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 RECIP. NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
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SUBJECT: Special Rept 1-SR-88-002: on 880314, 72 h limit for returning
 containment area monitor to svc exceeded.

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NOTES: Standardized plant. 05000529 D

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| REG FILE 02 | 1 1 | RES TELFORD, J | 1 1 | |
| RES/DE/EIB | 1 1 | RES/DRPS DIR | 1 1 | |
| RGN5 FILE 01 | 1 1 | | | |
| EXTERNAL: EG&G GROH, M | 4 4 | FORD BLDG HOY, A | 1 1 | R |
| H ST LOBBY WARD | 1 1 | LPDR | 1 1 | I |
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| NSIC MAYS, G | 1 1 | | | S |

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Arizona Nuclear Power Project

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192-00362-JGH/TDS/JEM
April 8, 1988

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

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 1
Docket No. STN 50-528 (License No. NPF-41)
Special Report 1-SR-88-002
File: 88-020-404

Attached please find Special Report 1-SR-88-002 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.1 ACTION 27-3 and Technical Specification 6.9.2. This report discusses a Radiation Monitoring Unit inoperable for greater than 72 hours.

If you have any questions, please contact T. D. Shriver, Compliance Manager at (602) 393-2521.

Very truly yours,

J. G. Haynes
Vice President
Nuclear Production

JGH/TDS/JEM/kj

Attachment

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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Radiation Monitoring Unit Inoperable for Greater Than 72 Hours

License No. NPF-41

Docket No. STN 50-529

Special Report No. 1-SR-88-002

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.1 ACTION 27-3 and Technical Specification 6.9.2 to report an event in which a Containment Area Monitor (RU-149) was inoperable for greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour limit for returning the monitor to an operable status was exceeded at approximately 0355 MST on March 14, 1988. Pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.1 ACTION 27-1 a preplanned alternate program was initiated to monitor the appropriate parameter.

At 0355 MST on March 11, 1988, Palo Verde Unit 1 was in Mode 1 (POWER OPERATION) when a Containment Area Monitor, RU-149, was declared inoperable due to receiving Detector Failure alarms. Also Alert and High Level alarms were received even though the radiation levels were indicating slightly below normal readings.

An authorized work document was issued to troubleshoot, rework, or replace components as necessary. Several detector failures were identified during troubleshooting, however, the cause of the failures could not be determined. A picoamp source and recorder were connected to RU-149 in different configurations in an attempt to locate the source of the failures. The picoamp source generates a constant signal and the recorder charts the results. However, the failures did not recur while this instrumentation was connected. The instruments were disconnected and on April 5, 1988, and RU-149 was returned to its normal configuration.

Surveillance test 36ST-9SQ01 (Radiation Monitoring Monthly Functional Test Procedure) was performed satisfactorily on April 5, 1988. RU-149 is on line, however, it has not been returned to an operable status pending evaluation of the data. Presently the root cause of the problem has not been identified, therefore, a forecast date for returning RU-149 to an operable status has not been determined.

