

NOV 28 1990

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. D. M. Barss and Ms. H. J. Simons of this office on November 5-9, 1990, of activities at the Palisades Nuclear Plant, authorized by NRC Operating Licenses No. DPR-20, and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. K. Haas and others of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

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.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as described in the enclosed Notice. A written response to this letter is required.

As a result of this inspection, significant concerns were raised with your capability to respond to an emergency with well trained and qualified personnel. Based on your own monthly records, since April 1988, only 80 to 93 percent of all personnel assigned to the emergency response organization were considered qualified at any given time. A few positions were identified as having no fully trained personnel for specified periods of time, while several positions were identified with insufficient personnel trained to ensure staffing on a continuous basis by a fully qualified staff. Based on the length of time this issue has persisted, there appears to have been a lack of management attention given to this program area. Because of our concerns in this area, we would like to schedule a meeting to discuss our findings and any corrective actions you are taking.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

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