

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

OMMISSION

OCT 8 1992

Bradley W. Jones, Esquire Akin, Gump, Hauer & Feld, L.L.P. 1333 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20036

IN RESPONSE REFER TO FOIA-92-409

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am responding to your letter dated August 13, 1992, in which you requested, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, copies of records relating to the Palo Verde Nuclear Units and NRC Senior Management Meeting discussions.

The NRC's polloy is not to disclose predecisional information about plants that may have been discussed at Senior Management Meetings but not placed on NRC's Watch List. This policy extends to withholding the names of plants that may have been discussed but were not placed on the Watch List. Your request is, therefore, being denied pursuant to Exemption 5 of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(5)) and 10 CFR 9.17(a)(5) of the Commission's regulations.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 9.25(b) of the Commission's regulations, it has been determined that information about plants that may have been discussed at Senior Management Meetings but not placed on NRC's Watch List is exempt from production or disclosure, and that its production or disclosure is contrary to the public interest. The persons responsible for this denial are the undersigned and James H. Sniezek, Deputy Executive Director for Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Regional Operations, and Research.

This denial may be appealed to the NRC's Executive Director for Operations within 30 days from the receipt of this letter. As provided in 10 CFR 9.29, any such appeal must be in writing,

addressed to the Executive Director for Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and should clearly state on the envelope and in the letter that it is an "Appeal from an Initial FOIA Decision."

Sincerely

Donnie H. Mineley

Donnie H. Grimsley, Director Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services Office of Administration