Consumers Power Company

General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 Area Code 517 788-0550

November 24, 1976

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Att: Mr Albert Schwencer, Chief
Operating Reactor Branch No 1
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 -
PALISADES PLANT - ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING
FISH COUNT TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CHANGE

Upon addition of cooling towers at our Palisades Plant, we agreed to undertake a monitoring program to determine the number, size and species of fish entrained by the plant intake flow. Upon review of the program results to date, we have concluded the fish losses are insignificant and that further monitoring is not required.

Enclosed with this letter is a proposed change to the Palisades Technical Specifications which deletes the fish monitoring program.

David A. Bixel

David A Bixel
Assistant Nuclear Licensing Administrator

CC: JGKeppler, USNRC

12027

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY
Docket No 50-255
Request for Change to the Technical Specifications
License DPR-20

For the reasons hereinafter set forth, it is requested that the Technical Specifications contained in Provisional Operating License DPR-20, Docket 50-255, issued to Consumers Power Company on October 16, 1972, be changed as described in Section I, below.

I. Changes:

Delete Specification 4.11.5(i) in its entirety.

II. Discussion:

In accordance with the requirements of Palisades Technical Specification 4.11.5(i), a monitoring program was initiated to document the numbers of fish impinged on the Palisades traveling screen during one 24-hour period of each week. A summary of the fish counts for 1975 and 1976 (through September) is presented in Table 1. During the first part of 1976, January through early May, Palisades was off line and no fish counts were taken.

During the 1975 eight-month sampling period, a total of 448 fish representing 9 species was collected. From May through September of 1976, a total of 236 fish representing 6 species was collected. Of the 9 fish species collected during the '75-'76 monitoring program, only smelt and yellow perch are considered important as sport fish by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' listing of "Representative Important Species" (July 25, 1974) for that zone of Lake Michigan encompassing the Palisades vicinity. Alewife, sculpin, spottail shiner, smelt and yellow perch are all considered important as forage fish for higher predators. Of these five forage species, alewife, sculpin and yellow perch were the most frequently impinged species representing 71%, 22% and 3%, respectively, of the 1975 total fish counts and 66%, 23% and 8%, respectively, of the 1976 total fish counts through September.

As expected, the significant drop in intake flow resulting from the main condenser cooling system modification has resulted in a very low fish impingement on the intake screens. We have therefore concluded that the fish losses are not sufficiently great to warrant any concern and request that the sampling program be discontinued.

III. Conclusions:

Based on the foregoing, the Palisades Plant Review Committee has concluded that this change does not involve an unreviewed safety question.

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

By C R Bilby
C R Bilby, Vice President

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 24th day of November 1976.

Linda R. Thayer
Linda R Thayer, Notary Public
Jackson County, Michigan
My commission expires July 9, 1979

Table 1. Summary of weekly 24-hour counts of fish impinged at Palisades during 1975 and 1976.

Species	1975 Monthly Totals									1976 Monthly Totals					
	May (5)*	June (5)**	July (4)	Aug (4)	Sept (5)	Oct (4)	Nov (4)	Dec (4)	Total	May (3)	June (5)	July (4)	Aug (5)	Sept (4)	Total
1. Alewife	69	221	26	1	1	0	0	1	319	33	98	21	4	0	156
2. Black bullhead	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Burbot	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Channel catfish	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Slimy sculpin	46	24	15	3	2	1	4	2	97	36	11	6	0	1	54
6. Smelt	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	4
7. Spottail Shiner	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	1
8. Trout perch	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	0	0	0	3
9. Yellow perch	0	7	3	3	0	0	0	0	13	1	4	0	4	9	18
Number of Individuals	124	258	46	8	3	1	4	4	448	74	117	27	8	10	236
Number of Species	5	6	5	4	2	1	1	3	9	4	5	2	2	2	6

* Number of weekly 24-hour fish counts made per month

** Three of the five 24-hour fish counts for June were for periods greater than 24 hours