

October 15, 1987

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

E. E. Van Brunt Jr.  
Executive Vice President  
Arizona Nuclear Power Project  
P. O. Box 52034  
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

References: (1) Letter from Mr. E. E. Van Brunt (ANPP) to  
Mr. R. J. Pate (NRC) dated July 21, 1987 (87-020-404)  
(2) Letter from Mr. R. J. Pate (NRC) to Mr. E. E. Van Brunt  
(ANPP) dated June 26, 1987

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: REQUALIFICATION EXAMINATION REPORT

The Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station written operator requalification examinations administered on September 2, 1987 were evaluated in accordance with NUREG-1201, ES-601 "Administration of NRC Requalification Program Evaluation" and the Pilot Test Program criteria as defined in a memorandum from William T. Russel, Director, Division of Human Factors Technology, NRR, dated May 22, 1986.

Based on the results of the NRC parallel grading of the PVNGS September 2, 1987 operator requalification examination (described in the enclosed Examination Report 50-528/OL-87-03), the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Operator Requalification Program has been evaluated as meeting the requirements for a satisfactory rating.

Appropriate PVNGS corrective actions to upgrade the PVNGS Requalification Program which were discussed at our September 1, 1987 meeting were reviewed during the course of the current requalification program evaluation. The facility administered requalification examinations and their grading appeared generally improved. However, additional work needs to be done to (1) eliminate open ended questions; (2) clearly assign point values in questions and in the answer key; (3) correct the answer key if additional correct answers are identified; and (4) ensure the point values of the test questions are consistent with the level being tested.

The observations described above confirm our continuing concern that PVNGS Training Department needs a comprehensive, critical evaluation to verify that all deficiencies have been identified and that corrective actions have actually been completed. Based on discussions with your staff (during the September 24, 1987 management meeting in Region V offices) we understand that you intend to perform such an evaluation.

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Reference 1 of this letter transmitted Arizona Nuclear Power Project's schedule and corrective actions to be taken in response to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's issuance of a "Marginal" rating for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Stations' Operator Requalification Program which is documented in Reference 2. Additionally, on September 1, 1987 a meeting was held at the NRC Region V, Walnut Creek, California office with Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station training representatives to discuss the schedule and corrective actions, as stated in reference 1, and to discuss the NRC's program to re-evaluate the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station Operator Requalification Program. A summary of the September 1, 1987 meeting is included as Enclosure 4.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a) of the Commissions' regulations, a copy of this letter and enclosure 1 and 2 will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (415) 943-3868.

Sincerely,

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Robert J. Pate, Chief  
Reactor Safety Branch

Enclosures:

1. Examination Report No.  
50-528/OL-87-03, with Attachment 1
2. PVNGS Exam Key SRO and RO
3. Individual NRC and Palo Verde graded  
Exams and Summary Sheets
4. Summary of PVNGS, NRC meeting of  
September 1, 1987



E. E. Van Brunt Jr.

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cc w/enclosures (1), (2), (3) and (4)  
Bill Fernow, Training Manager, ANPP

cc w/enclosures (1), (2) and (4)  
RSB/Document Control Desk (RIDS)

cc w/enclosure (1):  
J. Roe, Branch Chief, NRR/LOLB  
J. Martin, RV  
D. Kirsch, RV  
R. Pate, RV  
J. Elin, RV  
P. Morrill, RV  
G. Johnston, RV  
T. Meadows, RV  
M. J. Royack, RV  
E. Licitra, NRR/PD5

RV/jk

REQUEST COPY	REQUEST COPY	REQUEST COPY	REQUEST COPY
YES / NO	YES / NO	YES / NO	YES / NO
			SEND TO PDR
			YES / NO

ROYACK JA  
9/ /87

MORRILL JA  
9/ /87

ELIN JE  
9/9/87  
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PATE JP  
10/9/87