

October 28, 2005

Mr. Paul A. Harden
Site Vice President
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
INFORMATION REQUEST FOR AN NRC HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE
BASELINE INSPECTION

Dear Mr. Harden:

On November 28, 2005, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will begin the required biennial inspection of heat sink performance at your Palisades Nuclear Power Plant. This inspection will be performed in accordance with the NRC baseline inspection procedure 71111.07. The heat exchangers to be reviewed during the inspection are the mechanical seal heat exchangers and the bearing oil coolers for the High Pressure Safety Injection pumps.

In order to minimize the impact that the inspection has on the site and to ensure a productive inspection for both sides, we have enclosed a request for documents needed for the inspection. The documents have been divided into two groups. The first group lists information necessary in order to ensure the inspector is adequately prepared for the inspection. This information should be available to the Regional Office by no later than November 14, 2005. Insofar as possible, this information should be provided electronically to the inspector.

The second group of documents requested are those items which the inspector will review or need access to during the inspection. It is important that these documents be as complete as possible, in order to minimize the number of documents requested during the preparation week or during the onsite inspection.

The inspector for this inspection is Mr. Gerard O'Dwyer. We understand that our regulatory contact for this inspection is Ms. Barbara Dotson of your organization. If there are any questions about the material requested, or the inspection, please call the lead inspector at (630) 829-9624 or e-mail him at gfo@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Ann Marie Stone, Chief
Engineering Branch 2
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-255
License No. DPR-20

Enclosure: Initial Document Request

cc w/encl: J. Cowan, Executive Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
R. Fenech, Senior Vice President, Nuclear
Fossil and Hydro Operations
D. Cooper, Senior Vice President - Group Operations
L. Lahti, Manager, Regulatory Affairs
J. Rogoff, Vice President, Counsel and Secretary
A. Udrys, Esquire, Consumers Energy Company
S. Wawro, Director of Nuclear Assets, Consumers Energy Company
Supervisor, Covert Township
Office of the Governor
L. Brandon, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality -
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
Michigan Department of Attorney General

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Michigan Department of Attorney General

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DATE	10/28/05	10/28/05	10/28/05	

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Initial Document Request

I. Information Requested Expeditiously

The following information is requested to be provided as soon as possible, but no later than November 14, 2005, to support the biennial "Heat Sink Performance," inspection procedure 71111.07. Information should be provided for the selected heat exchangers: mechanical seal heat exchangers and the bearing oil coolers for the High Pressure Safety Injection pumps. Insofar as possible, information should be provided electronically:

1. copies of the procedures used to monitor or inspect heat exchanger performance;
2. a list of issues, with a short description, associated with heat exchangers, heat sinks, silting, corrosion, fouling, or heat exchanger testing that are documented in your corrective action system (last five years); and
3. copy of system description and/or design basis document for the heat exchangers under review (as applicable).

II. Information Requested to be Available on First Day of Inspection

We request that the following information be available to the inspector once he arrives on-site November 28, 2005:

1. copies of the two most recently completed tests confirming thermal performance for those heat exchangers which are performance monitored. Include documentation and procedures that identify the types, accuracy, and location of any special instrumentation used for these tests. (e.g., high accuracy ultrasonic flow instruments or temperature instruments). Include calibration records for the instruments used during these tests;
2. copy of the evaluations of data for the two most recent completed tests confirming the thermal performance of each heat exchanger;
3. copy of the calculation which establishes the limiting (maximum) design basis heat load which is required to be removed by each of these heat exchangers;
4. copy of the calculation which correlates surveillance testing results from these heat exchangers with design basis heat removal capability (e.g., basis for surveillance test acceptance criteria);
5. the clean and inspection maintenance schedule for each heat exchanger;
6. copy of the document describing the inspection results for the last two clean and inspection activities completed on each heat exchanger;

7. copy of the document which identifies the current number of tubes in service for each heat exchanger and the supporting calculation which establishes the maximum number of tubes which can be plugged in each heat exchanger;
8. copy of the document establishing the repair criteria (plugging limit) for degraded tubes which are identified in each heat exchanger;
9. copy of the design specification and heat exchanger data sheets for each heat exchanger;
10. copy of the vendor/component drawing for each heat exchanger;
11. copy of the calculations which evaluate the potential for water hammer or excessive tube vibration in the heat exchanger or associated piping;
12. copy of heat exchanger performance trending data tracked for each heat exchanger;
13. copies of those documents that describe the methods taken to control water chemistry in the heat exchangers;
14. copies of the documents that verify the following for the ultimate heat sink:
 - sufficient reservoir capacity;
 - provision to ensure freedom from clogging due to macrofouling (silt, dead mussel shells, debris, etc.);
 - provisions controlling for biotic fouling;
 - functionality during adverse weather conditions, e.g., icing or high temperatures; and
 - Recent inspection results for intake structure.

If the information requested above will not be available, please contact Gerard O'Dwyer as soon as possible at (630) 829-9624 or E-mail - gfo@NRC.gov.