

REGULARY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
 Document Control Branch (Document Control Desk)

SUBJECT: Special Rept 2-SR-87-005-01: on 870110, high range noble gas
 activity monitor inoperable for greater than 72 h. Monitor
 removed from svc to allow replacement of memory chip as sys
 upgrade. Monitor declared operable on 870316.

DISTRIBUTION CODE: IE22D COPIES RECEIVED: LTR 1 ENCL 1 SIZE: 2
 TITLE: 50.73 Licensee Event Report (LER), Incident Rpt, etc.

NOTES: Standardized plant.

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	REG FILE 02	1 1	RES DEPY GI	1 1
	RES TELFORD, J	1 1	RES/DE/EIB	1 1
	RGN5 FILE 01	1 1		
EXTERNAL:	EG&G GROH, M	5 5	H ST LOBBY WARD	1 1
	LPDR	1 1	NRC PDR	1 1
	NSIC HARRIS, J	1 1	NSIC MAYS, G	1 1

NOTES: 1 1



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192-00302-JGH/TRB

November 5, 1987

NRC Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station
Unit 2
Docket No. STN 50-529 (License NPF-51)
Supplement to Special Report 2-SR-87-005
File: 87-020-404

Attached please find a Supplement to Special Report 2-SR-87-005 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3.3.3.8 and 6.9.2. This report discusses a radiation monitoring unit inoperable greater than 72 hours.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Bradish, Compliance Supervisor at (602) 393-3531.

Very truly yours,

J. G. Haynes
Vice President
Nuclear Production

JGH/TRB/cld

Attachment

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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Radiation Monitoring Unit Inoperable for Greater Than 72 Hours

License No. NPF-51

Docket No. STN 50-529

Special Report No. 2-SR-87-005-01

This supplement to Special Report 2-SR-87-005 is being submitted pursuant to Technical Specification (T.S.) 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42b and T.S. 6.9.2 to report an event in which a high range noble gas activity monitor (RU-146) was inoperable for greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour limit for operability was exceeded at approximately 0630 MST on January 10, 1987. Pursuant to T.S. 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42a the Preplanned Alternate Sampling Program was initiated to monitor the plant ventilation system.

During a routine review of submitted Special Reports, it was discovered that RU-146 was removed from service at 0630 MST on January 7, 1987, to allow the replacement of erasable programmable read only memory (EPROM) chips as a system upgrade. After replacement of the EPROM, RU-146 was reenergized but not declared operable.

At 0500 MST on January 11, 1987, Unit 2 entered Mode 5. Since RU-146 is not required to be operable in Mode 5, the document which tracks the status of Technical Specification equipment, Technical Specification Component Condition Record (TSCCR), was notated to reflect that fact. However, it was not realized by the operators that the 72 hour Action Requirement to restore RU-146 to operability had been exceeded at 0630 MST on January 10, 1987.

On February 19, 1987, surveillance testing on RU-146 was started. During the testing, it was identified that alarms would cycle on and off at random intervals. Troubleshooting of the monitor was continued under the work document authorized for replacement of the EPROM's. At 0607 MST on March 5, 1987, Unit 2 entered Mode 4 reinstating the requirement for RU-146 to be operable. At 2252 MST on March 5, 1987, RU-146 was declared inoperable due to the ongoing troubleshooting conducted under the EPROM replacement work order. The applicable ACTION requirements of T.S. 3.3.3.8 were initiated.

The troubleshooting revealed the cause of the random cycling alarms to be the micro computer software. As corrective action, Plant Change Request (PCR) 87-13-SQ-020 was initiated to correct the micro computer software. As additional corrective action, an Engineering Evaluation Request (EER) 87-SQ-101 was initiated to address the potential of similar cases in other monitors encompassing all three units. The disposition of this EER determined that all effected monitors are operable since these cycling alarms do not affect the monitors' operability per Technical Specifications. This software problem exists in this software revision, as well as previous software revisions.

To return RU-146 to service, Quarterly Functional Test 36ST-9SQ04 was successfully performed. The monitor was declared operable at 1414 on March 16, 1987. The monitor was inoperable in the applicable modes for approximately 15 days, 6½ hours.