From: Maureen Condic
To: Docket, Hearing

Subject: [External_Sender] Docket No. 50-255-LA-5

Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 9:28:19 PM

Attachments: Holtec case.pdf

Dear Office of the Nuclear Regulatory Comission,

Please find attached a Limited Appearance Statement on the Docket number indicated above regarding the proposed recomissioning of the Palisades Nuclear Plant in Michigan..

Sincerely,

Maureen Condic and H Joseph Yost

8 September 2025

Office of the Secretary, Attn: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

RE: Recommissioning Palisades Nuclear Power Plant

Dear Members of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

Direct submission of this Limited Appearance Statement was allowed by the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Initial Prehearing Order (ASLBP No. 25-990-02-LA-BD01, Docket No. 50-255-LA-5, August 5, 2025) (ML25217A517).

We are Michigan homeowners who live within five miles of the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant. While we fully support nuclear power as a valuable form of clean energy, we have serious concerns about Holtec's current proposal to reactivate the Palisades plant.

Holtec has asked your Commission to cut corners on issues <u>of basic public safety</u>, in their rush to restart this plant without having implemented safety upgrades that have been required by your Commission for over forty years. Fire-prevention safety requirements were put in place following the Browns Ferry fire (1975) and the Three Mile Island accident (1979), both of which created far-reaching treats to public health. These upgrades are not "optional;" they are critical safety systems designed to prevent loss of cooling and fuel damage if power to the plant is discontinued for any reason. Complying with these requirements cannot simply be delayed for another two years, as Holtec requests, without irresponsibly endangering the citizens of the area and the ecosystem of Lake Michigan.

In addition to our concerns regarding fire-safety upgrades, we are also alarmed that Holtec has not provide clear instructions to residents about how we will be alerted should there be a safety incident at the plant, how accurate information will be widely and accurately communicated in a timely manner and how we are to proceed, should an evacuation be required.

In light of these serious concerns for the safety of our community we are asking the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board to:

- Reject or suspend Holtec's request for any extensions until all required safety evaluations are submitted and require that any future extension requests by Holtec must be justified by documented progress, not just promises.
- Prevent Holtec from loading nuclear fuel or restarting Palisades until upgrades are completed.
- Require Holtec to adequately inform members of the community regarding how they will be notified of any emergency and how an evacuation will proceed.

The need for transparency and accountability in NRC decision-making is key to gaining public trust and support. Holtec has cut corners and rushed this process, in flagrant disregard of public safety. We are relying on you, the members of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to responsibly enact your duty to us and to your country, as articulated in your Mission statement:

"The NRC protects public health and safety and advances the nation's common defense and security by enabling the safe and secure use and deployment of civilian nuclear energy technologies and radioactive materials through efficient and reliable licensing, oversight, and regulation for the benefit of society and the environment."

Please, do not let the citizens of Michigan down.

Sincerely,

Maureen L. Condic, Ph.D. and H. Joseph Yost, Ph.D.