

EL PASO ELECTRIC CO /TX/  
Form 8-K  
March 25, 2009

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d)**

**OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):**

March 24, 2009

**El Paso Electric Company**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Texas**  
(State or other jurisdiction)

**0-296**  
(Commission File Number)

**74-0607870**  
(I.R.S. Employer

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of incorporation)

Identification No.)

**Stanton Tower, 100 North Stanton, El Paso, Texas**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**79901**  
(Zip Code)

**(915) 543-5711**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- .. Written communication pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On March 24, 2009, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the NRC) announced that it is removing Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station ( Palo Verde ) Unit 3 from the multiple/repetitive degraded cornerstone column of the NRC's Action Matrix ( Column 4 ), removing Units 1 and 2 from the one degraded cornerstone column ( Column 3 ), and returning all three units of the plant to routine inspection and oversight by the NRC. This notification follows the NRC's completion of its inspections of the corrective actions taken by Palo Verde to address performance deficiencies that caused the NRC to place Unit 3 into Column 4 and Units 1 and 2 into Column 3. The NRC has closed the confirmatory action letter that outlined the performance deficiencies and associated corrective actions.

El Paso Electric Company owns a 15.8% interest, or approximately 633 MW, in the three nuclear generating units at Palo Verde.

For additional information, see Business Facilities Palo Verde Station in Item 1 of El Paso Electric Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

***SIGNATURES***

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**El Paso Electric Company**

Dated: March 24, 2009

By: /s/ GARY D. SANDERS  
Name: Gary D. Sanders  
Title: Senior Vice President and General Counsel