



Palo Verde Nuclear  
Generating Station

David Mauldin  
Vice President  
Nuclear Engineering

Tel: 623-393-5553  
Fax: 623-393-6077

Mail Station 7605  
PO Box 52034  
Phoenix, Arizona 85072-2034

102-05522-CDM/TNW/GAM

June 28, 2006

Attn: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Sirs:

**Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)  
Units 1, 2 and 3  
Docket Nos. STN 50-528, 50-529, and 50-530  
Clarification of Monitoring Core Exit Temperature During Reactor  
Head Placement and Removal**

In letter no.161-04033, dated July 2, 1991, "Completion of Programmed Enhancement (1)(b) of Generic Letter 88-17 'Loss of Decay Heat Removal,'" APS stated the following:

*The PVNGS [core exit thermocouple] design conforms to the recommendations in programmed enhancement (1)(b) of Generic Letter 88-17 in that two independent temperature measurements representative of the core exit (monitoring the two core exit thermocouples) are available whenever the reactor vessel head is located on top of the reactor vessel. In addition, the PVNGS design responds to the suggestion in programmed enhancement (1)(b) of Generic Letter 88-17 in that a temperature measurement representative of the core exit (monitoring the shutdown cooling heat exchanger inlet temperature) is provided at all times during shutdown cooling system operation.*

As a matter of clarification, during the short period of time immediately following reactor head placement when the core exit thermocouples are not yet connected, and immediately prior to reactor head removal when the thermocouples are disconnected (normally no more than a few hours), the temperature measurement representative of the core exit is provided by monitoring the shutdown cooling heat exchanger inlet temperature during shutdown cooling system operation.

No action by the NRC is being requested and no commitments are being made to the NRC by this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Thomas N. Weber at (623) 393-5764.

Sincerely,

CDM/TNW/GAM/

A member of the **STARS** (Strategic Teaming and Resource Sharing) Alliance

Callaway • Comanche Peak • Diablo Canyon • Palo Verde • South Texas Project • Wolf Creek

A001

ATTN: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Clarification of Monitoring Core Exit Temperature During Reactor Head Placement and  
Removal  
Page 2

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