

February 12, 1976

Docket No. 50-255

Consumers Power Company
ATTN: R. B. Sewell
Nuclear Licensing Administrator
212 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Gentlemen:

The Commission has filed the enclosed "Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Provisional Operating License" with the Office of the Federal Register for publication. This notice relates to your request of January 30, 1976, to revise the tube plugging limit and allowable leakage rate for the steam generators, and modify the procedure for hydrostatic and leak testing of the reactor coolant system.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert A. Purple, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosure:
Federal Register Notice

cc w/enclosure:
See next page

bcc: T. B. ABernathy
J. R. Buchanan

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SURNAME >	CMTrammell:lb	Tourtelotte	RAPurple		
DATE >	2/10/76	2/12/76	2/12/76		

Consumers Power Company

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cc w/enclosures:

M. I. Miller, Esquire
Isham, Lincoln & Beale
Suite 4200
One First National Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60670

J. L. Bacon, Esquire
Consumers Power Company
212 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Paul A. Perry, Secretary
Consumers Power Company
212 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Kalamazoo Public Library
315 South Rose Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006

Mr. Jerry Sarno
Township Supervisor
Covert County
Route 1, Box 10
Van Buren County, Michigan 49043

Myron M. Cherry, Esquire
Suite 4501
One IBM Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60611

cc w/enclosures and incoming:

Mr. John D. Beck (2 cys)
Division of Intergovernmental
Relations
Executive Office of the Governor
Lewis Cass Building, 2nd Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48913

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-255

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT
TO PROVISIONAL OPERATING LICENSE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an amendment to Provisional Operating License No. DPR-20, issued to Consumers Power Company (the licensee) for operation of the Palisades Plant (the facility), located in Van Buren County, Michigan.

The current license requires that any steam generator tube with wall thinning of 50% or greater be removed from service by plugging. According to the licensee, recent analysis indicates that the minimum tube wall thickness that must be preserved throughout the operating period between inspections is 36% of the original tube wall thickness (64% degraded). The minimum tube wall thickness would be increased by an operating allowance to be determined and proposed by the licensee when the current inspection has been completed. The operating allowance will be based on inspection results, the operating time between inspections and other factors. In addition, the licensee proposes a revised primary-to-secondary leakage limit for the steam generators which will be based on analyses and tests currently being conducted to establish a relationship between a tube crack length and leakage. The revised limit would provide assurance that tube cracks will be detected and

repaired before they reach unacceptable lengths. The licensee has tentatively proposed a maximum upper limit of 0.4 gallons per minute per steam generator, subject to downward revision, if appropriate, when the analysis is completed. The current limit is 0.3 gallons per minute. Finally, the licensee proposes changes in the procedures for hydrostatic and leak testing of the reactor coolant system, consistent with the tube wall thickness analyses. The amendments are proposed by the licensee's application for amendment dated January 30, 1976.

Prior to issuance of the proposed license amendment, the Commission will have made the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations.

By MAR 19 1976 the licensee may file a request for a hearing and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing in the form of a petition for leave to intervene with respect to the issuance of the amendment to the subject provisional operating license. Petitions for leave to intervene must be filed under oath or affirmation in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.714 of 10 CFR Part 2 of the Commission's regulations. A petition for leave to intervene must set forth the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, how that interest may be affected by the results of the

proceeding, and the petitioner's contentions with respect to the proposed licensing action. Such petitions must be filed in accordance with the provisions of this FEDERAL REGISTER Notice and Section 2.714, and must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Section, by the above date. A copy of the petition and/or request for a hearing should be sent to the Executive Legal Director, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555 and to M. I. Miller, Esquire, Isham, Lincoln & Beale, Suite 4200, One First National Plaza, Chicago 60670 and J. L. Bacon, Esquire, Consumers Power Company, 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201, the attorneys for the licensee.

A petition for leave to intervene must be accompanied by a supporting affidavit which identifies the specific aspect or aspects of the proceeding as to which intervention is desired and specifies with particularity the facts on which the petitioner relies as to both his interest and his contentions with regard to each aspect on which intervention is requested. Petitions stating contentions relating only to matters outside the Commission's jurisdiction will be denied.

All petitions will be acted upon by the Commission or licensing board designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel. Timely petitions will be considered to determine whether a hearing should be noticed or another appropriate

order issued regarding the disposition of the petitions.

In the event that a hearing is held and a person is permitted to intervene, he becomes a party to the proceeding and has a right to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing. For example, he may present evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated January 30, 1976, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, NW., Washington, D.C., and at the Kalamazoo Public Library, 315 South Rose Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006. The license amendment and the Safety Evaluation, when issued, may be inspected at the above locations, and a copy may be obtained upon request addressed to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, Attention: Director, Division of Operating Reactors.

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland, this ^{FEB}~~MAR~~ 12 1976

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original signed by:
Robert A. Purple

Robert A. Purple, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

OFFICE >	ORB#1	OELD	ORB#1			
SURNAME >	CMTrammell:lb		RAPurple			
DATE >	2/10/76	2/ /76	2/ /76			

PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

NOTICING OF PROPOSED LICENSING AMENDMENT

LICENSEE: Consumers Power Company (CPC)

REQUEST FOR: Revised steam generator tube plugging limit

REQUEST DATE: January 30, 1976

PROPOSED ACTION: (X) Pre-notice Recommended
 () Post-notice Recommended
 () Determination delayed pending completion of Safety Evaluation

BASIS FOR DECISION: The present plugging limit of 50% (tube wall degradation) was imposed on CPC by our Order for Modification of License of February 6, 1975. By letter dated January 30, 1976, CPC proposes to relax this plugging limit to 64% (or somewhat less, depending on the operating allowance deemed appropriate based on the current eddy-current inspection). Relaxing the tube plugging limit reduces margins that would otherwise be available, and therefore consideration of this change together with related Tech Spec changes (allowable leak rate for detection of tube cracks, establishing revised procedures for hydrostatic and leak testing) involves a significant hazards consideration and should be pre-noticed.

PROPOSED NEPA ACTION: () EIS Required
 () Negative Declaration (ND) and Environmental Impact Appraisal (EIA) Required
 (XX) No EIS, ND or EIA
 () Determination Delayed pending completion of EIA

BASIS FOR DECISION: No EIS, ND, or EIA is required since the proposed change does not involve a change in the type or quantity of effluents or a change in authorized power level not previously considered.

CONCURRENCES: DATE:
 1. C. M. Trammell 2/10/76
 2. R. A. Puryle 2/10/76
 3. K. R. Collier 2/10/76
 4. OELO Brown 2/12/76

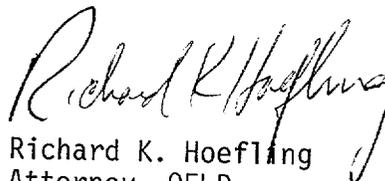
February 12, 1976

Note To Robert A. Purple, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No. 1
Division of Operating Reactors

RE: PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION - NOTICING OF PROPOSED LICENSING
AMENDMENT PALISADES PLANT

I have reviewed the Notice of Proposed Issuance of Amendment to Provisional Operating License for the Palisades Plant. The Amendment relates to steam generator tube limits and I concur in the decision to pre-notice the Amendment.

You propose no NEPA action on this Amendment. In view of the fact that permissible steam generator leakage rates may very well increase by virtue of this Amendment possibly increasing radioactive discharges via steam generator blowdown and condenser leakage, it is recommended that an environmental impact appraisal and negative declaration be prepared.


Richard K. Hoefling
Attorney, OELD

cc: Charles Trammell