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August 29, 1985
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REGION V18E

Mr. John B. Martin, Regional Administrator
Office of Inspection & Enforcement
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region V
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5368

Attn: Mr. Dennis Kirsch

Subject: Improvement of Palo Verde Unit 1 Operations
File: 85-008-419

Mr. Kirsch's letter to me dated August 14, 1985 identified the need to carefully review the results of the operational readiness review conducted between May 25 and June 5. Mr. Kirsch's letter also identified the need to devote greater attention and, if necessary, greater resources to improve the Technical Specification compliance record. The purpose of this letter is to describe to you action taken since the August 8 Enforcement Conference to improve Palo Verde Unit 1 operations, including the areas mentioned above.

Immediately following the Enforcement Conference, Mr. Haynes and I met with the ANPP managers to discuss in some detail the reason for the Enforcement Conference and the lessons learned and the need to improve the Technical Specification compliance record.

In addition, action plans addressing, but not limited to, items discussed in the Enforcement Conference were prepared and included assignment of responsibility and schedules for completion of each item. This includes action plans developed within the Quality Assurance organization to improve their involvement in verifying the accuracy of NRC submittals.

As to the need to devote greater attention and, if necessary, greater resources to improvement of compliance, we have temporarily assigned Mr. Karner, Assistant Vice President, to the site with his only responsibility being improvement of compliance with NRC requirements. The objective is to implement these improvements through both programatic changes and managing resolution of specific issues. In this capacity Mr. Karner will continue to report to and receive direction from Mr. Haynes.

In summary, we have taken aggressive action to improve Palo Verde Unit 1 compliance and are committed to continuing improvement. We are confident you will see the results of our actions.

Sincerely,

E. E. Van Brunt, Jr.
Executive Vice President
Project Director

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cc: R. P. Zimmerman

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