



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
2056 WESTINGS AVENUE, SUITE 400  
NAPERVILLE, IL 60563-2657

March 11, 2026

Michael Schultheis  
Site Vice President,  
Palisades Energy, LLC  
Palisades Nuclear Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Hwy  
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT  
(REPORT 05000255/2025007)

Dear Michael Schultheis:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has completed its end-of-cycle performance assessment of Palisades Nuclear Plant, reviewing performance indicators (PIs), inspection results, and enforcement actions from August 25, 2025, through December 31, 2025. 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 (IMC) 2515, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program - Operations Phase."

The NRC determined the performance at Palisades Nuclear Plant 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 inspections scheduled through December 31, 2027. 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 inspections listed during the last twelve months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised. The NRC will contact you as soon as possible to discuss changes to the inspection plan should circumstances warrant any changes.

On August 25, 2025, Palisades notified the NRC that they rescinded their 10 CFR 50.82(a)(1) certification, which removed the prohibition on operation and emplacement of fuel in the reactor (ADAMS Accession No. [ML25237A317](#)). Palisades also implemented the set of licensing actions to support reimplementation of their operational licensing basis. The NRC transitioned oversight of Palisades Nuclear Plant to the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) (ADAMS Accession No. [ML25147A274](#)) on the same date. While NRC oversight of Palisades Nuclear Plant is under the ROP, some oversight activities to restart the unit are still in progress under IMC 2562, "Light-Water Reactor Inspection Program for Restart of Reactor Facilities following Permanent Cessation of Power Operations," to ensure that reactor operation will be safe and secure in accordance with NRC requirements following reauthorization of operation under an operating license.

This letter and its enclosure will be made available for public inspection and copying at [ADAMS Public Documents | NRC.gov](#) and at the NRC Public Document Room in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390, "Public Inspections, Exemptions, Requests for Withholding."

Please contact me at 630-829-9587 with any questions you have regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Signed by Nguyen, April  
on 03/10/26

April M. Nguyen, Lead  
Palisades Restart Team  
Division of Operating Reactor Safety

Docket No. 05000255  
License No. DPR-20

Enclosure:  
Inspection Plan

cc w/ encl: Distribution via GovDelivery

Letter to Michael Schultheis from April M. Nguyen dated March 11, 2026.

SUBJECT: ANNUAL ASSESSMENT LETTER FOR PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT  
(REPORT 05000255/2025007)

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DATE	03/10/2026				

# Site Inspection Activity Plan

## 07200007 - Palisades (ISFSI)

01/01/2026 - 12/31/2027

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
<b>ISFSI License Renewal Inspection</b>						2
	6/1/2026	6/5/2026	IP 60859	001921	Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) License Renewal Inspection	
<b>ISFSI Cask Loading Inspection</b>						2
	8/3/2026	8/7/2026	IP 60855	001001	Operation of an Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation	
<b>ISFSI Security Inspection</b>						1
	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	IP 81311	001006	Physical Security Requirements for Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installations	

