



Consumers  
Power  
Company

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Operating Reactor Branch No 5  
Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 -  
PALISADES PLANT - SEP TOPIC III-5.A, EFFECTS OF PIPE BREAK ON STRUCTURES,  
SYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS INSIDE CONTAINMENT

In a letter dated August 13, 1981, Consumers Power Company submitted a report on a study of high energy line breaks (HELB) inside containment for the Palisades Plant. This report identified 213 piping system locations at which pipe break consequences were potentially unacceptable based on a conservatively applied effects - oriented methodology. On December 4, 1981 the NRC issued a draft evaluation of this topic which included additional guidance for studies of high energy line breaks and criteria for the resolution of pipe break concerns. On the basis of this additional guidance, Consumers Power Company has completed the next phase of the HELB studies.

The attached report by EDS Nuclear, Inc. entitled "Systematic Evaluation Program, High Energy Line Breaks Inside Containment, Palisades Nuclear Station, Phase IV Summary of Results," describes the results of the efforts to date. As described in the report, the number of unresolved break locations has been reduced to thirteen. To determine an appropriate course of action for these remaining locations, fracture mechanics evaluations have been initiated.

As you will note, the attached report (Revision B) contains several sections which are not yet complete. These sections primarily relate to the fracture mechanics work in progress and recommendations for final resolution of break locations. This report should therefore be considered a draft. The report will be reissued in final form upon completion of the work now in progress and incorporation of comments which result from the detailed Consumers Power Company review. The final report is expected to be submitted by November 30, 1982.

*Robert A Vincent*

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

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