

June 25, 2009

EA-06-178

Mr. Christopher J. Schwarz
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9503

SUBJECT: RELAXATION OF CONFIRMATORY ORDER

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

In your letter dated June 1, 2009, you requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) approval to relax one of the conditions specified in the Confirmatory Order (Order) issued to Palisades Nuclear Plant (PNP) on January 3, 2007. Specifically, you requested a relaxation to Section IV, Condition 3 of the Order to allow new employees holding supervisory positions and higher be trained on safety conscious work environment (SCWE) principles within 12 months of their hire date unless they had the same or equivalent SCWE training within the previous two years. The condition of the Order requires that the training be performed within nine (9) months of the employees hire date.

The Confirmatory Order specifies that the Director, Office of Enforcement, may relax or rescind, in writing, any of the conditions upon a showing by the Licensee of good cause. Your letter indicated that this change would allow PNP to align its supervisory training with the Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc (ENO) fleet supervisory training program for both initial and continuing training requirements. At the time the Order was issued, the operating license for PNP was held, and PNP was operated by Nuclear Management Company, LLC (NMC). On April 11, 2007, Consumers Energy sold PNP to ENO and ENO became the owner, operator, and holder of the facility operating license. You also stated that because SCWE has become a core value of ENO, principles of SCWE permeate the culture at ENO plants, including PNP, such that new personnel are exposed to it organizationally before being introduced to it in a formal instructional setting.

My staff has reviewed your request, and I hereby grant approval to relax the above condition of the Order (to extend by three months the required due date for the initial training of new employees holding supervisory positions and higher) due to the showing of good cause. You are not required to respond to this letter; however, if you choose to provide one your response should not, to the extent possible, include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards

information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

/RA/
Cynthia A. Carpenter, Director
Office of Enforcement

cc: Edward Weinkam, Senior Manager, Licensing

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

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Sincerely,

/RA/
 Cynthia A. Carpenter, Director
 Office of Enforcement

cc: Edward Weinkam, Senior Manager, Licensing

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

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