# Site Inspection Activity Plan

## Palisades

01/01/2026 - 12/31/2027

Unit	Start	End	Activity	CAC	Title	Staff Count
<b>Fire Protection Team Inspection - PALI</b>						3
1	12/8/2025	1/22/2026	IP 71111.21N.05	001646	Fire Protection Team Inspection (FPTI)	
<b>Cybersecurity (Post-Fuel Load) - PALI</b>						3
1	1/26/2026	1/30/2026	IP 81000.13	002103	Cybersecurity Restart Inspection--Post-Fuel Load	
1	2/9/2026	2/13/2026	IP 81000.13	002103	Cybersecurity Restart Inspection--Post-Fuel Load	
<b>Radiation Protection Baseline Inspection - PALI</b>						2
1	2/23/2026	2/27/2026	IP 71124.01	000725	Radiological Hazard Assessment and Exposure Controls	
1	2/23/2026	2/27/2026	IP 71124.03	000727	In-Plant Airborne Radioactivity Control and Mitigation	
<b>Palisades 2026 Biennial Licensed Operator Requalification Inspection</b>						3
1	4/12/2026	4/18/2026	IP 71111.11B	000704	Licensed Operator Requalification Program and Licensed Operator Performance	
<b>Radiation Protection Baseline Inspection - PALI</b>						1
1	4/13/2026	4/17/2026	IP 71124.08	000732	Radioactive Solid Waste Processing & Radioactive Material Handling, Storage, & Transportation	
<b>Radiation Protection Baseline Inspection - PALI</b>						1
1	7/13/2026	7/17/2026	IP 71124.06	000730	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment	
<b>Biennial Problem Identification and Resolution Inspection - PALI</b>						4
1	7/20/2026	7/24/2026	IP 71152B	000747	Problem Identification and Resolution	
<b>Palisades 2026 Initial License Exam</b>						6
1	6/21/2026	6/27/2026	OV	000956	FB-OR-Onsite Validation Of Initial License Examination (OV)	
1	7/26/2026	8/8/2026	EXAD	000500	FB-OR-Initial License Exam Administration (EXAD)	
<b>Force-on-Force Planning and Exercise Weeks - PAL</b>						4
1	8/17/2026	8/21/2026	IP 71130.03	000735	Contingency Response - Force-On-Force Testing	
1	9/14/2026	9/18/2026	IP 71130.03	000735	Contingency Response - Force-On-Force Testing	
<b>Comprehensive Engineering Team Inspection - PALI</b>						6
1	10/5/2026	10/23/2026	IP 71111.21M	000713	Comprehensive Engineering Team Inspection	
<b>Emergency Preparedness Program Inspection - PALI</b>						2
1	10/5/2026	10/9/2026	IP 71114.02	000717	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	10/5/2026	10/9/2026	IP 71114.03	000718	Emergency Response Organization Staffing and Augmentation System	
1	10/5/2026	10/9/2026	IP 71114.04	000719	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	10/5/2026	10/9/2026	IP 71114.05	000720	Maintenance of Emergency Preparedness	
<b>Security Baseline Inspection PAL</b>						1
1	10/19/2026	10/23/2026	IP 71130.01	000733	Access Authorization	
1	10/19/2026	10/23/2026	IP 71130.02	000734	Access Control	

# Site Inspection Activity Plan

1	10/19/2026	10/23/2026	IP 71130.04	000736	Equipment Performance, Testing, and Maintenance	
1	10/19/2026	10/23/2026	IP 71130.08	000740	Fitness-For-Duty Program	
1	10/19/2026	10/23/2026	IP 71130.09	001656	Security Plan Changes	
<b>Palisades Inservice Inspection</b>						1
1	5/3/2027	5/31/2027	IP 71111.08P	000702	Inservice Inspection Activities (PWR)	
<b>Functional Engineering Inspection Placeholder - PALI</b>						3
1	8/16/2027	9/3/2027	IP 71111.21N	000714	Focused Engineering Inspections (FEI Placeholder)	
<b>Emergency Preparedness Hostile Action Based (HAB) Exercise - PALI</b>						5
1	9/13/2027	9/17/2027	IP 71114.07	000722	Exercise Evaluation - Hostile Action (HA) Event	
1	9/13/2027	9/17/2027	IP 71114.08	000723	Exercise Evaluation - Scenario Review	
<b>Biennial Problem Identification and Resolution Inspection - PALI</b>						4
1	10/4/2027	10/22/2027	IP 71152B	000747	Problem Identification and Resolution	
<b>Security Baseline Inspection PAL</b>						1
1	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	IP 71130.02	000734	Access Control	
1	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	IP 71130.05	000737	Protective Strategy Evaluation	
1	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	IP 71130.07	000739	Security Training	
1	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	IP 71130.09	001656	Security Plan Changes	
1	10/18/2027	10/22/2027	IP 71130.14	000743	Review of Power Reactor Target Sets	
<b>Palisades December 2027 Initial License Exam</b>						4
1	11/7/2027	11/13/2027	OV	000956	FB-OR-Onsite Validation Of Initial License Examination (OV)	
1	12/12/2027	12/18/2027	EXAD	000500	FB-OR-Initial License Exam Administration (EXAD)	