

Docket No. 50-255

February 24, 1978

Consumers Power Company
ATTN: Mr. Dave Bixel
Nuclear Licensing Administrator
212 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Gentlemen:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 36 to Provisional Operating License No. DPR-20 for the Palisades Plant. This amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications in response to your request dated November 11, 1977.

This amendment deletes the requirement for: (1) an Annual Operating Report and (2) a respiratory protection program. As noted in the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation on this amendment, we have concluded that all needed information will be provided without an annual operating report and the requirements for a respiratory protection program are now governed by the Code of Federal Regulations under 10 CFR 20.103.

Copies of the Safety Evaluation and Notice of Issuance are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

/s/

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 36 to DPR-20
2. Safety Evaluation
3. Notice of Issuance

cc w/enclosures:
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

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Copies of the Safety Evaluation and Notice of Issuance are also enclosed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Schwencer", is written over the typed name.

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Enclosures:

1. Amendment No. 36 to DPR-20
2. Safety Evaluation
3. Notice of Issuance

cc w/enclosures:
See next page

Consumers Power Company

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February 24, 1978

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-255

PALISADES PLANT

AMENDMENT TO PROVISIONAL OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 36
License No. DPR-20

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment by Consumers Power Company (the licensee) dated November 11, 1977, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations set forth in 10 CFR Chapter I;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.
2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment and paragraph 3.B of Facility License No. DPR-20 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(2) Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 36, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications."

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of its issuance.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Schwencer', is written over the typed name.

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors

Attachment:
Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: February 24, 1978

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 36
PROVISIONAL OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20
DOCKET NO. 50-255

Revise Appendix A as follows:

Remove pages iii, 6-11, 6-12 and 6-13, and replace with revised identically numbered pages.

Remove pages 6-28 through 6-32.

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6.9 Reporting Requirements

In addition to the applicable reporting requirements of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, the following identified reports shall be submitted to the Director of the appropriate Regional Office of Inspection and Enforcement unless otherwise noted.

6.9.1 Routine Reports

- a. Start-Up Report - A summary report of plant start-up and power escalation testing shall be submitted following (1) receipt of an operating license, (2) amendment to the license involving a planned increase in power level, (3) installation of fuel that has a different design or has been manufactured by a different fuel supplier and, (4) modifications that may have significantly altered the nuclear, thermal or hydraulic performance of the plant. The report shall address each of the required tests and shall, in general, include a description of the measured values of the operating conditions or characteristics obtained during the test program and a comparison of these values with design predictions and specifications. Any corrective actions that were required to obtain satisfactory operation shall also be described. Any additional specific details required in license conditions based on other commitments shall be included in this report.

Start-up reports shall be submitted within (1) 90 days following completion of the start-up test program, (2) 90 days following resumption or commencement of commercial power operation or, (3) 9 months following initial criticality, whichever is earliest. If the Start-Up Report does not cover all three events (ie, initial criticality, completion of start-up test program and resumption or commencement of commercial power operation), supplementary reports shall be submitted at least every three months until all three events have been completed.

- b. Annual Report - An annual report covering occupational exposure during the current calendar year to supplement requirements of 10 CFR 20.407 should be submitted prior to March 1 of each year.

This annual report shall include:

A tabulation on an annual basis of the number of station, utility and other personnel (including contractors) receiving exposures greater than 100 mRem/year and their associated man Rem exposure according to work and job functions, eg, reactor operations and surveillance, in-service inspection, routine maintenance, special maintenance (describe maintenance), waste processing and refueling. The dose assignment to various duty functions may be estimates based on pocket dosimeter, TLD or film badge measurements. Small exposures totaling less than 20% of the individual total dose need not be accounted for. In the aggregate, at least 80% of the total whole body dose received from external sources shall be assigned to specific major work functions.

- c. Monthly Operating Report - Routine reports of operating statistics and shutdown experience shall be submitted on a monthly basis to the Director, Office of Management Information and Program Control, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, with a copy to the appropriate Regional Office to arrive no later than the fifteenth of each month following the calendar month covered by the report.

6.9.2 Reportable Occurrences

Reportable occurrences, including corrective actions and measures to prevent reoccurrence, shall be reported to the NRC. Supplemental reports may be required to fully describe final resolution of occurrence. In case of corrected or supplemental reports, a licensee event report shall be completed and reference shall be made to the original report date.

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
SUPPORTING AMENDMENT NO. 36 TO PROVISIONAL OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20
CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY
PALISADES PLANT
DOCKET NO. 50-255

Introduction

Regulatory Guide 1.16, "Reporting of Operating Information - Appendix A Technical Specifications", is the basis for reporting requirements found in Technical Specifications today. When these Technical Specifications were issued we requested that licensees use the formats in the guide for the Licensee Event Report (LER) and Monthly Operating Report. In some cases licensees' use of these formats was required by a reference to Regulatory Guide 1.16 in the Technical Specifications. After two years of experience with the reporting requirements identified in this guide we reviewed the scope of information licensees are required to submit in the LER, Annual Operating Report, Monthly Operating Report and Startup Report.

Based on our review of LER's we developed a modified format for the LER to make this document more useful for evaluation purposes. By letters sent in July and August 1977, we informed licensees of the new LER format and requested that they use it. For those licensees who reference Regulatory Guide 1.16 in their Technical Specifications we also requested that they propose a change which would replace this reference with appropriate words from the guide and which would delete mandatory use of the reporting forms contained in the guide.

