



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

September 13, 2013

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

SUBJECT: PALISADES - CLOSURE OF CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER  
NO. NRR-07-023 (TAC NO. MF0089)

Dear Sir:

On March 29, 2007, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) No. NRR-07-023 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML070800449) regarding dissimilar metal welds in the pressurizer at Palisades. This letter acknowledges receipt of your letter dated July 11, 2012 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12193A446), a 60-day report informing the NRC of actions taken in response to this CAL.

The CAL confirmed the eight commitments from your February 27, 2007, letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML070590333). These commitments addressed actions that would be taken regarding pressurizer dissimilar metal butt-welds containing Alloy 82/182/600 material. On January 31, 2008 (ADAMS Accession No. ML080320153), you informed the NRC that six of the commitments had been completed. However, as the welds had not been mitigated, the commitments to perform reexaminations and to report results of those examinations remained open. Your July 11, 2012, letter, informed the NRC of pressurizer butt weld inspections completed during the 2012 refueling outage.

The NRC's original intent was to terminate the CAL once the dissimilar metal butt-weld examination requirements were included in the Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR). In June 2011, the NRC issued a revision to 10 CFR 50.55a, which required licensees to implement the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code Case N-770-1, with conditions. With the inclusion of Code Case N-770-1, there is no longer a need for the CAL to remain open. No further response is required and NRC considers the CAL closed.

Thank you for informing us of the actions documented in your letter. These actions may be examined during a future NRC inspection of your facility.

Current NRC guidance regarding CALs is contained in the NRC Enforcement Policy and the NRC Enforcement Manual, which are available at the NRC web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement.html> (click on Enforcement Policy or Enforcement Guidance) or by contacting the Government Printing Office (GPO) toll-free at 1-888-293-6498. The GPO is open from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter 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.html>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele G. Evans". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michele G. Evans, Director  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 50-255

cc: Distribution via Listserv

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter 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.html>.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michele G. Evans, Director  
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No.: 50-255

cc: Distribution via Listserv

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