



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 6, 1994

Docket No. 50-255

Mr. Robert A. Fenech  
Vice President, Nuclear Operations  
Consumers Power Company  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043

Dear Mr. Fenech:

SUBJECT: PALISADES PLANT - SAFETY EVALUATION OF OVERLAY REPAIRS OF  
CONTAINMENT SUMP CHECK VALVES (TAC NO. M88874)

By letter dated March 6, 1994, Consumers Power Company (CPCo) reported a leak in a 24-inch austenitic stainless steel containment sump check valve (CK-ES3166) and requested approval for the use of Code Case N-504-1 weld overlay repair for the leaking valve and the corresponding valve (CK-ES3181) in the alternate train. In the submittal, CPCo included a root cause analysis for the leaking valve, a flaw stability calculation, the repair plan, design calculations, and drawings for the repair. CPCo requested staff approval for using an alternative to the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, Section XI requirements under 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i). Specifically, CPCo proposed using Code Case N-504-1, unapproved by the staff, as an alternative providing an acceptable level of quality and safety. Under this Code case, CPCo is repairing defects in check valves by weld overlays. The staff has reviewed the request and concludes that CPCo's alternative repair will provide an acceptable level of quality and safety and, therefore, authorizes its use pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55a(a)(3)(i).

The basis for our findings and conditions are provided in the enclosed safety evaluation.

In view of the fact that the NRC requires certain information from licensees who perform similar overlay repairs under Generic Letter 88-01, "NRC Position on IGSCC in BWR Austenitic Stainless Steel Piping," CPCo should document the as-deposited ferrite content, the as-built overlay thickness, and an analysis of the shrinkage stresses done according to the criteria of Code Case N-504-1. CPCo should also send its written commitment to inspect these valves every refueling outage using ultrasonic techniques demonstrated to be effective. This requested information and the commitment should be submitted within 30 days of completing the current forced outage.

9404180192 940406  
PDR ADDCK 05000255  
P PDR

NRC FILE CENTER COPY

130085

RF03  
11

Mr. Robert A. Fenech

- 2 -

April 6, 1994

The reporting and/or recordkeeping requirements contained in this letter affect fewer than ten respondents; therefore, OMB clearance is not required under P.L. 96-511.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
John B. Hickman for:

Ledyard B. Marsh, Director  
Project Directorate III-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - III/IV  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
Safety Evaluation

cc w/enclosure:  
See next page

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File	ERossi	CJamerson
NRC & LPDRs	JLieberman	OGC
PD31 Rdg File	JRoe	EJordan
WRussell/FMiraglia	JZwolinski	Ghill, P1-22 (2)
LReyes	AHsia	ACRS (10)
OPA	LMiller, RIII	MBanic
LMarsh	WDean	SEDB
RHermann	OC/LFDCB	

cc: Plant Service List

Signature block changed to reflect correct signature authority.

OFFICE	LA:PD31	PM:PD31	OGC	BC:EMCB	PD:PD31
NAME	CJamerson	AHsia	EHollett	JStrosnider	LMarsh
DATE	3/25/94	3/25/94	4/4/94	1/94	4/6/94

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY FILENAME: G:\WPDOCS\PALISADE\PAL88874.SE

Mr. Robert A. Fenech  
Consumers Power Company

Palisades Plant

cc:

Mr. Thomas J. Palmisano  
Plant General Manager (Acting)  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

Nuclear Facilities and Environmental  
Monitoring Section Office  
Division of Radiological Health  
Department of Public Health  
3423 N. Logan Street  
P. O. Box 30195  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Mr. David W. Rogers  
Plant Safety and Licensing Director  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043

Gerald Charnoff, Esquire  
Shaw, Pittman, Potts and Trowbridge  
2300 N Street, N. W.  
Washington DC 20037

M. I. Miller, Esquire  
Sidley & Austin  
54th Floor  
One First National Plaza  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Alora Davis  
Commitment Tracking System  
Coordinator  
Palisades Plant  
Consumers Power Company  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Hwy.  
Covert, Michigan 49043-9530

Mr. Thomas A. McNish, Secretary  
Consumers Power Company  
212 West Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Judd L. Bacon, Esquire  
Consumers Power Company  
212 West Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201

Regional Administrator, Region III  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
801 Warrenville Road  
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Jerry Sarno  
Township Supervisor  
Covert Township  
36197 M-140 Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043

Office of the Governor  
Room 1 - Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Resident Inspector Office  
Palisades Plant  
27782 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043