



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

May 30, 2012

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

**SUBJECT: NRC PARTICIPATION IN THE PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE**

Dear Mr. Vitale:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) routinely participates in licensees' emergency preparedness exercises to ensure that the NRC's Incident Response capabilities are effectively maintained and to provide licensees an opportunity to exercise the interface with the NRC during response to an incident at their sites. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our intent to participate in the Palisades Nuclear Plant Emergency Preparedness Exercise that is scheduled to occur October 30-31, 2012. Currently, the extent of participation will only involve regional response staff.

During the exercise, the NRC's response will involve activating our Region III Incident Response Center and sending an NRC Site Team, including our resident inspectors, to your facilities. If our scope of participation changes, we will contact your emergency preparedness staff to discuss the changes. We will also be coordinating with your staff to schedule a pre-exercise outreach presentation given by our emergency response coordinator and provide your staff with training materials to aid your staff in exercising with the NRC. The NRC outreach conducted by my staff and the training materials being provided are tools to further reinforce concepts related to NRC incident response activities.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room)

A. Vitale

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If you have any questions concerning our participation, please contact Pedro J. Cardona-Morales, Region III Emergency Response Specialist at (630) 829-9738, or myself at (630) 829-9827.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Billy C. Dickson, Chief
Health Physics and Incident Response Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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A. Vitale

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