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 monitor declared inoperable.

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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION
P.O. BOX 52034 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85072-2034

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VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

192-00703-JML/TRB/SBJ
November 12, 1990

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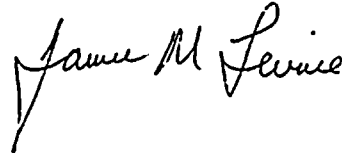
Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 1
Docket No. STN 50-528 (License No. NPF-41)
Special Report 1-SR-90-006
File: 90-020-404

Attached please find Supplement Number 1 to Special Report 1-SR-90-006 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3.3.3.1 ACTION 27 and 6.9.2. This report discusses the Containment Building Atmosphere Radiation Monitor being inoperable for a period greater than 72 hours. This supplement is being submitted to update the scheduled completion date for the investigation into procedural and material problems.

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

Very truly yours,



JML/TRB/SBJ/dmn

Attachment

cc: W. F. Conway (all w/attachment)
J. B. Martin
D. H. Coe
A. C. Gehr
A. H. Guttermann
INPO Records Center

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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION UNIT 1

Radiation Monitor Inoperable

License No. NPF-41

Docket No. 50-528

Special Report 1-SR-90-006-01

Initial Conditions:

On September 5, 1990 Palo Verde Unit 1 was in Mode 1 (POWER OPERATION) at approximately 100 percent power.

Description of Event:

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Technical Specification 3.3.3.1 ACTION 27 and Technical Specification 6.9.2 to report an event in which the Containment Building Atmosphere Radiation Monitor (RU-1) was inoperable for a period greater than 72 hours. The 72 hour period for returning the monitor to service was exceeded at approximately 1937 MST on September 5, 1990.

On September 2, 1990 at approximately 1937 MST, the Containment Building Atmosphere Radiation Monitor (RU-1) was declared inoperable to investigate noise coming from the radiation monitor blower. RU-1 continuously monitors the containment atmosphere for particulate and gaseous activity to provide a qualitative indication of an increase in primary coolant system leakage. A portable radiation monitor was installed to continuously sample containment air and grab sampling initiated in accordance with Technical Specifications.

Cause of Event:

The cause of RU-1 being inoperable was an end of life failure of the blower fan.

The radiation monitor could not be returned to service within 72 hours because of material and procedural problems. The replacement blower supplied was a different model number than the original blower. Because of this, a different size taper bushing was required. There were no taper bushings of the required size in the warehouse, therefore, a taper bushing was taken from a non-Technical Specification radiation monitor. When the radiation monitor was reassembled, the air flow required by the test procedure could not be obtained. An evaluation of the procedural requirements found them to be inconsistent with design requirements.

Corrective Actions:

The blower was replaced. The test procedure was revised to include appropriate acceptance criteria consistent with design requirements. The surveillance test was successfully performed and the radiation monitor declared operable at approximately 0613 MST on September 11, 1990.

An investigation into the procedural and material problems is in progress and should be completed by November 30, 1990. A supplement to the report will be submitted if the investigation identifies any different contributing factors.

