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SUBJECT: Special Rept 2-SR-88-004:on 880324,radioactive gaseous
 effluent monitors inoperable for more than 72 h.

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NOTES:Standardized plant.

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Arizona Nuclear Power Project

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192-00371-JGH/TDS/JEM
April 22, 1988

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

Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 2
Docket No. STN 50-529 (License No. NPF-51)
Special Report 2-SR-88-004
File: 88-020-404

Attached please find Special Report 2-SR-88-004 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/JEM/kj

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-88-003

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 the Radioactive Gaseous Effluent Monitors (Fuel Building Ventilation System Low Range Monitor RU-145 and High Range Monitor RU-146) were inoperable for greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour limit for returning to operability was exceeded at approximately 1630 MST on March 24, 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 1630 MST on March 21, 1988, Palo Verde Unit 2 was shutdown for its first refueling with the core offloaded into the Spent Fuel Pool. Radiation Monitors RU-145 and RU-146 were declared inoperable due to continuous low flow alarms on RU-145. Monitors RU-145 and RU-146 work as a pair with RU-145 being the low range monitor and RU-146 being the high range monitor. Normal configuration consists of RU-145 operating and RU-146 in standby. When RU-145 reaches a predetermined level, RU-146 starts and RU-145 goes to standby. Since RU-145 and RU-146 work in tandem, both monitors must be declared inoperable if the other malfunctions.

An authorized work document was issued to troubleshoot and rework/replace components to correct the low flow alarms. Troubleshooting identified that the Flow Control Valve (FCV01) was stuck on its seat and the limit switch actuator arm was binding on its drive threads. The valve was manually exercised several times and the limit switch actuator arm was freed up. Further troubleshooting identified a faulty motor on valve FCV01. Flow Control Valve (FCV01) was replaced with a new valve and the limit switches were set in accordance with the vendors manual.

During this same time period a Plant Change Package (PCP), to improve the reliability of the Radiation Monitoring System (RMS), was being implemented. This PCP was incorporating Revision E to the software of RU-145. This revision did not have flow conversion constants needed to establish proper sample flow for a given process flow. The software is expected to be ready for installation by April 26, 1988. After installation of the software and satisfactory completion of required surveillance tests RU-145 and RU-146 are planned to be returned to an operable status by April 29, 1988.

