



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

March 2, 2022

Mr. Darrell Corbin
Vice President, Operations
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Palisades Nuclear Plant
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT,
UNIT 1, (REPORT 05000255/2021006)

Dear Mr. Corbin:

The NRC has completed its end-of-cycle performance assessment of Palisades Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, reviewing performance indicators (PIs), inspection results, and enforcement actions from January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. This letter informs you of the NRC's assessment of your facility during this period and its plans for future inspections at your facility. The NRC concluded that overall performance at your facility preserved public health and safety. The baseline inspection program was completed at your facility as defined in Inspection Manual Chapter 2515, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program - Operations Phase."

The NRC determined the performance at Palisades Nuclear Plant, Unit 1, during the most recent quarter was within the Licensee Response Column, the highest performance category of the NRC's Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) Action Matrix, because all inspection findings had very low safety significance (i.e., Green), and all PIs were within the expected range (i.e., Green). Therefore, the NRC plans to conduct ROP baseline inspections at your facility.

The enclosed inspection plan lists the ROP inspections scheduled through May 2022, at which time the Palisades Nuclear Plant has planned to permanently cease power operations. The NRC provides the inspection plan to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues. Routine inspections performed by resident inspectors are not included in the inspection plan. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes. Following permanent plant shutdown, NRC oversight will transition to the program described in Inspection Manual Chapter 2561, "Decommissioning Power Reactor Inspection Program."

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), the NRC adjusted inspection plans and schedules in order to safeguard the health and safety of both NRC and licensee staff while still effectively implementing the ROP. While the PHE continues, overall conditions throughout the country support performance of our inspection and oversight activities to return to normal onsite presence by our resident and region-based inspectors and completion of nominal baseline inspection samples. We continue to monitor site-specific conditions and as discussed in our November 2, 2021, memo, "Implementation of Inspection Programs Following Re-Entry from the Public Health Emergency for the Reactor Safety Program" (ML21295A302), it

may be necessary to alter how and when we perform our inspection and oversight activities as we balance the importance of protecting the health and safety of our staff with the need to conduct effective oversight that supports the NRC's critical safety mission. For inspections requiring extensive coordination with offsite organizations, such as evaluated emergency preparedness exercises, NRC guidance and frequently asked questions for security and emergency preparedness can be found here: <https://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/covid-19/security-ep/>. Similarly, the NRC has developed guidance if force-on-force inspections cannot be completed as scheduled due to an emergency, such as the COVID-19 PHE. These changes help ensure the health and safety of both NRC and licensee staff while maintaining the NRC's important safety and security mission during the COVID-19 PHE. The attached inspection plan is accurate on the date of issuance but remains subject to change based on approval of potential exemption requests or other changes needed due to changing conditions in the COVID-19 PHE. NRC staff will contact your appropriate regulatory affairs staff in order to coordinate inspection planning and scheduling.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Please contact me at (630) 829-9827 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Billy C. Dickson, Chief
Branch 2
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 05000255, and 07200007
License No. DPR-20

Enclosure:
Inspection Plan

cc: Distribution via LISTSERV®

Letter to Darrell Corbin from Billy C. Dickson dated March 2, 2022.

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT,
UNIT 1, (REPORT 05000255/2021006)

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Site Inspection Activity Plan

07200007 - Palisades (ISFSI)

01/01/2022 - 12/31/2023

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
ISFSI Program Review						1
	10/17/2022	10/21/2022	IP 60855	001001	Operation Of An ISFSI	
ISFSI Cask Loading Inspection						2
	7/10/2023	7/14/2023	IP 60855	001001	Operation Of An ISFSI	
ISFSI Security Inspection						1
	11/13/2023	11/17/2023	IP 81311	001006	Physical Security Requirements for Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations	

Site Inspection Activity Plan

Palisades

01/01/2022 - 12/31/2023

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
Evaluations of Changes, Test, and Experiments Inspection						3
1	2/22/2022	3/4/2022	IP 71111.17T	000709	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, and Experiments	