

JUN 16 1989

Docket No. 50-255

Consumers Power Company
ATTN: David P. Hoffman
Vice President
Nuclear Operations
1945 West Parnall Road
Jackson, MI 49201

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Mr. R. Bocanegra of this office on March 27-31, 1989, of activities at Palisades Nuclear Generating Plant authorized by NRC Operating License No. DPR-20 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. G. B. Slade and others of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection, a telephone conversation with Mr. T. Neal on April 20, 1989, a meeting at NRC Region III office with members of your staff on April 27, 1989, and a telephone conference on May 19, 1989 with members of your staff.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel. In addition, our Mobile Laboratory was at the site during the inspection to perform independent measurements of radioactivity.

While no violations of NRC requirements were identified during this inspection, we are concerned with the history of equipment breakdown and slow maintenance turnaround time for the Post Accident Sample Monitor System (PASM). Your staff has initiated an action plan to improve PASM reliability, which was discussed by our staffs at the April 27, 1989 meeting in Region III and May 19, 1989 telephone conference. Pursuant to these discussions, we request that you submit an updated action plan together with a suitable timetable for its completion. Concerning an unrelated matter, we also request a description of your plans for improving QA oversight of vendor laboratories providing radiological analyses for strontium and yttrium.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Norelius for
Charles E. Norelius, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: Inspection Report
No. 50-255/89010(DRSS)

cc w/enclosure:
Mr. Kenneth W. Berry, Director
Nuclear Licensing
Gerald B. Slade, General Manager
DCD/DCB (RIDS)
Licensing Fee Management Branch
Resident Inspector, RIII
Ronald Callen, Michigan
Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of
Public Health

RIII
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Yes
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