

A CMS Energy Company

Palisades Nuclear Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

Tel: 616 764 2276  
Fax: 616 764 3265

April 20, 2000

**Nathan L. Haskell**  
Director, Licensing and  
Performance Assessment

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 - PALISADES PLANT**  
**1999 ANNUAL NON-RADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT**

Attached is the Palisades Plant Annual Non-Radiological Environmental Operating Report for 1999. This report was prepared in accordance with Section 5.4.1 of Appendix B, "Environmental Protection Plan (Non-Radiological)", of the Palisades Plant Facility Operating License, DPR-20. The attached report describes the implementation of the Environmental Protection Plan during the previous year. The period covered by the attached report is January 1, 1999, through December 31, 1999.

SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS

This letter contains no new commitments and no revisions to existing commitments.



Nathan L. Haskell  
Director, Licensing and Performance Assessment

CC Administrator, Region III, USNRC  
Project Manager, NRR, USNRC  
NRC Resident Inspector - Palisades

Attachment

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**ATTACHMENT**

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY  
PALISADES PLANT  
DOCKET 50-255**

**April 20, 2000**

**PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT  
1999 ANNUAL NON-RADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT**

**PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT  
1999 ANNUAL NON-RADIOLOGICAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

Appendix B of the Facility Operating License, DPR-20, for the Palisades Nuclear Plant, Consumers Energy Company, is entitled, "Environmental Protection Plan (Non Radiological)." This document requires Consumers Energy Company to submit to the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission an annual environmental operating report by the first of May each year. This report describes the implementation of the Environmental Protection Plan during the previous year. The period covered by this report is January 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999.

The Palisades Plant operated for 6486 hours during 1999 which produced a net total of 5,007,761 MWH. This represents 77.6 % of the net demonstrated capacity for 1999.

**2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATIONS**

Several revisions to procedures and modifications to the facility were evaluated per Palisades Administrative Procedure 4.22, "NON-RADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM" during 1999. Twenty-nine procedures or modifications to the facility were reviewed by the Consumers Energy Company Environmental and Technical Services Department for determination of impact on the environment. One project at the facility required approval from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The plant vehicle barrier system was modified to compensate for low lake levels and its effects to the vehicle barrier, by the addition of eight additional steel piles into Lake Michigan.

This project was permitted by permit No. 99-12-0673 by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Part 325, Great Lakes Submerged Lands under the provisions of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 Public Act 451, and permit number 80-200-001-3 by the United States Army Corps of Engineers under the authority of Section 10 of the 1899 Rivers and Harbors Act and section 404 of the 1977 Clean Water Act.

There were no changes, tests, or experiments that involved an unreviewed environmental question, nor did they involve a change to the Environmental Protection Plan.

### **3.0 ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AUTHORIZED UNDER NPDES**

During 1999, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit No. MI0001457 was renewed and became effective November 1, 1999. The permit and a summary of the changes were previously submitted to the NRC on October 29, 1999.

The Ground Water Remediation System was not operated during 1999. The site closure required soil samples and analysis of the plume path which were completed in 1999. An additional series of monitoring well samples are scheduled for collection during the first quarter of 2000, as required for the site closure.

### **4.0 UNUSUAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS**

No unusual environmental events occurred throughout 1999.

### **5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

Documentation of the effects of the cooling tower operation on meteorological variables was required for two years following the conversion from the once through cooling system to the cooling towers. The cooling towers have been in operation for 25 years, and during 1999, meteorological monitoring and other activities related to the cooling towers did not occur.

Herbicides were not applied to the transmission line or exit corridor during 1999, but other areas on the Palisades property were treated for vegetative management during 1999 by Rose Exterminator Company. The application of herbicides is documented on Attachment A.

### **6.0 NON ROUTINE REPORTS**

During 1999, no reports entitled "Non Routine Reports" were generated.

**ENCLOSURE A**

**CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY  
PALISADES PLANT  
DOCKET 50-255**

**PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT  
1999 ANNUAL  
NON-RADIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING REPORT  
HERBICIDE TREATMENTS**

## HERBICIDE TREATMENTS

**Date of Treatment / Company:** April 28, 1999 / Rose Exterminator Company

**Commercial Name:** Karmex DF

**Chemical Name:** Diuron

**Concentration of Active Ingredient in Field Use Mix:** 4lbs. Per Acre

**Diluting Substance:** Water

**Rate of Application:** 25-40 gallons per acre at 20 - 45 psi

**Total Amount of Product Used:** 400 gallons

**Method of Application:** Power hand held sprayer

**Frequency of Application:** One application per growing season

**Location:** Along and near roadways, fence lines, walkways, parking lots, containment area, substations, and cooling towers

**Purpose of Treatment:** Vegetative control of weed species