

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III

Report No. 50-255/82-06(DPRP)

Docket No. 50-255

License No. DPR-20

Licensee: Consumers Power Company
212 West Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201

Facility Name: Palisades Nuclear Generating Plant

Management Meeting At: Region III Offices - Glen Ellyn, IL

Management Meeting Conducted: February 17, 1982

Report Prepared By: *D. C. Boyd*
D. C. Boyd

3-16-82

Approved By: *R. L. Spessard*
R. L. Spessard

3-17-82

Management Meeting Summary

Management Meeting on February 17, 1982 (Report No. 50-255/82-06(DPRP))
Areas Discussed: A special meeting, requested by the licensee, was held to inform the Nuclear Regulatory Commission of the current status of Consumers Power Company's program and plans for meeting the requirements of the Confirmatory Order of March 9, 1981.

DETAILS

1. Attendance

Consumers Power Company Attendees (CPCo)

J. W. Reynolds, Executive Vice President
R. B. DeWitt, Vice President, Nuclear Operations
F. W. Buckman, Executive Director, Nuclear Activities Department
R. W. Montross, General Manager, Palisades
D. J. Vandewalle, Nuclear Licensing Administrator
J. E. Firlit, Director, Quality Assurance
R. A. English, Corporate Health Physicist

NRC Attendees

A. B. Davis, Deputy Administrator, Region III
C. E. Norelius, Director, Division of Engineering and Technical
Inspection
R. L. Spessard, Director, Division of Project and Resident Programs
R. C. Knop, Chief, Projects Branch 1
D. C. Boyd, Chief, Reactor Projects Section 1A
B. L. Jorgensen, Senior Resident Inspector, Palisades
J. K. Heller, Resident Inspector, Palisades
P. C. Lovendale, Radiation Specialist

2. Introductory Remarks

Introductory remarks were presented by Mr. J. W. Reynolds. He reminded the group that the program for the improvement of the Palisades plant regulatory performance had been developed to attain long term results and that in the opinion of his company this program is progressing very well. He stated that while it is their goal to reduce the risk of personnel error that no program can completely eliminate personnel error. He stated that Consumers Power Company is dedicated to the improvement of their regulatory performance and that this performance has improved.

Mr. A. B. Davis commented that, while the NRC shares their statement that the risk of personnel error cannot be completely eliminated, their performance in recent weeks does not give the NRC confidence that adequate improvements have been made in this area.

Mr. R. B. DeWitt commented that to improve the attitude and performance of personnel takes time and effort and that the program currently being implemented has resulted in a positive improvement in these areas, and that this positive trend will continue as the program is carried out. He stated that Consumers Power Company resources are committed to the successful implementation of the program for the improvement of the Palisades and Midland regulatory performance.

3. Formal Presentation

The formal presentation was conducted per the following agenda:

Health Physics Standard Requirements and Implementation	R. A. English - Corporate Health Physicist- Radiological Services
Nuclear Operating Department Standards Schedule and Implementation	J. F. Firlit - Director - Quality Assurance
Palisades Performance	R. W. Montross - Plant Manager
Status of Licenses on Shift and New License Training	R. W. Montross - Plant Manager
Overtime Restrictions for Licensed Operators	R. B. DeWitt - Vice President Nuclear Operations
Summary of Other Program Issues	D. J. Vandewalle - Nuclear Licensing Administrator

In the above discussions the NRC indicated a continuing concern in the area of the low number of licensed operators. Mr. Montross indicated that six operators were scheduled for licensing exams early in March, 1982. He indicated that the performance of all six to date, would indicate that all will pass the licensing exam.

Mr. R. B. DeWitt requested that consideration be given to amending the overtime restriction portion of the March 9, 1981 Confirmatory Order. He stated that Consumers Power Company would prefer to be committed to the policy identified in the July 31, 1980 letter by D. G. Eisenhower to all license holders, "Interim Criteria for Shift Manning."

Mr. A. B. Davis stated that since the operator licensing (number of licensed operators at Palisades) problem and the overtime hours problem are related, the NRC will defer a decision on this request until the results of the operator licensing examination are known. This position was considered reasonable and was acceptable to the company.

4. Other

Messrs. C. E. Norelius and P. C. Lovendale expressed a concern that previous licensee commitments, resulting from a Health Physics Appraisal (Report 50-255/80-14) and a followup inspection (Report 50-255/81-27) were not being addressed or resolved in a timely manner. The areas of concern included; the development of a plant radiation protection plan to supplement the corporate standards; the development of the plant radiation protection plan implementing procedures; and the training program for radiation protection techniques. Delays in the licensee's schedule for implementing an upgraded, uniform health physics program for all Consumers

Power Company nuclear plants appear to have caused delays in resolution of the Health Physics appraisal corrective actions. The licensee was requested to complete the Health Physics Appraisal corrective actions before completion of the general program to upgrade the health physics program in those areas where significant delays in the general program are anticipated.

Mr. R. A. English stated that the status of Consumers Power Company commitments for resolution of the Health Physics Appraisal findings would be reviewed and a summary of this status, including estimated completion dates, would be provided to RIII in the near future.