

February 28, 2005

Mr. Daniel J. Malone  
Site Vice President  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: PALISADES PLANT - REVIEW OF TRANSITION TO A REVISED SMALL-BREAK  
LOSS-OF-COOLANT ACCIDENT ANALYSES EVALUATION MODEL  
(TAC NO. MB9002)

Dear Mr. Malone:

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its evaluation of the transition to a revised small-break loss-of-coolant analysis (SBLOCA) evaluation model for Palisades Nuclear Plant (Palisades.) Title 10, of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 50, Section 50.46(a)(3)(ii) requires licensees to report significant changes to acceptable evaluation models (greater than 50 degrees change to peak clad temperature) within 30 days. The change in the SBLOCA evaluation model for Palisades Nuclear Plant resulted in a 30 day report dated May 15, 2003. The May 15, 2003, report, noted that the peak cladding temperature (PCT) for the SBLOCA analysis for Palisades was 2063 degrees fahrenheit, as previously reported by Nuclear Management Company, LLC (the licensee) on December 17, 2002. Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC had performed the previous analysis. Framatome Advanced Nuclear Power, Inc. performed the SBLOCA analysis for fuel cycle 17 at Palisades Nuclear Plant, which began on April 20, 2003, using a new methodology as approved by the NRC on March 15, 2001. The resulting PCT is 1465 degrees fahrenheit and is reported in EMF-2889, Revision 0, "Palisades Small Break LOCA Analysis," Framatome Advanced Nuclear Power, Inc., January 2003. The SBLOCA methodology is documented in EMF-2328 (P)(A), Revision 0, "PWR Small Break LOCA Evaluation Model, S-RELAP Based," Framatome Advanced Nuclear Power, Inc., March 2001 and is acceptable for use by the Palisades licensee per Technical Specification 5.6.5b.18.

The NRC has no questions in this area and the review is complete.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

David H. Jaffe, Acting Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

cc: See next page

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NAME	DJaffe	THarris	DCoe	LRaghavan
DATE	02/18/05	2/17/05	2/25/05	2/28/05

Palisades Plant

cc:

Robert A. Fenech, Senior Vice President  
Nuclear, Fossil, and Hydro Operations  
Consumers Energy Company  
1945 Parnall Rd.  
Jackson, MI 49201

Arunas T. Udryns, Esquire  
Consumers Energy Company  
1 Energy Plaza  
Jackson, MI 49201

Regional Administrator, Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
801 Warrenville Road  
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Supervisor  
Covert Township  
P. O. Box 35  
Covert, MI 49043

Office of the Governor  
P. O. Box 30013  
Lansing, MI 48909

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Resident Inspector's Office  
Palisades Plant  
27782 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division  
Hazardous Waste and Radiological  
Protection Section  
Nuclear Facilities Unit  
Constitution Hall, Lower-Level North  
525 West Allegan Street  
P.O. Box 30241  
Lansing, MI 48909-7741

Michigan Department of Attorney General  
Special Litigation Division  
525 West Ottawa St.  
Sixth Floor, G. Mennen Williams Building  
Lansing, MI 48913

Manager, Regulatory Affairs  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

Director of Nuclear Assets  
Consumers Energy Company  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

John Paul Cowan  
Executive Vice President & Chief Nuclear  
Officer  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
700 First Street  
Hudson, WI 54016

Jonathan Rogoff, Esquire  
Vice President, Counsel & Secretary  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
700 First Street  
Hudson, WI 54016

Douglas E. Cooper  
Senior Vice President - Group Operations  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Nuclear Management Company, LLC  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

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