



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

February 22, 2013

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

SUBJECT: OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION APPROVAL

Dear Mr. Vitale:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the final arrangements for the upcoming operator licensing written retake examination at the Palisades Nuclear Plant.

The U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its review of the operator license application submitted in connection with this examination and separately provided the name of the approved applicant to Mr. Hugh Nixon, Palisades Training Manager. Note that the examination waiver has been addressed in separate correspondence.

The NRC has approved the subject examination and hereby authorizes you to administer the written examination in accordance with Revision 9, Supplement 1 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors," during the week of February 25, 2013. This examination has undergone extensive review by my staff and representatives responsible for licensed operator training at your facility. Based on this review, I have concluded that the examination meets the guidelines of NUREG-1021 for content, operational, and discrimination validity. By administering this examination, you also agree that it meets NUREG-1021 guidelines, and is appropriate for measuring the qualifications of the licensed operator applicant at your facility. If you determine that this examination is not appropriate for licensing the operator at your facility, do not administer the examination and contact me at 630-829-9707.

Please contact Mr. Dell R. McNeil at 630-829-9737, if you have any questions or identify any errors or changes in the license level (RO) or type of examination (written only) specified for the applicant.

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's Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records System (PARS) component of NRC's Agencywide Documents

A. Vitale

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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A. Vitale

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Hironori Peterson, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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