

March 29, 2001

Mr. Gregg R. Overbeck  
Senior Vice President, Nuclear  
Arizona Public Service Company  
P. O. Box 52034  
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2034

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3 -  
ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENTS ON 7-DAY COMPLETION TIME FOR  
TURBINE-DRIVEN AUXILIARY FEEDWATER SYSTEM (TAC NOS. MB0709,  
MB0710, AND MB0711)

Dear Mr. Overbeck:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 134 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-41, Amendment No. 134 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-51, and Amendment No. 134 to Facility Operating License No. NPF-74 for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3, respectively. The amendments consist of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated December 5, 2000 (102-04507).

The amendments revise the action statement for Specification 3.7.5, "Auxiliary Feedwater (AFW) System," of the TSs. The amendments incorporate NRC-approved TS Task Force Traveler Number TSTF-340, Revision 3, to allow a 7-day completion time for the turbine-driven AFW pump if inoperability occurs in reactor Mode 3 following a refueling outage, and if Mode 2 had not been entered.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. The Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's next biweekly *Federal Register* notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Jack N. Donohew, Senior Project Manager, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 134 to NPF-41  
2. Amendment No. 134 to NPF-51  
3. Amendment No. 134 to NPF-74

cc w/encls: See next page

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DATE	2/14/2001	2/23/01	3/13/01	3/21/01	3/29/01

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NRR-058



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. <sup>134</sup> to NPF-41  
2. Amendment No. <sup>134</sup> to NPF-51  
3. Amendment No. <sup>134</sup> to NPF-74  
4. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encs: See next page

Palo Verde Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3

cc:

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NO. STN 50-528

PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 134  
License No. NPF-41

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by the Arizona Public Service Company (APS or the licensee) on behalf of itself and the 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 dated December 5, 2000, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-41 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 134, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated into this license. APS shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan, except where otherwise stated in specific license conditions.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance and shall be implemented within 45 days of the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Stephen Dembek, Chief, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: March 29, 2001



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NO. STN 50-529

PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 2

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 134  
License No. NPF-51

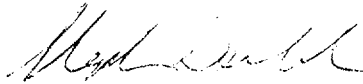
1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by the Arizona Public Service Company (APS or the licensee) on behalf of itself and the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, El Paso Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Southern California Public Power Authority dated December 5, 2000, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-51 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 134, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated into this license. APS shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan, except where otherwise stated in specific license conditions.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance and shall be implemented within 45 days of the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Stephen Dembek, Chief, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: March 29, 2001



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.

DOCKET NO. STN 50-530

PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 3

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 134  
License No. NPF-74

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
  - A. The application for amendment by the Arizona Public Service Company (APS or the licensee) on behalf of itself and the 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 dated December 5, 2000, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act) and the Commission's regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
  - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
  - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
  - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
  - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 2.C(2) of Facility Operating License No. NPF-74 is hereby amended to read as follows:

(2) Technical Specifications and Environmental Protection Plan

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 134, and the Environmental Protection Plan contained in Appendix B, are hereby incorporated into this license. APS shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications and the Environmental Protection Plan, except where otherwise stated in specific license conditions.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance and shall be implemented within 45 days of the date of issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



Stephen Dembek, Chief, Section 2  
Project Directorate IV  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical  
Specifications

Date of Issuance: March 29, 2001

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NOS. 134, 134, AND 134

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NOS. NPF-41, NPF-51, AND NPF-74

DOCKET NOS. STN 50-528, STN 50-529, AND STN 50-530

Replace the following pages of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised pages. The revised pages are identified by amendment number and contain marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

REMOVE

3.7.5-1

INSERT

3.7.5-1

### 3.7 PLANT SYSTEMS

#### 3.7.5 Auxiliary Feedwater (AFW) System

LCO 3.7.5 Three AFW trains shall be OPERABLE.

-----NOTE-----  
Only one AFW train, which includes a motor driven pump, is required to be OPERABLE in MODE 4.  
-----

APPLICABILITY: MODES 1, 2, and 3,  
MODE 4 when steam generator is relied upon for heat removal.

