

# TOWNSHIP OF COVERT

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August 18, 2005

Chief, Rules and Directives Branch  
Division of Administrative Services  
Office of Administration  
Mailstop T-6D 59  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to provide formal comments regarding the scope of the environmental review for the Palisades Nuclear Plant located in Covert Township.

Covert Township is a very diverse community. The year 2000 U.S. Census report shows that Covert Township has a 35% Black and 15% Hispanic population. This report also shows that Covert Township is one of the poorest Townships in the state with a Median Household Income of only \$22,829.

Funding for the Covert Township Ambulance/Fire Department and Police Department is through a voted millage for each Department. Currently the tax revenue from Consumers Energy's Palisades Nuclear Plant is roughly 60% of the total tax's collected. If Covert Township were to loose this tax revenue today, they would have to shut down or drastically reduce the services that they provide to the community.

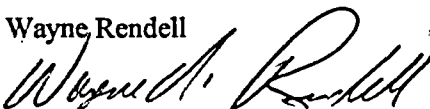
The tax revenue from the Palisades Nuclear Plant also helps fund the Townships water system as well as the Township General Fund. The revenue loss to either of these would also mean either reduced services or a raise in taxes.

If Palisades Nuclear Plant does not get a license renewal and Covert Township were to loose their tax base it would have a very negative effect on the Economic Environment of a very poor diverse community.

Throughout the years Consumers Energy (Now managed by Nuclear Management Company) and the Palisades Nuclear Plant have been good neighbors. Covert Township is very much in support of their efforts to get their Operating License Renewed.

Wayne Rendell

Supervisor, Covert Township



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Call = C. Loervero (EXF3)

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