



Consumers
Power
Company

General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • Area Code 517 788-0550

June 22, 1979

Director, Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Att: Mr Dennis L Ziemann, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch No 2
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 -
PALISADES PLANT - DISPOSITION OF
POWDERED ION-EXCHANGE RESINS (POWDEX)

On June 20, 1979 the NRC Project Manager for the Palisades Plant requested information regarding disposals of spent resins.

Consumers Power Company's policy regarding the future disposal of spent powdered ion-exchange resins from the Palisades Plant feed-water purity system will be to handle them as radioactive waste. Upon changeout, powdered resins will be dewatered and loaded into appropriate containers for shipment to a licensed radioactive waste disposal site. Shipments will meet all applicable USDOT and USNRC regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David P. Hoffman".

David P Hoffman
Assistant Nuclear Licensing Administrator

CC JGKepler, USNRC

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY NOTICE BY EVENT OR POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by IE staff on this date.

*Lake Michigan
Bren & J. - letter*

Facility: Consumers Power Company, Palisades
(DN 50-255) Covert, Michigan

Subject: GROUND CONTAMINATION AT SITE

*Jordan
Grogan
Hester*

Localized ground contamination was discovered on the plant site and plant-owned beach on June 9, 1979, after an estimated two cubic feet of depleted powdex resins from the secondary system full-flow demineralizers was washed by rainfall from a storage bin, through a storm drain to Lake Michigan. Radioactivity levels of the powdex, which resembles a very fine brown sand, were on the order of 10^{-5} uCi/cc. The licensee believes the total potential discharge to the lake to be less than 10 uCi of Co-60 and Cs-137, which would represent a small fraction of release limits for controlled discharges. The plant yard and beach have been cleaned up to background levels with the collected material put into controlled storage.

The State of Michigan was notified and has collected independent samples of soil and water.

The licensee is considering a press release, but no decision had been made at the time of this Preliminary Notification. The NRC does not plan to issue a press release.

The licensee is also rechecking powdex wastes disposed as ordinary trash in past months to verify no contaminated materials were disposed.

Region III was notified of this condition on June 10, with follow-up information received June 11, 1979. This information is current as of 11:30 a.m., June 11, 1979.

Contact: LKCohen, IE x28188 LBHigginbotham, IE x28188

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION

ATTACHMENT 1