From our review of all licensee reports we determined that much of the information found in the Annual Operating Report either is addressed in the LER's or Monthly Operating Reports, which are submitted in a more timely manner, or could be included in these reports with only a slight augmentation of the information already supplied. Therefore we concluded that the Annual Operating Report could be deleted as a Technical Specification requirement if certain additional information were provided in the Monthly Operating Reports. As a result we sent letters during September 1977 to licensees informing them that a revised and improved format for Monthly Operating Reports was available and requested that they

use it. For those licensees with the Technical Specification reference to Regulatory Guide 1.16 the change deleting this reference, discussed above, would be necessary. In addition, licensees were informed that if they agreed to use the revised format they should submit a change request to delete the requirement for an Annual Operating Report except that occupational exposure data must still be submitted.

By letter dated November 11, 1977, Consumers Power Company (the licensee) proposed an amendment to the Palisades Plant Provisional Operating License, DPR-20, that would modify the Technical Specifications to delete the requirement for an Annual Operating Report.

By letter dated August 25, 1977, we advised the licensee that if it desires to receive credit for use of respiratory protection equipment at Palisades after December 28, 1977, such use must be as stipulated in Regulatory Guide 8.15, rather than as specified in its current Technical Specifications. Since the Technical Specifications contain a revocation provision of the current specification on respiratory protection we advised the licensee that we would include deletion of this specification in an amendment of the Technical Specifications approved after December 28, 1977.

Evaluation

Annual Operating Report

The licensee has proposed to delete all but one of the four specified items in the Annual Operating Report. The report which tabulates occupational exposure on an annual basis is needed and therefore, the requirement to submit this information has been retained. We have determined that the failed fuel examination information does not need to be supplied routinely by licensees because this type of historical data can be obtained in a compiled form from fuel vendors when needed. The information concerning forced reductions in power and outages will be supplied in the revised Monthly Operating Reports and the narrative summary of operating experience will be provided on a monthly basis in the Monthly Operating Report rather than annually. The licensee has committed to use the revised Monthly Operating Report format beginning with their report for January 1978 as requested. We have concluded that all needed information will be provided and deletion of the Annual Operating Report is acceptable.

Respiratory Protection Program

On November 29, 1976, the Commission published in the Federal Register, an amended Section 20.103 of 10 CFR 20, which became effective on December 29, 1976. One effect of this revision is that in order to receive credit for limiting the inhalation of airborne radioactive material, respiratory protection equipment must be used as stipulated in Regulatory Guide 8.15. Another requirement of the amended regulation is that licensees authorized to make allowance for use of respiratory protection equipment prior to December 29, 1976, must have brought the use of this respiratory protective equipment into conformance with Regulatory Guide 8.15 by December 29, 1977.

Since the respiratory protective program described in Section 6.12 of the Palisades Technical Specifications differs from that stipulated in Regulatory Guide 8.15, the Technical Specification must be amended. At present, the provisions of Section 6.11 of the Technical Specifications require conformance with 10 CFR 20, but Section 20.103 of 10 CFR 20 no longer requires specific authorization to employ respiratory protective equipment. In view of the revocation provisions of subsection 6.12.3 of the Technical Specifications, we advised the licensee that the necessary amendment could be effected by deleting Section 6.12 and that we would include the deletion in the absence of prior written objection, in an amendment approved after December 28, 1977. The licensee has offered no such objection and, therefore, we are including the deletion of Section 6.12 in this amendment.

Environmental Consideration

We have determined that this amendment does not authorize a change in effluent types or total amounts nor an increase in power level and will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the amendment involves an action which is insignificant from the standpoint of environmental impact, and pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) that an environmental impact statement, or negative declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

Conclusion

We have concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that:
(1) because the amendment does not involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of accidents previously considered and does not involve a significant decrease in a safety margin, the amendment does not involve a significant hazards consideration,
(2) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, and (3) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations and the issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Dated: February 24, 1978

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 50-255

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

NOTICE OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO PROVISIONAL
OPERATING LICENSE

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) has issued Amendment No. 36 to Provisional Operating License No. DPR-20, issued to Consumers Power Company (the licensee), which revised Technical Specifications for operation of the Palisades Plant, (the facility) located in Covert Township, Van Buren County, Michigan. The amendment is effective as of its date of issuance.

This amendment deletes the requirement for: (1) an Annual Operating Report and (2) a respiratory protection program.

The application for the amendment complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations. The Commission has made appropriate findings as required by the Act and the Commission's rules and regulations in 10 CFR Chapter I, which are set forth in the license amendment. Prior public notice of this amendment was not required since the amendment did not involve a significant hazards consideration.

The Commission has determined that the issuance of this amendment will not result in any significant environmental impact and that pursuant to 10 CFR §51.5(d)(4) an environmental impact statement or negative

declaration and environmental impact appraisal need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this amendment.

For further details with respect to this action, see (1) the application for amendment dated November 11, 1977, (2) Amendment No. 36 to License No. DPR-20, and (3) the Commission's related Safety Evaluation. All of these items are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. and at the Kalamazoo Public Library, 315 South Rose Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49006. A copy of items (2) and (3) 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 24th day of February 1978.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Schwencer".

A. Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #1
Division of Operating Reactors