



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

June 6, 2017

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

**SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT – CONFIRMATION OF INITIAL LICENSE
REEXAMINATION FOR AUGUST 2017**

Dear Mr. Arnone:

In a telephone conversation on May 30, 2017, between Mr. Frank Korfiyas, Operations Training Superintendent, and Mr. Michael Bielby, Senior Operations Engineer, arrangements were made for the administration of an operator licensing reexamination, at the Palisades Nuclear Plant, during the week of August 7, 2017. In addition, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will make an examination validation visit to your facility during that same week, August 7, 2017.

As agreed during the telephone conversation, your staff will prepare the reexamination based on the guidelines in Revision 10 of NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC's regional office will discuss with your staff any changes that might be necessary before the reexamination is administered.

To meet the above schedule, your staff will provide the final reexamination outlines, as well as the proposed operating test and supporting reference materials identified in Attachment 3 to ES-20, by July 10, 2017. Pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 55.40(b)(3) (10 CFR 55.40(b)(3)), an authorized representative of the facility licensee shall approve the reexamination test before submittal to the Commission for review and approval. All materials shall be complete and ready-to-use. We request that any personal, proprietary, sensitive unclassified, or safeguards information in your response be contained in a separate enclosure and appropriately marked. Any delay in receiving the required reexamination and reference materials, or the submittal of inadequate or incomplete materials, may cause the reexamination to be rescheduled.

To conduct the requested operating test, it will be necessary for your staff to provide adequate space and accommodations and to make the simulation facility available on the dates noted above.

Appendix E to NUREG-1021 contains a number of NRC policies and guidelines that will be in effect while the operating test is being administered.

To permit timely NRC review and evaluation, your staff should submit the preliminary senior reactor operator license application (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval number 3150-0090), medical certification (OMB approval number 3150-0024), and waiver requests (OMB approval number 3150-0090), at least 30 days before the first reexamination date. If the application is not received at least 30 days before the reexamination date, a postponement may be necessary. A signed application certifying that all required training has been completed should be submitted at least 14 days before the first reexamination date.

This letter contains information collections that are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). These information collections were approved by OMB, under approval number 3150-0018. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 120 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments on any aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information and Records Management Branch (T-6 F33), U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, or by Internet electronic mail to BJS1@nrc.gov; and to the Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, NEOB-10202, (3150-0018), Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

The NRC may neither conduct nor sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, an information collection, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

This letter will be made available for public inspection and copying at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Mr. Frank Korfiatis has been advised of the policies and guidelines referenced in this letter. If you have any questions regarding the NRC's examination procedures and guidelines, please contact Mr. Michael Bielby at 630-829-9762, or me at 630-829-9834.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Robert J. Orlikowski, Chief
Operations Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

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Letter to Charles Arnone from Robert J. Orlikowski dated June 6 2017

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REEXAMINATION FOR AUGUST 2017

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