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SUBJECT: Special Rept 3-SR-88-002:on 880328,radiation monitoring unit
 inoperable for greater than 72 h.

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NOTES:Standardized plant.

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192-00367-JGH/TDS/DAJ

April 18, 1988

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

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 3
Docket No. STN 50-530 (License No. NPF-74)
Special Report 3-SR-88-002
File: 88-020-404

Attached please find Special Report 3-SR-88-002 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42b 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/DAJ/kj

Attachment

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ALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

Radiation Monitoring Unit Inoperable for Greater Than 72 Hours

License No. NPF-74

Docket No. STN 50-530

Special Report No. 3-SR-88-002

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42b and Technical Specification 6.9.2 to report an event in which a Radioactive Gaseous Effluent Monitor (Fuel Building Ventilation System High Range Monitor RU-146) was inoperable for greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour limit for returning the monitor to operability was exceeded at approximately 0100 MST on March 31, 1988. Pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42a the Preplanned Alternate Sampling Program was initiated to monitor the Fuel Building Ventilation System when needed.

At 0100 MST on March 28, 1988, Palo Verde Unit 3 was in Mode 1 (POWER OPERATION) when the Fuel Building Ventilation System High Range Monitor RU-146 was declared inoperable due to unsatisfactory performance of the source check while performing surveillance test 75ST-9ZZ08 (Effluent Monitor Monthly Source Check).

An authorized work document was issued to troubleshoot/rework/replace components to correct the cause of the monitor not passing the check source surveillance on channel 2. During troubleshooting a Detector High Voltage Failure alarm and a Detector Failure alarm were received. The high voltage was found to be approximately 2.5 times greater than the normal value. The high voltage board was replaced with a replacement high voltage board and the voltage adjusted to a normal value. The detector is believed to have failed due to the excessive high voltage from the faulty high voltage board. The detector was replaced with a new detector and surveillance test 36ST-9SQ11 (RU-145/RU-146 Calibration Test) was satisfactorily performed on RU-146 channel 2. An Engineering Evaluation Request has been submitted to perform a root cause of failure analysis on the malfunctioning components.

After satisfactory completion of appropriate surveillance tests RU-146 was declared operable at 1357 MST on April 1, 1988. The monitor was out of service for approximately 4 days and 13 hours.

