

December 6, 2001

Mr. Douglas E. Cooper  
Site Vice President  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: REQUALIFICATION PROGRAM INSPECTION

Dear Mr. Cooper:

In a telephone conversation on December 3, 2001, Mr. Russel Bender, Licensed Operator Requal Supervisor, and Mr. Hironori Peterson, Senior Operations Engineer, made arrangements for the NRC to inspect the licensed operator requalification program at the Palisades Nuclear Power Station. The inspection is planned for the week of February 25, 2002, which coincides with your regularly scheduled requalification examination cycle. The staff at your facility should prepare and conduct the requalification examinations in accordance with your NRC-approved requalification program.

In accordance with 10 CFR 55.59(c), the NRC may request facility licensees to submit their comprehensive requalification written examinations or annual operating tests as necessary to support the NRC's inspection program needs. In order for the NRC to adequately prepare for this inspection, please furnish the written examinations and operating tests scheduled for the week of the inspection to the NRC by February 19, 2002. Mr. Bender has been advised of this request and provided with the name and address of the NRC lead inspector assigned to this inspection.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0018, which expires on April 30, 2003.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 4 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@NRC.GOV; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions regarding this inspection, please contact Mr. Hironori Peterson at 630-829-9707, or me at 630-829-9733.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

David E. Hills, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-255  
License No. DPR-20

cc: R. Fenech, Senior Vice President, Nuclear  
Fossil and Hydro Operations  
L. Lahti, Manager, Licensing  
R. Anderson, Chief Nuclear Officer, NMC  
A. Udrys, Esquire, Consumers Energy Company  
S. Wawro, Nuclear Asset Director, Consumers Energy Company  
W. Rendell, Supervisor, Covert Township  
Office of the Governor  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Department of Attorney General (MI)  
E. Bogue, Training Department

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Fossil and Hydro Operations  
L. Lahti, Manager, Licensing  
R. Anderson, Chief Nuclear Officer, NMC  
A. Udrys, Esquire, Consumers Energy Company  
S. Wawro, Nuclear Asset Director, Consumers Energy Company  
W. Rendell, Supervisor, Covert Township  
Office of the Governor  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Department of Attorney General (MI)  
E. Bogue, Training Department

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