



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

February 19, 2010

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

**SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATIONS:  
PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT**

Dear Mr. Schwarz:

In response to your letter dated November 18, 2009 (Voluntary Response to NRC RIS 2009-11), initial license operator examinations were scheduled to start during the weeks of August 16, 2010, June 25, 2012, and July 8, 2013. On-site validation of the examinations will occur approximately 3 weeks prior to the examination start week. In the unlikely event that we are unable to support the examinations during the scheduled weeks, we will inform you immediately upon discovery of such conditions and make arrangements to administer the examination at a mutually acceptable date.

We understand that your staff will develop the examinations unless we determine the NRC needs to develop an examination. Because each examination has greater than nine candidates anticipated for the examination, each examination has been scheduled for two weeks. Please inform us at your earliest opportunity if you discover you need to change the scheduled examination date or the number of candidates declines below ten candidates as this will impact the examination schedule.

A supplementary letter will be sent to the training department approximately 120 days prior to each examination informing the training manager of the chief examiner's name. The letter will also outline examination security expectations, list the materials required by the NRC to conduct the examination, reconfirm the examination dates, and reconfirm the number of candidates you have in the training program. If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact Mr. Dell McNeil of my staff at 630-829-9737.

C. Schwarz

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

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

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

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