



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone: 301/415-8200

Washington, DC 20555-001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: <http://www.nrc.gov/OPA>

No. 03-126

October 2, 2003

NRC APPROVES POWER UPRATE FOR PALO VERDE UNIT 2

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has approved a request by the Arizona Nuclear Power Project to increase the generating capacity of Unit 2 at the Palo Verde nuclear power plant by 2.9 percent. The NRC staff determined that the licensee could safely increase the power output of the reactor primarily through replacing the plant's steam generators.

The power uprate at the plant, located near Phoenix, Arizona, increases the net generating capacity of the plant from 1270 to 1325 megawatts electric. The licensee intends to implement the uprate by the end of December.

The NRC previously published a notice about the power uprate application in the Federal Register providing the public an opportunity to comment or request a hearing. No comments or hearing requests were received by the NRC.

The NRC's safety evaluation of the requested power uprate for the plant focused on several areas, including nuclear steam supply systems, instrumentation and control systems, electrical systems, accident evaluations, radiological consequences, operations, and technical specification changes.

###