



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

June 26, 2013

EA-12-155

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

**SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER (CAL) REVISION 1 - PALISADES
NUCLEAR PLANT COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS SAFETY INJECTION
REFUELING WATER TANK (SIRWT) AND CONTROL ROOM CONCRETE
SUPPORT STRUCTURE LEAKAGE**

Dear Mr. Vitale:

This letter confirms the closure and revision of commitments by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENO), which were made in your letter dated June 20, 2013 (Agencywide Documents Access & Management System [ADAMS] Accession Number ML13171A219). These commitments address: a) leakage from the safety injection refueling water tank (SIRWT) at the Palisades Nuclear Plant (PNP) on May 5, 2013, which exceeded the maximum leak rate limit of 38 gallons per day established in the original CAL (ADAMS ML12199A409) and resulted in a plant shut down; and, b) potential leakage through the control room concrete support structure.

In your letter, you provided information indicating that extensive repairs to the tank floor and associated nozzles have been successfully completed; that these repairs have returned the SIRWT to an operable status; and that the degraded/nonconforming condition no longer exists. You also stated that monitoring and long-term corrective actions will be conducted in accordance with existing NRC regulations and your corrective action program.

Based on NRC inspections during and following repair activities, the information in your letter, and discussions between the NRC and your staff (ML13142A186, ML13154A506, ML13157A177), the NRC concludes that structural integrity of the SIRWT is currently sufficient to meet its intended safety functions. Based on our assessment, the commitments associated with the SIRWT are closed. Regarding the control room concrete support structure, the NRC has concluded that the structure continues to perform its safety function. However, there are commitments that remain, associated with this area, which provide additional assurance moving forward.

In your letter, you confirmed two revised ENO commitments to remain in effect. Those commitments, as clarified in telephone discussions between O. Gustafson of your staff, and J. Giessner, the NRC Region III Branch Chief, on June 20, 2013, are as follows:

- 1) ENO will continue inspections of the concrete support structure above the control room, control room hallway, and the concrete support structure ceiling as prescribed in the approved Operations Standing Order. These inspections are to ensure that the temporary modifications installed to prevent impact to safety-related structures, systems and components are performing their intended functions.
- 2) ENO will correct the adverse condition related to cracking of the concrete support structure around the ceiling of the control room, which could lead to water intrusion, prior to restart from the next refueling outage.

Pursuant to Section 182 of the Atomic Energy Act, 42 U.S.C. 2232, you are required to:

- 1) Notify me immediately if your understanding differs from that set forth above;
- 2) Notify me if for any reason you cannot complete the actions within the specified schedule and advise me in writing of your modified schedule in advance of the change; and
- 3) Notify me in writing when you have completed the actions addressed in this Confirmatory Action Letter.

This Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude issuing an order formalizing the above commitments or requiring other actions on the part of the licensee; nor does it preclude the NRC from taking enforcement action for violations of NRC requirements that may have prompted this letter being issued.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Charles A. Casto
Regional Administrator

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Charles A. Casto
Regional Administrator

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Letter to A. Vitale from C. Casto dated June 26, 2013

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER - PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS SAFETY INJECTION REFUELING WATER
TANK AND CONTROL ROOM CONCRETE SUPPORT STRUCTURE
LEAKAGE

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