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January 23, 1986
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Mr. John B. Martin, Regional Administrator
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region V
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5368

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 1
Docket No. STN 50-528 (License NPF-41)
Special Report - Inoperability of Containment
High Range Radiation Monitor (RU-149)
File: 86-020-404

Dear Mr. Martin:

Attached please find a Supplement to Special Report (1-SR-85-030) prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specification Table 3.3-6, ACTION 27 (Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation) and Technical Specification 6.9.2. This report discusses exceeding the 72-hour ACTION statement for the operability of the Containment High Range Radiation Monitor (RU-149).

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Van Brunt, Jr.
Executive Vice President
Project Director

EEVB/SGB/rw
Attachments

cc: R. P. Zimmerman (all w/a)
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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION UNIT 1
INOPERABILITY OF CONTAINMENT HIGH RANGE MONITOR (RU-149)

Docket No. STN 50-528

License No. NPF-41

Special Report No. 1-SR-85-030

This is a supplement to Special Report 1-SR-85-030.

This Special Report is required by Palo Verde Unit 1 Technical Specification 3.3.3.1, Table 3.3-6, ACTION 27-3.

On October 28, 1985, Palo Verde Unit 1 was in Mode 3 at 565 degrees F and 2250 psia when the Containment High Range Radiation Monitor, RU-149, was inoperable for more than 72 hours. This monitor was declared inoperable due to spurious high radiation alarms coincident with spurious detector failure alarms.

Emergency Plan Implementing Procedure 14A is applicable, which allows the use of external detectors Ru-158B and RU-158C, or Ru-37 and RU-38, when a containment high range monitor is inoperable.

The Radiation Monitor was placed in service on November 18, 1985 and observed for proper operation until November 21, 1985. The spurious alarms did not recur. A Channel Functional Test was performed and the monitor was declared operational on November 21, 1985. The cause of the alarm could not be identified.