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Licensing Manager

April 27, 2010

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Special Report of Inoperability of Main Steam Line Gross Gamma  
Activity Monitor  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
Docket 50-255  
License No. DPR-20

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Palisades Plant Offsite Dose Calculation Manual, Appendix A, Table A-1, Action 4, requires that a special report be submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 30 days for the inoperability of RIA-2323, Main Steam Safety and Dump Valve Discharge Line Gross Gamma Activity Monitor, when the instrument is not restored to operable status within 7 days. The enclosed report summarizes the actions taken, the cause of the inoperability, and the plans and schedule for restoring the instrument to operable status.

Summary of Commitments

This letter contains no new commitments and no revisions to existing commitments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

PKA/TAD

Enclosure (1)

CC Administrator, Region III, USNRC  
Project Manager, Palisades, USNRC  
Resident Inspector, Palisades, USNRC

## **ENCLOSURE**

### **SPECIAL REPORT FOR INOPERABLE RIA-2323 MAIN STEAM LINE GROSS GAMMA ACTIVITY MONITOR**

#### **BACKGROUND**

RIA-2323, Main Steam Safety and Dump Valve Discharge Line Gross Gamma Activity Monitor, was declared inoperable after numerous sporadic spikes in counts per minute caused repeated annunciation of the associated control room alarm. After repeated nuisance alarms documented between March 21 and 28, 2010, the control room operators made the decision to remove RIA-2323 from service on March 28, 2010.

#### **ACTIONS TAKEN**

The preplanned alternate method of monitoring is in place as a compensatory measure.

#### **CAUSE OF INSTRUMENT INOPERABILITY**

RIA-2323 has a history of spiking at seemingly random intervals over the past several years. The cause of the problem with RIA-2323 has been attributed to external noise sources. Similar spiking events have been observed during installation of test equipment, which generated electrical noise, in the vicinity of RIA-2323.

#### **PLANS AND SCHEDULE FOR RESTORING INSTRUMENT OPERABILITY**

RIA-2323 is targeted for replacement via an engineering change with a modern digital radiation monitor as part of the sites' radiation monitor upgrade project. After the new monitor has been installed it will be monitored for an appropriate period of time, with the compensatory measure remaining in place, before declaring the monitor operable. RIA-2323 is expected to be restored to operable status not later than May 15, 2010.