



NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Region IV

Arlington, TX. 76011-4511

www.nrc.gov



No: IV-19-001

January 7, 2019

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NRC Names New Resident Inspector at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station



The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has selected Russ Bywater as the new resident inspector at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Wintersburg, Ariz.

Bywater joined the NRC in 1990 as a reactor engineer in the NRC's Region III office in Glen Ellyn, Ill. He also served as a resident inspector at the Prairie Island nuclear power plant in Minnesota. He transferred to NRC's Region IV office in Arlington, Texas, in 1997. He served as an engineering inspector, as a senior resident inspector at the Arkansas Nuclear One power plant in Russellville, Ark., as a senior reactor analyst, and as chief of an engineering branch in the Division of Reactor Safety.

In 2008, Bywater left the agency for work in private industry in new reactor licensing. He also worked as an independent nuclear safety consultant. Bywater taught high school engineering and physics classes for five years in Texas before rejoining the agency earlier this year as a project engineer.

Bywater holds bachelor's degrees in physics and mathematics from Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, Neb., and a master's degree in nuclear engineering from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

Each U.S. commercial nuclear power plant site has at least two NRC resident inspectors. Bywater joins senior resident inspector Charles Peabody and resident inspector David You. They serve as the agency's eyes and ears at the facility, conducting inspections, monitoring significant work projects, and interacting with plant workers and the public.