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REGULATORY INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (RIDS)

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 FACIL:STN-50-529 Palo Verde Nuclear Station, Unit 2, Arizona Publi 05000529
 AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
 LEVINE,J.M. Arizona Public Service Co. (formerly Arizona Nuclear Power
 RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
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SUBJECT: Special rept:on 920101,PASS declared inoperable when
 chemistry personnel could not obtain a containment air
 sample.Caused by malfunctioning flow sensor.PASS expected
 to be returned to an operable status.W/920207 ltr.

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NOTES:Standardized plant.

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NOTES:

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JAMES M. LEVINE
VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR PRODUCTION

192-00771-JML/TRB/RKR
February 7, 1992

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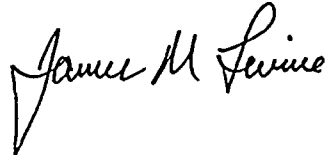
Dear Sirs:

Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Unit 2
Docket No. STN 50-529 (License No. NPF-51)
Special Report 2-SR-92-001
File: 92-020-404

Attached please find Special Report 2-SR-92-001 prepared and submitted pursuant to Technical Specifications 3.3.3.1 ACTION 28 and 6.9.2. This report discusses the Post Accident Sampling System being inoperable for greater than seven (7) days. We are forwarding a copy of the Special Report to the Regional Administrator of the Region V office.

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

Very truly yours,



JML/TRB/RKR/dmn

Attachment

cc: W. F. Conway (all with attachment)
J. B. Martin
D. H. Coe

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PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION UNIT 2

Post Accident Sampling System Inoperable Greater Than 7 Days

License No. NPF-51

Docket No. 50-529

Special Report 2-SR-92-001

Initial Conditions:

This Special Report is being submitted pursuant to Technical Specification (TS) 3.3.3.1 ACTION 28 and TS 6.9.2 to report an event in which the Post Accident Sampling System (PASS) was inoperable for a period greater than 7 days. The 7 day period for returning PASS to service was exceeded at approximately 0217 MST on January 8, 1992. On January 8, 1992, at 0217 MST, Palo Verde Unit 2 was in Mode 2 (STARTUP) during startup from a refueling outage.

Background Information:

PASS is designed to sample reactor coolant and containment atmosphere under post accident conditions. The liquid portion of the system provides cooled and depressurized samples as required for analysis. The gas sample portion of the system provides containment atmosphere samples for analysis.

Actions Taken:

On January 1, 1992, at approximately 0217 MST, PASS was declared inoperable when chemistry personnel could not obtain a containment air sample in accordance with the surveillance procedure. The Preplanned Alternate Sampling Program was initiated in accordance with TS 3.3.3.1 ACTION 28. Troubleshooting determined that the cause of the inability to obtain a sample was a malfunctioning flow sensor. The flow sensor is used to verify that there is actual flow in the sample lines. Verifying flow and recirculating containment atmosphere in the sample lines for a minimum time based on flow ensures that a valid containment atmosphere gas sample is collected for analysis rather than a gas sample from the sample line atmosphere only. The flow sensor was replaced with a spare flow sensor, however the replacement flow sensor also malfunctioned. There were no more spare flow sensors available at PVNGS. The malfunctioning flow sensors were sent to the manufacturer to be rebuilt.

Cause of the Inoperability:

Troubleshooting determined that the cause of the inability to obtain a sample was a malfunctioning flow sensor. The flow sensors are preset from the factory. The manufacturer has not provided the information necessary to troubleshoot, rework, and recalibration a malfunctioning flow sensor. This information was considered proprietary by the manufacturer. Therefore, a malfunctioning flow sensor has to be replaced by a spare flow sensor or sent to the manufacturer for rework and recalibration.

Plans and Schedule for Restoring the System to Service:

The rebuilt flow sensors are expected back from the manufacturer by February 14, 1992. PASS is expected to be returned to an OPERABLE status within two (2) weeks following receipt of a functioning flow sensor.

