



10 CFR 50.55a

Palo Verde Nuclear
Generating Station

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102-05004-CDM/SAB/RJR
September 26, 2003

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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- References
1. APS letter 102-04941-CDM/SAB/RJR, "10 CFR 50.55a Alternative Repair Request for the Second 10-Year Interval of the Inservice Inspection Program: Relief Request 23, Pressurizer Heater Sleeves," dated May 15, 2003.
 2. NRC letter, "Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1, 2, and 3 - Relief Request No. 23 RE: Alternative to Temper Bead Welding Requirements for Inservice Inspection Program (TAC Nos. MB8973, MB8974 and MB8975)," dated July 30, 2003.
 3. APS letter 102-04998-CDM/SAB/RJR, "10 CFR 50.55a Alternative Repair Request for the Second 10-Year Interval of the Inservice Inspection Program: Relief Request 23, Revision 1, Temper Bead Post Weld Examination Methods," dated September 16, 2003.

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Units 1, 2, and 3
Docket Nos. STN 50-528/529/530
10 CFR 50.55a Alternative Repair Request for the Second 10-Year
Interval of the Inservice Inspection Program: Relief Request 23,
Revision 1, Pressurizer Nozzle Repair, Preheated Band Examination
Methods

In Reference 1 pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i), Arizona Public Service (APS) Company requested alternatives to the gas-tungsten arc welding (GTAW) machine temper bead welding requirements of IWA-4500 and IWA-4530 of ASME Section XI. Relief from these requirements was granted in Reference 2. Reference 3 identified that considerable time and radiological dose could be saved if a magnetic particle (MT) examination of the preheated band could be performed instead of a liquid penetrant (PT) examination.

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PVNGS Units 1, 2, and 3, Docket Nos. STN 50-528/529/530
Relief Request 23, Revision 1, Pressurizer Nozzle Repair, Preheated Band Examination
Methods

Page 2

This letter is to clarify that the alternative examination proposed in Reference 3 is limited to the surface examination of the preheated band of the pressurizer (P3 material). Changing the required examination of the preheated band to "a surface examination" would allow alternative methods, such as magnetic particle (MT) in lieu of the currently required liquid penetrant (PT) examination. All other required post weld repair examinations will be performed in accordance with the ASME Code requirements identified in Reference 3 or approved relief request(s).

This request is for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS) Units 1, 2, and 3 during the second 10-Year interval of the Inservice Inspection Program.

No commitments are being made to the NRC in this letter. Should you have any questions, please contact Thomas N. Weber at (623) 393-5764.

Sincerely,

CDM/SAB/RJR



cc:	B. S. Mallett	NRC Region IV Regional Administrator
	M. B. Fields	NRC NRR Project Manager
	N. L. Salgado	NRC Senior Resident Inspector for PVNGS