

October 4, 1988

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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: PALISADES (TAC NO. 69223)

Enclosed is a "Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Provisional Operating License and Proposed No Significant Hazards Consideration Determination and Opportunity for Hearing" concerning your application for amendment dated August 19, 1988. This Notice was forwarded 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 and Special Projects

Enclosure:  
As stated

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

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SURNAME: RIngram  
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TWambach  
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TQuay  
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Mr. Kenneth W. Berry  
Consumers Power Company

Palisades Plant

cc:

M. I. Miller, Esquire  
Sidley & Austin  
54th Floor  
One First National Plaza  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Nuclear Facilities and  
Environmental Monitoring  
Section Office  
Division of Radiological  
Health  
P.O. Box 30035  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Mr. Thomas A. McNish, Secretary  
Consumers Power Company  
212 West Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

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

Regional Administrator, Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Jerry Sarno  
Township Supervisor  
Covert Township  
36197 M-140 Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043

Office of the Governor  
Room 1 - Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Mr. Gerald B. Slade  
Plant General Manager  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Hwy.  
Covert, Michigan 49043

Resident Inspector  
c/o U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Palisades Plant  
27782 Blue Star Memorial Hwy.  
Covert, Michigan 49043

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONCONSUMERS POWER COMPANYDOCKET NO. 50-255

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT TO  
PROVISIONAL OPERATING LICENSE AND  
PROPOSED NO SIGNIFICANT HAZARDS CONSIDERATION  
DETERMINATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

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

In accordance with the licensee's application for amendment dated August 19, 1988, the proposed amendment would revise the Technical Specifications to reflect the changes in the pressurizer level instrumentation to provide two environmentally qualified, wide range channels to meet the criteria of Regulatory Guide 1.97, "Instrumentation to Follow the Course of an Accident." The surveillance requirement would also be revised to specify comparison of channels of similar range of pressurizer level for the once per shift check.

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

The Commission has made a proposed determination that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration. Under the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.92, this means that operation of the facility in accordance with the proposed amendment would not (1) involve a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident previously evaluated;

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or (2) create the possibility of a new or different kind of accident from any accident previously evaluated; or (3) involve a significant reduction in a margin of safety.

The licensee has reported its analysis of whether this amendment involves a significant hazards consideration, in part, as follows:

The upgrade of Loop LT-0102A to Category 1 and the removal of loops LT-0102B, C and D will not increase the probability of an accident previously evaluated in the FSAR; nor can it make possible the occurrence of an accident of a different type than any previously evaluated in the FSAR. The upgrade of the LT-0102A transmitter to that of an environmentally qualified device will provide a second independent instrument for post accident evaluation.

The consequences of an accident previously evaluated in the FSAR will not be increased as there will now be two environmentally qualified, independent loops of pressurizer level indication.

After the modification, LT-0102 will remain in containment, LIA-0102A will remain in the control room and LI-0102B will be on the C-150 panel. The LT-0103, LI-0103A and B loop remains unchanged. The removal of LT-0102B, C and D LI-0102B, C and D has no effect on the requirements of FSAR, Section 7.4.1.8.

The margin of safety, as defined in the basis of any Technical Specification, will not be reduced as the LT-0102B, C and D transmitters are not included in the Basis Statement of any Technical Specifications.

The Commission's staff has reviewed this analysis and agrees with its conclusions. Therefore, the Commission proposes to determine that this proposed amendment involves no significant hazards consideration.

The Commission is seeking public comments on this proposed determination. Any comments received within 30 days after the date of publication of this notice will be considered in making any final determination. The Commission will not normally make a final determination unless it receives a request for a hearing.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Regulatory Publications Branch, Division of Freedom of Information and Publications Services, Office of Administration and Resources Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

Washington, DC 20555, and should cite the publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice. Written comments may also be delivered to Room P-216, Phillips Building, 7920 Norfolk Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Copies of written comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC. The filing of requests for hearing and petitions for leave to intervene is discussed below.