#### ACTIONS

CONDITION	REQUIRED ACTION	COMPLETION TIME
<p>A. One steam supply to turbine driven AFW pump inoperable.</p> <p><u>OR</u></p> <p>-----NOTE----- Only applicable if MODE 2 has not been entered following refueling. -----</p> <p>One turbine driven AFW pump inoperable in MODE 3 following refueling.</p>	<p>A.1 Restore affected equipment to OPERABLE status.</p>	<p>7 days</p> <p><u>AND</u></p> <p>10 days from discovery of failure to meet the LCO</p>
<p>B. One AFW train inoperable for reasons other than Condition A in MODE 1, 2, or 3.</p>	<p>B.1 Restore AFW train to OPERABLE status.</p>	<p>72 hours</p> <p><u>AND</u></p> <p>10 days from discovery of failure to meet the LCO</p>



UNITED STATES  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION  
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. <sup>134</sup> TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-41,  
AMENDMENT NO. <sup>134</sup> TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-51,  
AND AMENDMENT NO. <sup>134</sup> TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. NPF-74  
ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, ET AL.  
PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNITS 1, 2, AND 3  
DOCKET NOS. STN 50-528, STN 50-529, AND STN 50-530

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By application dated December 5, 2000, the Arizona Public Service Company (the licensee) requested changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 (Palo Verde). The Arizona Public Service Company submitted this request on behalf of itself, the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District, Southern California Edison Company, El Paso Electric Company, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and Southern California Public Power Authority. The proposed changes would revise the action requirements of TS 3.7.5, "Auxiliary Feedwater (AFW) System." The amendments would incorporate an NRC-approved generic change to NUREG-1432, "Standard Technical Specifications, Combustion Engineering Plants, Revision 1, dated April 1995. This generic change, Task Force (TSTF) Traveler Number TSTF-340, Revision 3, specifies a 7-day Completion Time to restore the turbine-driven AFW pump to operable status if the pump becomes inoperable in reactor Mode 3 following a refueling outage, and prior to entry into Mode 2.

2.0 BACKGROUND

In Amendment No. 117, dated May 20, 1998, the Palo Verde TSs were converted to the improved TSs. The conversion was based in part on NUREG-1432. Since Amendment 117, industry has proposed, and the NRC has approved, changes to the improved standard TSs in NUREG-1432. One of the approved changes to NUREG-1432 is TSTF-340, Revision 3. TSTF-340, Revision 3, was approved for NUREG-1432 in the staff's letter of July 6, 2000.

The AFW pumps provide cooling water to the steam generators for cooling the core through the steam generators when there is no main feedwater flow to the steam generators. The licensee stated that there are two motor-driven AFW pumps and one turbine-driven AFW pump, and this design affords adequate redundancy to allow the turbine-driven AFW pump to remain inoperable for the proposed completion time.

### 3.0 EVALUATION

In its application, the licensee has proposed changes to the action requirements of TS 3.7.5 to conform to the changes made in TSTF-340, Revision 3. In its application, the licensee stated that the proposed amendment was needed to prevent unnecessary reactor mode changes and requests for enforcement discretion during startup following refueling. The proposed amendment achieves this by allowing additional time in Mode 3, prior to entering Mode 2, to repair and retest the turbine-driven AFW pump if the pump is declared inoperable because the surveillance requirements could not be met.

The staff concludes that the proposed amendment is acceptable because (1) the AFW design (two motor-driven AFW pumps and one turbine-driven AFW pump) affords adequate redundancy to allow the turbine-driven AFW pump to remain inoperable for the proposed completion time and (2) the restriction of the completion time to Mode 3 after a refueling outage without having entered Mode 2 assures the core decay heat load is at a minimal level. The low decay heat in the core is because of the decay of the spent fuel in the core during the refueling outage. The justification made by the Combustion Engineering Owners Group for the changes to NUREG-1432, the Improved Standard TSs, in TSTF-340, Revision 3, is the same justification made by the licensee for incorporating these changes in the Palo Verde TSs.

The licensee stated in the conference call of January 17, 2001, that the changes to the Bases of the improved standard TSs in TSTF-340, Revision 3, will also be incorporated in the Bases of the Palo Verde TSs.

### 4.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Arizona State official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendments. The State official had no comments.

### 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendments change a requirement with respect to the installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. The NRC staff has determined that the amendments involve no significant increase in the amounts and no significant change in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendments involve no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (66 FR 7671). Accordingly, the amendments meet the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendments.

## 6.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendments will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: Jack Donohew

Date: March 29, 2001