



**Consumers
Power**

POWERING

MICHIGAN'S PROGRESS

Palisades Nuclear Plant: 27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway, Covert, MI 49043

G B Slade
General Manager

March 18, 1991

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 - PALISADES PLANT -
RESPONSE TO SAFETY EVALUATION RELATED TO PALISADES PLANT COMPLIANCE WITH 10
CFR PART 50.62 (ATWS RULE)

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) letter, dated December 5, 1989, discussed the review of Consumers Power Company's design for conformance to the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50.62 (ATWS rule). In that letter the NRC indicated concurrence with our proposed implementation schedule regarding the installation of the ATWS equipment identified for the Palisades plant. Equipment identified as necessary to bring Palisades in compliance with the ATWS rule included a diverse scram (reactor trip) system, diverse circuitry to initiate a turbine trip and diverse circuitry for initiation of auxiliary feedwater. Included in the letter was a request to provide information on any significant changes to our estimated completion schedule and to provide the operational status of modifications performed as part of the ATWS modifications.

All of the equipment identified as being required to bring Palisades in compliance with the ATWS rule has been installed in the plant and has been satisfactorily tested. The equipment was operational with completion of operability testing during the Hot Shutdown Testing Program.

An NRC Region III inspector was at Palisades the week of January 7, 1991 to review the implementation progress of the ATWS modification. The results of that inspection are contained in Inspection Report 91002. No violations or concerns resulted from this inspection, however, one open item remains which pertains to our previous commitment to submit a technical specifications change request regarding ATWS. It should be noted that Consumers Power is awaiting a decision from the NRC as to whether or not a technical specification will be required for ATWS. As an interim measure, surveillance procedures will be developed to test the system periodically and also at each refueling outage.

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In summary, all the actions identified in the NRC's December 5, 1989 letter, have been completed with the exception of the submittal of a technical specifications change request regarding ATWS.



GBSlade
General Manger

CC Administrator, Region III, NRC
NRC Resident Inspector, Palisades