the fission counters are all sealed sources and, when not in use, are stored in a designated storage area in their shipping containers. Administrative controls are covered in plant procedures which govern the health physics program. The procedures include the receipt of radioactive material, personnel monitoring, establishing and posting controlled areas, operation of portable survey instruments, and issuing radiation work permits. Therefore, the radiation protection of plant personnel and the public is assured.

The total quantity of U-235 in all the detectors is less than 10 percent of the minimum critical mass for highly-enriched uranium independent of configuration, degree of water moderation, and/or reflection. Therefore, there is no potential for a nuclear criticality incident.

B. Environmental Protection

There is no requested change to the environmental protection requirements of the facilities. None are required since the additional materials requested are sealed sources and the authorized plant operations remain unchanged.

In accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(14)(viii), an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary for this proposed action.

General

The amendment application dated December 7, 1984, was discussed on January 22, 1985, with Mr. E. Licitra, NRR Project Manager, and with Mr. Gaston Fiorelli, Resident Inspector, PVNGS, Units 1, 2, and 3, on January 17, 1985. Neither foresaw a safety or environmental problem with the requested information.

Conclusion

Issuance of the amendment authorizing an increase in the contained U-235 possession limit for the excore and incore detectors and for the fission chambers is recommended.

Original signed by:
N. Ketzlach

Norman Ketzlach
Uranium Process Licensing Section
Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety, NMSS

Original Signed By:
W. T. Crow

Approved by:

W. T. Crow, Section Leader

OFFICE	FCUP <i>AK</i>	FCUF <i>VL</i>	FCUF <i>WFC</i>			
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DATE	02/05/85	02/05/85	02/05/85			

FCUP:NK
70-2984

FEB 5 1985

DOCKET NO: 70-2984

APPLICANT: Arizona Public Service Company

FACILITY: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS), Unit 2

SUBJECT: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR AMENDMENT REQUEST
DATED DECEMBER 7, 1984

By letter dated December 7, 1984, the Arizona Public Service Company, on behalf of itself and its partners, requested a license amendment to increase the number of incore and excore detectors and fission counters (with corresponding increase in the U-235 possession limit to 65 grams). All the materials are sealed sources similar to those which the licensee is already authorized to possess. The materials are spares for the PVNGS, Units 1, 2, and 3. The three Unit's properties are adjacent to each other. The staff has concluded that the possession of these materials will pose no threat to the environment. Therefore, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.22 (c)(14) (viii), neither an Environmental Assessment nor Environmental Impact Statement is needed for this proposed action.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original Signed By:
W. T. Crow

W. T. Crow, Acting Chief
Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety, NMSS

OFFICE	FCUP <i>JK</i>	FCUP <i>SDW</i>	FCUF <i>VL</i>	FCUF		
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DATE	02/05/85	02/05/85	02/05/85	02/05/85		