



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

May 24, 2012

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

**SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT – NOTIFICATION OF AN NRC TRIENNIAL  
HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION AND REQUEST FOR  
INFORMATION INSPECTION REPORT 05000255/2012003 (DRS)**

Dear Mr. Vitale:

On July 16, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will begin the on-site portion of the Triennial Heat Sink Performance Inspection at your Palisades Nuclear Plant. This inspection will be performed in accordance with NRC baseline inspection procedure (IP) 71111.07T.

In order to minimize the impact that the inspection has on the site and to ensure a productive inspection, we have enclosed a request for documents needed for the inspection. The documents have been divided into three groups.

- The first group lists information necessary for our initial inspection scoping activities. This information should be available to the lead inspector no later than June 11, 2012. By June 18, 2012, the inspector will communicate the initial selected set of approximately 2-3 risk significant heat exchangers.
- The second group is needed to support our in-office preparation activities. This set of documents, including the calculations associated with the selected heat exchangers, should be available at the Regional Office no later than July 2, 2012. This information should be separated for each selected component, especially if provided electronically (e.g., folder with component name that includes calculations, condition reports, maintenance history, etc.). During the in-office preparation activities, the inspector may identify additional information needed to support the inspection.
- The last group includes the additional information above as well as plant specific reference material. This information should be available onsite to the inspector on July 16, 2012. It is also requested that corrective action documents and/or questions developed during the inspection be provided to the inspector as the documents are generated.

It is important that these documents be as complete as possible, in order to minimize the number of documents requested during the preparation week or during the on-site inspection.

All requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection. If no activities were accomplished in that time period, then the request applies to the last applicable document in the previous time period.

The lead inspector for this inspection is Mr. Michael A. Jones. We understand that our regulatory contact for this inspection is Mr. Barb Dotson of your organization. If there are questions about the material requested, or the inspection, please call Mr. Michael Jones at (630) 829-9745. Please send the information to the following e-mail address [Michael.jones@nrc.gov](mailto:Michael.jones@nrc.gov). A hard-copy with the required information is also an acceptable option.

This letter does not contain new or amended information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). Existing information collection requirements were approved by the Office of Management and Budget, control number 3150-0011. The NRC may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a request for information or an information collection requirement unless the requesting document displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number.

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 (PARS) component of 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/

Ann Marie Stone, Chief  
Engineering Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosure: TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT  
REQUEST

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## TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

**Inspection Report:** 05000255/2012003

**Inspection Dates:** July 16, 2012 – July 20, 2012

**Inspection Procedure:** Inspection Procedure (IP) 71111.07, “Heat Sink Performance”

**Lead Inspector:** Michael Jones  
(630) 829-9745  
[Michael.Jones@nrc.gov](mailto:Michael.Jones@nrc.gov)

Atif Shaikh  
(630) 829-9824  
[Atif.Shaikh@nrc.gov](mailto:Atif.Shaikh@nrc.gov)

### ***I. Information Requested By June 11, 2012***

1. List of the Generic Letter (GL) 89-13, “Service Water System Problems Affecting Safety-Related Equipment,” heat exchangers in order of risk significance.
2. Copy of heat exchanger performance trending data tracked for each GL 89-13 heat exchanger.
3. List of corrective action program documents (with a short description) associated with GL 89-13 heat exchangers, heat sinks, silting, corrosion, fouling, or heat exchanger testing, for the previous three years or since the last corrective action program document list was sent to the NRC for the previous heat sink performance inspection. The list should include all corrective action program documents not on the last corrective action program document list.
4. Copy of any self-assessment done on any of GL 89-13 heat exchangers.
5. Last two System Health Report(s) and maintenance rule system notebooks for all the GL 89-13 heat exchangers.
6. List of engineering-related operator workarounds (with a short description) associated with GL 89-13 heat exchangers. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.
7. List of permanent and temporary modifications (with a short description) associated with GL 89-13 heat exchangers. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.

## TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

### **II. Information Requested By July 2, 2012**

1. Copies of the GL 89-13 responses.
2. Copy of the UFSAR section applicable to the GL 89-13 Heat Exchanger Program.
3. Copies of procedures developed to implement the recommendations of GL 89-13 (e.g., the GL 89-13 Heat Exchanger Program description).
4. Copies of the selected corrective action program documents.
5. For the specific heat exchangers selected:
  - a. Copies of the Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) sections applicable for each heat exchanger.
  - b. Copy of system description and design basis document for the heat exchangers (as applicable).
  - c. Provide a list of calculations (with a short description) which currently apply to each heat exchanger and
    - i. establishes the limiting design basis heat load required to be removed by each of these heat exchangers;
    - ii. demonstrates the heat exchangers capacity to remove the limiting heat load;
    - iii. correlates surveillance testing and/or inspection results from these heat exchangers with design basis heat removal capability (e.g., basis for surveillance test and/or inspection acceptance criteria);
    - iv. evaluates the potential for water hammer in each heat exchanger or associated piping; and
    - v. evaluates excessive tube vibration in each heat exchanger.
  - d. Copy of any operability determinations or other documentation of degradation associated with the heat exchangers or the systems that support the operation for the selected heat exchangers.
  - e. Copy of the construction code, Design Specification, heat exchanger data sheets, and vendor documents including component drawings applicable for the heat exchangers.
  - f. Copies of normal, abnormal, and emergency operating procedures associated with the selected heat exchangers.
6. For the ultimate heat sink (UHS) and the safety-related service water system (or equivalent):
  - a. Copies of the applicable Updated Final Safety Analysis Report (UFSAR) sections.
  - b. Copy of system description and design basis document (as applicable).

## TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

- c. Copy of any operability determinations or other documentation of degradation associated with the UHS and the safety-related service water system.
  - d. Copy of the document (e.g., UFSAR or Technical Requirements Manual) that states the maximum cooling water system inlet temperature limit that still allows full licensed power operation of the nuclear reactor.
  - e. Copy of the construction code and Design Specification.
  - f. Copies of normal, abnormal, and emergency operating procedures associated with the UHS and safety-related service water systems including procedures for loss of these systems.
  - g. Copies of corrective action documents associated with waterhammer or hydraulic transients in the service water system since the last Heat Sink Inspection.
  - h. If available, provide an electronic copy of piping and instrumentation diagrams (P&IDs) for the service water system, including the intake structure.
  - i. Provide a list of calculations (with a short description), which currently apply to UHS and service water system.
  - j. Provide a list of instruments (with a short description) associated with automatic or alarm functions for the safety-related service water system and/or UHS.
  - k. Provide a list of any design change (with a short description) performed on the UHS or safety-related service water system since the last heat sink performance inspection.
7. A schedule of all inspections, cleanings, maintenance, or testing of any safety-related plant heat exchanger to be performed during the on-site portion of the inspection.

### ***III. Information Requested to be Available on First Day of Inspection, July 16, 2012***

1. For the specific heat exchangers selected:
  - a. Copy of the calculation which correlates surveillance testing results from these heat exchangers with design basis heat removal capability (e.g., basis for surveillance test acceptance criteria).
  - b. Copies of the two most recent completed tests and evaluation data confirming thermal performance for those heat exchangers which are performance tested.
  - c. Documentation and procedures that identify the types, accuracy, and location of any special instrumentation used for the two most recently completed thermal performance tests for the heat exchangers (e.g., high accuracy ultrasonic flow instruments or temperature instruments). Include calibration records for the instruments used during these tests.

## TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

- d. Information regarding any alarms which monitor on-line performance.
  - e. Copy of the document describing the inspection results of each heat exchanger. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.
  - f. The cleaning and inspection maintenance schedule for each heat exchanger for the next five years.
  - g. Copy of the calculation which establishes the limiting (maximum) design basis heat load which is required to be removed by each of these heat exchangers.
  - h. Copy of the operating procedure that ensures that the maximum cooling water system inlet temperature limit is not exceeded.
  - i. Copy of the calculations or documents which evaluate the potential for water hammer in each heat exchanger or associated piping.
  - j. Copy of the calculations that evaluate excessive tube vibration in each heat exchanger and the documents that describe the controls that prevent heat exchanger degradation due to excessive flow induced vibration during operation.
  - k. Copy of the periodic flow testing at or near maximum design flow. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.
  - l. Copy of the document which identifies the current number of tubes in service for each heat exchanger and the supporting calculation which establishes the maximum number of tubes which can be plugged in each heat exchanger.
  - m. Copy of the document establishing the repair criteria (plugging limit) for degraded tubes which are identified in each heat exchanger.
  - n. Copies of the documents that verify the structural integrity of the heat exchanger (e.g., eddy current summary sheets, ultrasonic testing results, and visual inspection results).
  - o. Copies of those documents that describe the methods to control water chemistry in the heat exchangers.
2. For the review of the performance testing of the safety-related service water system (or equivalent) and the UHS:
    - a. Copies of the last two performance tests, such as the ASME in-service test, for the pumps, valves, and, if applicable, the towers fans in the safety-related service water system. If the components are not performance tested, please provide documentation verifying performance by the methods actually used.

## TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

- b. Copies of the documents that demonstrate that flow balance testing was performed during the last three years. If the last flow test was performed longer than three years, then provide the last flow test.
  - c. Copies of the documents that demonstrate that flow balance testing will continue to be periodically done in the future.
  - d. Copies of procedures used to monitor interface valves between the safety-related section of the service water system and the non-safety-related section and the associated results. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.
  - e. Copies of the procedures that verify the performance of risk significant non-safety functions and the associated results. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.
3. For the review associated with the system walkdown of the service water intake structure:
- a. Copies of corrective maintenance for the last six years associated with service water strainers, traveling screens and trash racks. Copies of the last two inspections and/or surveillances associated with service water strainers, traveling screens and trash racks. List of preventive maintenance, including frequency, associated with service water strainers, traveling screens and trash racks.
  - b. Copies of abnormal procedures for the traveling screens and service water strainers.
  - c. Copies of the last two inspections and/or surveillances documenting that component mounts have not excessively degraded (i.e., due to corrosion). For example, inspections for the mounts for the service water pumps, service water strainers, traveling screens and trash racks.
  - d. Copies of the documents associated with the monitoring, trending, and remediation of silt accumulation at the service water pump bay.
  - e. Copies of surveillance procedures and testing results performed on the service water pump bay water level instruments. The requested documents are to be for the time period from the onsite inspection period back to the documents that were provided in response to the previous heat sink performance inspection.
  - f. Copies of procedures associated with operating during adverse weather conditions (e.g., icing, high temperatures, or low level).
  - g. Copy of the evaluation for the potential effects of low flow/level on underwater weir walls intended to limit silt or sand intake, if applicable.

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Sincerely,

Ann Marie Stone, Chief  
Engineering Branch 2  
Division of Reactor Safety

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

Enclosure: TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE INSPECTION DOCUMENT REQUEST

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Letter to Mr. Anthony Vitale from Ms. Ann Marie Stone dated May 24, 2012.

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