

November 6, 2006

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 PLANT — RESPONSE TO BULLETIN (BL) 2005-02
“EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE ACTIONS FOR
SECURITY-BASED EVENTS” (TAC NO. MC7852)

Dear Mr. Harden:

On July 18, 2005, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued BL 2005-02, “Emergency Preparedness and Response Actions for Security-Based Events,” (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML051740058) to all holders of operating licenses for nuclear power reactors except those who have permanently ceased operation and have certified that fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel.

BL 2005-02 notified licensees of the NRC staff’s need for information associated with emergency preparedness for security-based events at nuclear power plants. The purpose of the BL was for the NRC to obtain information regarding changes licensees have made, or plan to make, concerning security-based emergency preparedness program capabilities and to evaluate how consistently such changes have been implemented. Licensees were requested to respond to questions and provide information in the following areas:

- A. security-based emergency classification levels and emergency action levels
- B. NRC notifications
- C. onsite protective measures
- D. emergency response organization augmentation
- E. drill and exercise program

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) developed a white paper, entitled “Enhancements to Emergency Preparedness Programs for Hostile Action,” dated May 2005 (revised November 18, 2005) (ADAMS Accession No. ML053290326) to clarify various options available to licensees to implement the enhancements discussed in BL 2005-02. NEI requested endorsement of these options in a letter dated November 22, 2005. The staff issued Regulatory Issue Summary 2006-12 in July 19, 2006, endorsing this white paper with clarifications.

Nuclear Management Company’s (NMC) letter of August 15, 2006 (ADAMS Accession No. ML052290094), responded to BL 2005-02. In its responses, NMC indicated that it either had already, or would in the future, incorporate enhancements consistent with the information provided in either BL 2005-02 or the NEI white paper. With the exception of Drill and Exercise

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Program Enhancements, all enhancements for all licensees were scheduled to be adopted no later than February 16, 2006. The majority of licensees indicated that they would adopt the Drill and Exercise Program Enhancements contingent on NRC and Department of Homeland Security endorsement of a new evaluated exercise program. Based on the above, NMC's response to BL 2005-02 is considered acceptable, and no further action is requested of you at this time. Please contact me at (301) 415-1423 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

/RA/

L. Mark Padovan, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

cc w/encl: See next page

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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
Suite 210
2443 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

Michael B. Sellman
President and Chief Executive Officer
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
700 First Street
Hudson, MI 54016

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

Douglas E. Cooper
Senior Vice President and
Chief Nuclear Officer
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
700 First Street
Hudson, WI 54016

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

Laurie A. Lahti, Manager
Regulatory Affairs
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043