

August 9, 1999

Mr. Nathan L. Haskell  
Director, Licensing  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

SUBJECT: PALISADES PLANT - SAFETY EVALUATION OF RESPONSE TO GENERIC LETTER 96-05, "PERIODIC VERIFICATION OF DESIGN-BASIS CAPABILITY OF SAFETY-RELATED MOTOR-OPERATED VALVES" (TAC NO. M97079)

Dear Mr. Haskell:

The NRC issued Generic Letter (GL) 96-05, "Periodic Verification of Design-Basis Capability of Safety-Related Motor-Operated Valves," on September 18, 1996. The GL requested each nuclear power plant licensee to establish a program, or ensure the effectiveness of its current program, to verify on a periodic basis that safety-related motor-operated valves (MOVs) continue to be capable of performing their safety functions within the current licensing basis of the facility.

The Consumers Energy Company provided its response to the recommendations of GL 96-05 and described its long-term MOV periodic verification program for the Palisades Nuclear Plant in letters dated November 14, 1996, and March 12, 1997. The NRC staff conducted an inspection at Palisades May 3 to 6, 1999, to determine whether your MOV program was consistent with your commitments to GL 96-05.

The staff has reviewed the Consumers Energy submittals and applicable NRC inspection reports for the MOV program at Palisades. Based on our review, we find that Consumers Energy has established an acceptable program to verify periodically the design-basis capability of the safety-related MOVs at Palisades. As discussed in the enclosed safety evaluation (SE), the staff concludes that Consumers Energy is adequately addressing the actions requested in GL 96-05. The NRC staff may conduct future inspections at Palisades to verify that implementation of the MOV periodic verification program remains in accordance with Consumers Energy's commitments and this SE.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)  
Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

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

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Schaaf".

Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Mr. Nathan L. Haskell  
Consumers Energy Company

Palisades Plant

cc:

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