

From: [Rust, Carla](#)
To: [RulemakingComments Resource](#)
Subject: [External_Sender] 102-08893 PVNGS Support Letter - 10 CFR 50-36 Rulemaking
Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 10:33:54 PM
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102-08893 PVNGS Support Letter - 10 CFR 50-36 Rulemaking.pdf

Good evening,

Please see the attached 102-08893 PVNGS Support Letter - 10 CFR 50-36 Rulemaking for your records.

Thank you,
Carla R.



Carla Rust | Site Operations Support

Nuclear Regulatory Affairs: Licensing, Compliance, Environmental
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102-08893-MDD/CJS
January 24, 2025

Palo Verde
Nuclear Generating Station
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Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Reference: Federal Register (FR) notice (89 FR 92853) dated November 25, 2024, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Subject: **Comments on Petition for Rulemaking, *Technical Specifications for Nuclear Power Reactors* (Docket ID NRC-2024-0173)**

By the referenced FR notice, the NRC requested comments on a petition for rulemaking submitted by Brian D. Mann on behalf of the Technical Specifications Task Force, the Pressurized Water Reactor Owners Group, and the Boiling Water Reactor Owners Group. The petition, dated September 13, 2024, requested that the NRC revise its regulations to apply risk insights to the selection of technical specifications (TS) Limiting Conditions for Operation (LCOs) and to update the regulation to be consistent with the guidance in the NRC Standard Technical Specifications (STS). The petition was assigned Docket No. PRM-50-126.

Arizona Public Service Company (APS) is the operating agent for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS). PVNGS Units 1, 2, and 3 have seven owners who are licensees. The owners/licensees are APS, Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, El Paso Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Southern California Public Power Authority. As specified in the PVNGS renewed operating licenses, APS is authorized to act as agent for the PVNGS licensees and has exclusive responsibility and control over the physical construction, operation, and maintenance of the facility.

The TS are the most visible and pervasive aspect of the NRC regulatory oversight of nuclear power plants. The NRC and the industry have developed and implemented many risk-informed initiatives to improve the TS over the last 30 years. APS agrees with the petitioner that additional improvements to plant safety and operation can be made by the application of risk to the TS LCO selection criteria, which requires a change to the regulation.

APS endorses the petition and requests that the NRC initiate rulemaking. APS agrees with the problem statement and the proposed solution described in the petition. Additionally, APS agrees that the proposed rule change supports congressional direction in the *Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy Act of 2024* (the *ADVANCE Act of 2024*), and the NRC Strategic Plan.

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APS also supports the petitioner's request to revise 10 CFR 50.36 to be consistent with the Commission STS, and to remove information that is no longer applicable. While the petition proposes the changes on a "not-to-interfere" basis with the primary change to risk-inform the TS LCO selection criteria, APS strongly encourages the NRC to include the changes in the rulemaking.

APS also supports the proposed changes to the Commission *Final Policy Statement on Technical Specifications Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors*. These changes update the Final Policy Statement to be consistent with the revised regulations and current terminology and facilitate future licensing actions to take full advantage of the rule change.


APS urges the NRC to complete this rulemaking in a timely manner.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our perspective on this important regulatory matter.

No commitments are being made to the NRC by this letter. Should you have any questions concerning the content of this letter, please contact me at (623) 393-3495.

Sincerely,

Dilorenzo, Michael
D(Z99838)

 Digitally signed by Dilorenzo,
Michael D(Z99838)
Date: 2025.01.24 17:27:56 -07'00'

Michael D. DiLorenzo
Department Leader Nuclear Regulatory Affairs - Licensing

MDD/CJS/cr

cc: J. D. Monninger
W. T. Orders
L. N. Merker

NRC Region IV Regional Administrator
NRC NRR Project Manager for PVNGS
NRC Senior Resident Inspector for PVNGS