

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE
FOR THE PALISADES INITIAL EXAM - JULY 2008

McNeil



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

March 26, 2008

Mr. Christopher J. Schwarz
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

In a telephone conversation on March 18, 2008, between Mr. Steven K. Martin, Superintendent Operations Initial Training, and Mr. Dell McNeil, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of licensing examinations at the Palisades Nuclear Plant during the week of July 7, 2008.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the examinations based on the guidelines in Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the examinations are administered.

To meet the above schedule, it will be necessary for your staff to furnish the examination outlines by March 31, 2008. The written examinations, operating tests, and supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-201 will be due by April 30, 2008. Pursuant to Title 10, Section 55.40(b)(3), of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the outlines, examinations, and tests before they are submitted to the NRC for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready to use. We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Any delay in receiving the required examination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the examinations to be rescheduled.

In order to conduct the requested written examinations and operating tests, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations in accordance with ES-402, and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above. In accordance with ES-302, your staff should retain the original simulator performance data (e.g., system pressures, temperatures, and levels) generated during the dynamic operating tests until the examination results are final.

Appendix E of NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the written examinations and operating tests are being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit preliminary reactor operator and senior reactor operator license applications (Office of Management and Budget

(OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certifications (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (if any) (OMB approval number 3150-0090) at least 30 days before the first examination date. If the applications are not received at least 30 days before the examination date, a postponement may be necessary. Signed applications certifying that all training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first examination date.

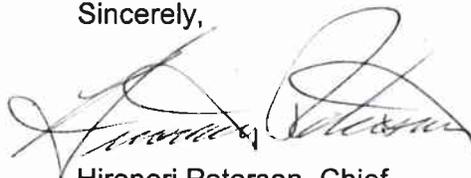
This letter contains information collections that are subject to the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995* (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, approval number 3150-0018, which expires on June 30, 2009. The public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 500 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail at BJS1@nrc.gov; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503-0001.

The NRC may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Martin has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Mr. Dell McNeil at 630-829-9737, or me at 630-829-9707.

Sincerely,



Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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

See Attached Distribution

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Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-255
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Letter to Christopher J. Schwarz from Hironori Peterson dated March 26, 2008.

**SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE EXAMINATION**

cc: M. Kansler, President and Chief Executive Officer/
Chief Nuclear Officer
J. Herron, Senior Vice President
Senior Vice President, Engineering and
Technical Services
M. Balduzzi, Senior Vice President and
Chief Operating Officer, Regional
Operations, NE
O. Limpas, Vice President, Engineering
J. Ventosa, General Manager, Engineering
J. DeRoy, Vice President, Operations Support
Director, NSA
J. McCann, Director, Nuclear Safety & Licensing
E. Harkness, Director of Oversight
General Manager, Plant Operations
C. Faison, Manager, Licensing
L. Lahti, Manager, Licensing
W. Dennis, Assistant General Counsel
W. DiProfio
W. Russell
G. Randolph
Supervisor, Covert Township
Office of the Governor
T. Strong, Chief, State Liaison Officer, State of Michigan
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality -
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
Michigan Office of the Attorney General
K. Smith, Training Department

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L. Lahti, Manager, Licensing
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**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

July 1, 2008

Mr. Christopher J. Schwarz
Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

**SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION APPROVAL**

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the final arrangements for the upcoming operator licensing examinations at the Palisades Nuclear Plant.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its review of the operator license applications in connection with this examination and will separately provide a list of approved applicants to Mr. Koda Smith, Training Manager, Palisades Nuclear Plant. Note that any examination waivers have been addressed in separate correspondence.

The NRC has approved the subject examinations and hereby authorizes you to administer the written examinations in accordance with Revision 9, Supplement 1, of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," during the week of July 7, 2008. The NRC staff will administer the operating tests during the week of July 7, 2008. This examination has undergone extensive review by my staff and representatives responsible for licensed operator training at your facility. Based on this review I have concluded that the examination meets the guidelines of NUREG-1021 for content, operational, and discrimination validity. By administering this examination, you also agree that it meets NUREG-1021 guidelines, and is appropriate for measuring the qualifications of licensed operator applicants at your facility. If you determine that this examination is not appropriate for licensing operators at your facility, do not administer the examination and contact me at 630-829-9707.

Please contact Mr. Dell R. McNeil, at 630-829-9737, if you have any questions or identify any errors or changes in the license level (RO or SRO) or type of examination (partial or complete written examination and/or operating test) specified for each applicant.

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 System (PARS) component of NRC's document

C. Schwarz

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system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hironori Peterson', written in a cursive style.

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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

cc: Senior Vice President
Vice President Oversight
Senior Manager, Nuclear Safety & Licensing
Senior Vice President and COO
Assistant General Counsel
Manager, Licensing
W. DiProfio
W. Russell
G. Randolph
Supervisor, Covert Township
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K. Smith, Training Department

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- Senior Manager, Nuclear Safety & Licensing
- Senior Vice President and COO
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- Michigan Office of the Attorney General
- K. Smith, Training Department

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