

August 19, 2008

Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: PALISADES PLANT – SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION NEEDED FOR ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: RELIEF REQUEST AND SUPPORTING AMENDMENT TO EXTEND THE THIRD 10-YEAR INSERVICE INSPECTION INTERVAL FOR REACTOR VESSEL WELD EXAMINATION (TAC NOS. MD9265 AND MD9266)

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letters dated July 21, 2008, Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO) submitted a relief request and a supporting license amendment request for the Palisades Plant. The proposed relief request would extend the third inservice inspection interval, for reactor vessel pressure retaining welds, examination category B-A and B-D, until December 12, 2015. The supporting license amendment request would add a new license condition that would direct ENO to submit the information and analyses requested in Section (e) of the final Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 50.61a (or the proposed 10 CFR 50.61a, given in 72 FR 56275 prior to issuance of the final 10 CFR 50.61a) to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of these requests. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with Section 50.90 of 10 CFR, an amendment to the license (including the technical specifications) must fully describe the changes requested, and following as far as applicable, the form prescribed for original applications. Section 50.34 of 10 CFR addresses the content of technical information required. This section stipulates that the submittal address the design and operating characteristics, unusual or novel design features, and principal safety considerations.

Pursuant to Sections 50.55a(a)(3)(i) and 50.55a(a)(3)(ii) of 10 CFR, the applicant shall demonstrate that the proposed alternatives would provide an acceptable level of quality and safety, or that compliance with the specified requirements of Section 50.55a would result in hardship or unusual difficulty without a compensating increase in the level of quality or safety.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that the information delineated in the enclosure to this letter is necessary to enable the staff to make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed amendment/relief request in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Vice President, Operations

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In order to make the application complete, the NRC staff requests that ENO supplement the application to address the information requested in the enclosure by August 21, 2008. This will enable the NRC staff to begin its detailed technical review. If the information responsive to the NRC staff's request is not received by the above date, the application will not be accepted for review pursuant to 10 CFR 2.101, and the NRC will cease its review activities associated with the application. If the application is subsequently accepted for review, you will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

The information requested and associated time frame in this letter were discussed with Ms. Laurie Lahti of your staff on August 6, 2008.

If you have any questions, please contact me, at (301) 415-8371.

Sincerely,

/RA/

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

Docket No. 50-255

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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Plant Licensing Branch III-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

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NAME	MChawla	BTully	MMitchell	MRubin	LJames
DATE	08/ 13 /08	08/ 14 /08	08/14 /08	08/ 14 /08	08/19 /08

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION NEEDED

RELIEF REQUEST AND SUPPORTING AMENDMENT REQUEST

ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.

PALISADES PLANT

DOCKET NO. 50-255

1. If the inservice inspection interval relief is approved, and the licensee utilizes the new pressurized thermal shock rule, provide the approximate dates for the next two scheduled volumetric inservice inspections of the reactor vessel beltline welds.
2. A copy of WCAP-16168-NP-A, Revision 2.

ENCLOSURE

Palisades Plant

cc:

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Lansing, MI 48909

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