



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

July 20, 2026

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

SUBJECT: OPERATOR LICENSING EXAMINATION APPROVAL – PALISADES NUCLEAR  
PLANT, JULY 2026

Dear Michael Schultheis:

The purpose of this letter is to provide U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval of the proposed written examination and operating test under Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 55.40(b)(4) and to confirm the final arrangements for the upcoming operator licensing examination at Palisades Nuclear Plant.

The NRC has approved the subject examinations, and you may administer the written examination during the week of August 3, 2026, in accordance with Revision 12 to NUREG-1021, "Operator Licensing Examination Standards for Power Reactors." The NRC staff will administer the operating test during the week of July 27, 2026. The NRC has provided the list of the applicants approved to take the examinations to James Byrd, Training Manager. The examinations have undergone extensive review by my staff and representatives responsible for licensed operator training at your facility. Based on this review, I have concluded that the examinations meet the guidelines of NUREG-1021 for content, operational, and discrimination validity. By administering the written examination, you also agree that the examinations meet NUREG-1021 guidelines and are appropriate for measuring the qualifications of licensed operator applicants at your facility. If you determine that these examinations are not appropriate for licensing operators at your facility, do not administer the written examination and contact me at 630-829-9731.

Please contact your NRC chief examiner, James Nance, at 630-829-9678, if you have questions or identify any errors or changes in the license level (reactor operator or senior reactor operator) or type of examination (partial or complete written examination or operating test, or both) specified for each applicant approved to take the examinations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karla Stoedter", is positioned above the typed name and title.

Signed by Karla Stoedter on 07/20/26

Karla Stoedter, Chief  
Operations Branch  
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No.: 50-255

cc: distribution via digital communications  
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James Byrd, Training Manager

Letter to Michael Schultheis from Karla Stodter dated July 20, 2026.

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