



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

September 5, 2019

Mr. Robert S. Bement
Executive Vice President Nuclear/
Chief Nuclear Officer
Arizona Public Service Company
P.O. Box 52034, MS 7602
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2034

SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF INVESTIGATION (OI 4-2018-015)

Dear Mr. Bement:

This refers to an investigation conducted by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Office of Investigations regarding activities at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. The Office of Investigations initiated the investigation to determine whether: 1) security officers falsified documentation associated with security tours; 2) whether security officers failed to conduct required security tours; 3) whether security officers were willfully inattentive while on duty; 4) whether alarm station operators were willfully inattentive while on duty; 5) whether a mentally unstable officer willfully failed to self-declare his use of an antipsychotic drug; 6) whether supervisors willfully ignored security concerns resulting in corrective actions not being implemented; 7) whether supervisors were present and aware that tours were not being conducted but willfully signed the tour sheets as being complete; and 8) whether multiple officers played video games while using noise-canceling headphones which created an inattentive workforce.

Based on the evidence developed during the investigation, these concerns were not substantiated. The NRC plans no further action related to the willful aspect of these allegations and considers this investigation closed.

You should note that final NRC documents may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act subject to redaction of information pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. Requests under the Freedom of Information Act should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, Requests for Records. Information is accessible from the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/foia-request.html#how>.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. R. Groom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeremy R. Groom, Team Leader
Allegations Coordination and Enforcement Staff

Dockets: 50-528; 50-529; 50-530
Licenses: NPF-41; NPF-51; NPF-74