



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

May 18, 2015

Dear Mr. Keegan:

Thank you for your comments made on April 9, 2015 during the 2014 Palisades Annual Assessment Meeting held at the Beach Haven Event Center in South Haven, Michigan. During the meeting you indicated that at a July 11, 2006, Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee meeting to discuss the renewal of the Palisades license, the ACRS had required Entergy to replace the reactor vessel head and steam generators. As promised, I followed up on this issue.

The NRC staff reviewed the transcript of the July 11, 2006 ACRS subcommittee meeting that discussed the Palisades license renewal (ADAMS Accession No. ML062080468). The record shows that the ACRS gave no direction to Palisades to replace either the reactor vessel head or the steam generators. The issue was raised by Mr. Kevin Kamps during the meeting, but the ACRS did not offer comments or commitments in response to his statements.

Furthermore, the ACRS does not possess regulatory authority to mandate actions to be taken by the Commission or at any nuclear power plant regulated by the NRC. The ACRS is independent of the NRC staff and reports directly to the Commission. The operational practices of the ACRS are governed by the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Advisory committees are structured to provide a forum where experts representing many technical perspectives can provide independent advice that is factored into the Commission's decision-making process.

Regardless of the proceedings during the ACRS subcommittee meeting, the NRC's mission is to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment. At Palisades, the results of ongoing independent inspections of the reactor vessel head and steam generators have demonstrated that the plant is operating safely. The results of these inspections are publicly available at the NRC's public website.

Since the issue of the plant's commitments is of interest to the public, we are entering this letter into the NRC's Public Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

Thank you for sharing your views and insights.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

John B. Giessner  
Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects

Dear Mr. Keegan:

Thank you for your comments made on April 9, 2015 during the 2014 Palisades Annual Assessment Meeting held at the Beach Haven Event Center in South Haven, Michigan. During the meeting you indicated that at a July 11, 2006, Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS) subcommittee meeting to discuss the renewal of the Palisades license, the ACRS had required Entergy to replace the reactor vessel head and steam generators. As promised, I followed up on this issue.

The NRC staff reviewed the transcript of the July 11, 2006 ACRS subcommittee meeting that discussed the Palisades license renewal (ADAMS Accession No. ML062080468). The record shows that the ACRS gave no direction to Palisades to replace either the reactor vessel head or the steam generators. The issue was raised by Mr. Kevin Kamps during the meeting, but the ACRS did not offer comments or commitments in response to his statements.

Furthermore, the ACRS does not possess regulatory authority to mandate actions to be taken by the Commission or at any nuclear power plant regulated by the NRC. The ACRS is independent of the NRC staff and reports directly to the Commission. The operational practices of the ACRS are governed by the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Advisory committees are structured to provide a forum where experts representing many technical perspectives can provide independent advice that is factored into the Commission's decision-making process.

Regardless of the proceedings during the ACRS subcommittee meeting, the NRC's mission is to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment. At Palisades, the results of ongoing independent inspections of the reactor vessel head and steam generators have demonstrated that the plant is operating safely. The results of these inspections are publicly available at the NRC's public website.

Since the issue of the plant's commitments is of interest to the public, we are entering this letter into the NRC's Public Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS).

Thank you for sharing your views and insights.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John B. Giessner  
Deputy Director, Division of Reactor Projects

ADAMS Accession Number: ML15138A351

Publicly Available     Non-Publicly Available     Sensitive     Non-Sensitive

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the concurrence box "C" = Copy without attach/encl "E" = Copy with attach/encl "N" = No copy

OFFICE	RIII	RIII					
NAME	EDuncan:te/mt	JGiessner					
DATE	05/13/15	05/18/15					

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**