

November 7, 1988

Docket No. 50-255

Mr. Kenneth W. Berry  
Director, Nuclear Licensing  
Consumers Power Company  
1945 West Parnall Road  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Dear Mr. Berry:

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (TAC NO. 66850)

Enclosed for your information is a copy of an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact. This assessment relates to your request dated December 22, 1987, as revised April 12, 1988.

The proposed amendment would revise the provisions in the Technical Specifications relating to low temperature, overpressure protection and the heatup and cooldown limits for meeting the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix G, and operability requirements for the high pressure safety injection pumps.

The assessment is being sent to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

original signed by

Thomas V. Wambach, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III, IV, V  
& Special Projects

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/enclosure:  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555  
November 7, 1988

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The assessment is being sent to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas V. Wambach".

Thomas V. Wambach, Project Manager  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III, IV, V  
& Special Projects

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

Mr. Kenneth W. Berry  
Consumers Power Company

Palisades Plant

cc:

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONCONSUMERS POWER COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-255ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OFNO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

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

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTIdentification of Proposed Action:

The proposed amendment would revise the provisions in the Technical Specifications (TSs) relating to low temperature, overpressure protection and the heatup and cooldown limits for meeting the requirements of 10 CFR 50, Appendix G, and operability requirements for the high pressure safety injection pumps.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated December 22, 1987, as revised by application dated April 12, 1988.

The Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed change to the TSs is required in order to provide assurance that the requirements of Appendix G to 10 CFR 50 are met during plant heatup, cooldown and hydrostatic testing.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action:

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed revision to the TSs and concludes that the proposed pressure-temperature limits meet the safety margins of Appendix G, 10 CFR Part 50. The restrictions in heatup

and cooldown rate and on pump inoperability/operability and the reduced relief valve settings for low temperature, overpressure protection acceptably protect against the violation of the Appendix G limits, while acceptably mitigating the results of potential primary coolant system coolant loss. Therefore, the proposed changes do not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupation radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that this proposed action would result in no significant radiological environmental impact.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed change to the TSs involves systems located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed amendment.

The Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment and Opportunity for Hearing in connection with this action was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on May 19, 1988 (53 FR 17994). No request for hearing or petition for leave to intervene was filed following this notice.

Alternative to Proposed Action:

Since the Commission concluded that there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated.

The principal alternative would be to deny the requested amendment. This would not reduce environmental impacts of plant operation and would result in

reduced operational flexibility.

Alternative Use of Resources:

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for the Palisades Plant dated June 1972.

Agencies and Persons Consulted:

The Commission's staff reviewed the licensee's request and did not consult other agencies or persons.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed license amendment.

Based upon the foregoing environmental assessment, we conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment.

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated December 22, 1987, as revised by application dated April 12, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the Van Zoeren Library, Hope College, Holland, Michigan 49423.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 7th day of November: 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*Theodore Quay*

Theodore Quay, Acting Director  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III, IV, V  
& Special Projects  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation