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SUBJECT: Advises that util intends to implement formal industry position on severe accident mgt.

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WILLIAM L. STEWART
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
NUCLEAR

102-03294-WLS/SAB/GAM
March 24, 1995

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Dear Sirs:

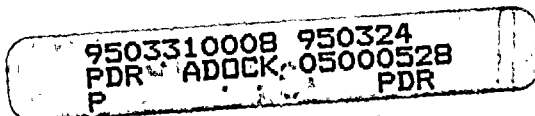
**Subject: Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS)
Units 1, 2, and 3
Docket Nos. STN 50-528/529/530
Assessment of Severe Accident Management Capabilities**

A formal industry position on severe accident management was approved by the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI) Strategic Issues Advisory Committee on November 4, 1994. That formal position, communicated in a letter dated November 21, 1994, from NEI to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, is identified in an enclosure with this letter. Based on previous interactions between NEI (NUMARC) and NRC staff, Arizona Public Service Company (APS) understands that NRC staff agrees with the need for licensee flexibility in their methods of assessing and establishing severe accident management guidance.

APS intends to implement the formal industry position on severe accident management by committing to the following:

Utilizing the associated implementing guidance contained in NEI Report 91-04, Revision 1, APS intends to complete an assessment of severe accident management capabilities and make any identified, cost-effective, programmatic enhancements by December 31, 1998.

This implementation schedule is complementary to efforts currently underway at PVNGS to address the individual plant examination of external events.



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U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Severe Accident Management
Page 2

Should you have any questions, please contact Scott A. Bauer of my staff
at (602) 393-5978.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. L. Stewart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "W. L." and the last name "Stewart" clearly distinguishable.

WLS/SAB/GAM/rv
Enclosure

cc: L. J. Callan
K. E. Perkins
T. R. Quay
B. E. Holian
K. E. Johnston

ENCLOSURE

FORMAL INDUSTRY POSITION

ON

SEVERE ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT

ENCLOSURE

FORMAL INDUSTRY POSITION ON SEVERE ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT

The following statement is the formal industry position on severe accident management approved by the Nuclear Energy Institute's (NEI) Strategic Issues Advisory Committee on November 4, 1994, and communicated in a letter dated November 21, 1994, from NEI to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation:

"Each licensee will:

"Assess current capabilities to respond to severe accident conditions using section 5 of NEI 91-04, Revision 1, 'Severe Accident Issue Closure Guidelines.'

"Implement appropriate improvements identified in the assessment, within the constraints of existing personnel and hardware, on a schedule to be determined by each licensee and communicated to the NRC, but in any event no later than December 31, 1998."

