

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 14, 2008

Mr. Randall K. Edington
Executive Vice President Nuclear/
Chief Nuclear Officer
Mail Station 7602
Arizona Public Service Company
P. O. Box 52034
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2034

SUBJECT: PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION, UNIT 1 – TEMPORARY

EXEMPTION FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR PART 50,

SECTION 50.46 AND APPENDIX K FOR LEAD FUEL ASSEMBLIES (TAC

NO. MD8330)

Dear Mr. Edington:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has approved the enclosed temporary exemption from specific requirements of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Part 50, Section 50.46, "Acceptance criteria for emergency core cooling systems for light-water nuclear power reactors," and Appendix K, "ECCS Evaluation Models," for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (PVNGS), Unit 1. This action is in response to your letter dated March 8, 2008, as supplemented by letter dated September 10, 2008. The temporary exemption would allow up to eight lead fuel assemblies manufactured by AREVA NP consisting of fuel rods with M5 cladding material to be inserted into the PVNGS, Unit 1 reactor core operating Cycles 15, 16, and 17.

A copy of the enclosed temporary exemption has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

Balwant K. Singal, Senior Project Manager

Plant Licensing Branch IV

Division of Operating Reactor Licensing Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Balwatksinge

Docket No. STN 50-528

Enclosure:

Temporary Exemption

cc w/encl: Distribution via Listserv

Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station

CC:

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PClifford, NRR/DSS

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