



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 26, 2010

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

**SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT - ACCEPTANCE REVIEW FOR  
IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY ACTION LEVEL SCHEMES  
DEVELOPED FROM NEI 99-01, REVISION 5 (TAC NO. ME3977)**

Dear Sir or Madam:

By letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated May 6, 2010 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) (non-public) Accession No. ML101440477), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO, the licensee), submitted a request for NRC review and approval of revisions to the Emergency Plan (EP) Emergency Action Levels (EALs) for the subject plant. The proposed EP changes would incorporate EALs based on the NRC-endorsed methodology Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) 99-01, Revision 5, "Methodology for Development of Emergency Action Levels," dated February 22, 2008 (ADAMS Accession No. ML080450149).

By memo dated July 9, 2010 (ADAMS Accession No. ML101890434), the NRC staff concluded that an entire revision from NEI 99-01, Rev. 4 to Rev. 5 is an EAL scheme change that requires prior NRC review and approval per Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50. Specifically, EAL scheme changes require approval pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV(B)(1). In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix E, Section IV(B)(1), the licensee requested NRC staff review and approval to adopt EALs based on NEI 99-01, Rev. 5. The existing EAL scheme for the subject facility is the NEI 99-01, Rev. 4 methodology.


The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of the proposed changes to the EP EALs. 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.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application, and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the staff to proceed with its detailed technical review, and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed changes in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. If additional information is needed for the staff to complete its technical review, you will be advised by separate correspondence.

- 2 -

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-8371.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mahesh Chawla". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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

Docket No. 50-255

cc: Distribution via ListServ

If you have any questions regarding this matter, I may be reached at 301-415-8371.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

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

Docket No. 50-255

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