By November 10<sup>th</sup>, the licensee may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the amendment to the subject provisional operating license and any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding and who wishes to participate as a party in the proceeding must file a written request for hearing and a petition for leave to intervene. Requests for a hearing and petitions for leave to intervene shall be filed in accordance with the Commission's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings" in 10 CFR Part 2. If a request for a hearing or petition for leave to intervene is filed by the above date, the Commission or an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, designated by the Commission or by the Chairman of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, will rule on the request and/or petition, and the Secretary or the designated Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will issue a notice of hearing or an appropriate order.

As required by 10 CFR 2.714, a petition for leave to intervene shall set forth with particularity the interest of the petitioner in the proceeding and how that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding. The petition should specifically explain the reasons why intervention should be permitted with particular reference to the following factors: (1) the nature of the petitioner's right under the Act to be made a party to the proceeding;

(2) the nature and extent of the petitioner's property, financial, or other interest in the proceeding; and (3) the possible effect of any order which may be entered in the proceeding on the petitioner's interest. The petition should also identify the specific aspect(s) of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes to intervene. Any person who has filed a petition for leave to intervene or who has been admitted as a party may amend the petition without requesting leave of the Board up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, but such an amended petition must satisfy the specificity requirements described above.

Not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the first prehearing conference scheduled in the proceeding, a petitioner shall file a supplement to the petition to intervene, which must include a list of the contentions that are sought to be litigated in the matter, and the bases for each contention set forth with reasonable specificity. Contentions shall be limited to matters within the scope of the amendment under consideration. A petitioner who fails to file such a supplement which satisfies these requirements with respect to at least one contention will not be permitted to participate as a party.

Those permitted to intervene become parties to the proceeding, subject to any limitations in the order granting leave to intervene, and have the opportunity to participate fully in the conduct of the hearing, including the opportunity to present evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

If a hearing is requested, the Commission will make a final determination on the issue of no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will serve to decide when the hearing is held.

If the final determination is that the amendment request involves no significant hazards consideration, the Commission may issue the amendment and

make it effective, notwithstanding the request for a hearing. Any hearing held would take place after issuance of the amendment.

If the final determination is that the amendment involves a significant hazards consideration, any hearing held would take place before the issuance of any amendment.

Normally, the Commission will not issue the amendment until the expiration of the 30-day notice period. However, should circumstances change during the notice period such that failure to act in a timely way would result, for example, in derating or shutdown of the facility, the Commission may issue the license amendment before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, provided that its final determination is that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration. The final determination will consider all public and State comments received. Should the Commission take this action, it will publish a notice of issuance and provide for opportunity for a hearing after issuance. The Commission expects that the need to take this action will occur very infrequently.

A request for a hearing or a petition for leave to intervene must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch, or may be delivered to the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, by the above date. Where petitions are filed during the last ten (10) days of the notice period, it is requested that the petitioner promptly so inform the Commission by a toll-free telephone call to Western Union at 1-800-325-6000 (in Missouri 1-800-342-6700). The Western Union operator should be given Datagram Identification Number 3737 and the following message addressed to Theodore Quay: (petitioner's name and telephone number); (date petition

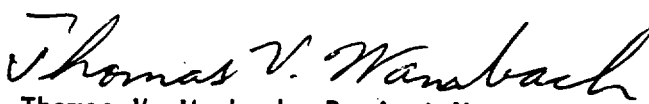
was mailed); (plant name), and (publication date and page number of this FEDERAL REGISTER notice). A copy of the petition should also be sent to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Judd L. Bacon, Esq., Consumers Power Company, 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201, attorney for Consumers Power Company.

Nontimely filings of petitions for leave to intervene, amended petitions, supplemental petitions and/or requests for hearing will not be entertained absent a determination by the Commission, the presiding officer or the presiding Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, that the petition and/or request should be granted based upon a balancing of the factors specified in 10 CFR 2.714(a)(1)(i)-(v) and 2.714(d).

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated August 19, 1988, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC 20555 and the Van Zoeren Library, Hope College, Holland, Michigan 49423.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1988.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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