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SUBJECT: Special Rept 1-SR-90-002:on 900327,radiation monitoring unit
 inoperable greater than 72 h.

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VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

192-00650-JML/TRB/SBJ
April 21, 1990

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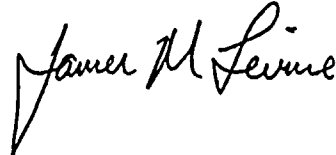
Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 1
Docket No. STN 50-528 (License No. NPF-41)
Special Report 1-SR-90-002
File: 90-020-404

Attached please find Special Report 1-SR-90-002 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3.3.3.8 ACTION 42(b) and 6.9.2. This report discusses a radiation monitor inoperable for greater than 72 hours.

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

Very truly yours,



JML/TRB/SBJ/tlg

Attachment

cc: W. F. Conway (all w/attachment)
J. B. Martin
T. L. Chan
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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION UNIT 1

Radiation Monitoring Unit Inoperable Greater Than 72 Hours

License No. NPF-41

Docket No. 50-528

Special Report 1-SR-90-002

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 the Condenser Evacuation System High Range Radiation Monitor (RU-142) was inoperable greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour limit for returning the monitor to service was exceeded at approximately 0104 MST on March 27, 1990. The Preplanned Alternate Sampling Program (PASP) was initiated in accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 ACTIONS 36, 37, 40, and 42a.

At the time of this event, Palo Verde Unit 1 was in a refueling outage with the reactor in Mode 5 (cold shutdown). The Condenser Evacuation System Radiation Monitors (RU-141 and RU-142) were inoperable in order to implement modifications required to improve the performance of the monitors. These radiation monitors work as a pair with the Low Range Radiation Monitor (RU-141) operating and the High Range Radiation Monitor (RU-142) in standby. When the low range monitor reaches a predetermined setpoint, the high range monitor starts and the low range monitor goes to standby. The high range monitor is provided for tracking effluents during postulated accidents.

Prior to the event, the Unit 1 Auxiliary Steam Supply was being supplied by the auxiliary boiler. On March 21, 1990, at approximately 2223 MST the auxiliary steam supply to Unit 1 was transferred from the auxiliary boiler to the Unit 3 Auxiliary Steam Supply system. On March 24, 1990, at approximately 0104 MST auxiliary steam was supplied to the Turbine Gland Seal System in preparation for establishing condenser vacuum. Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 requires that the Condenser Evacuation System High Range (RU-142) and Low Range (RU-141) Radiation Monitors be operable whenever turbine glands are being supplied with steam from sources other than the auxiliary boilers. Since RU-141 and RU-142 were inoperable, the PASP was initiated in accordance with Technical Specification 3.3.3.8 ACTIONS 36, 37, 40, and 42a. In addition, the Unit 3 Condenser Evacuation System Radiation Monitors were operable providing on-line indication of abnormal radiation levels in the Unit 3 condenser effluent.

On April 10, 1990 at approximately 1606 MST, RU-141 and RU-142 were declared operable following completion of modifications and required surveillance testing. RU-141 and RU-142 were not available for service for approximately 17 days and 15 hours.

