



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 30, 1999

Mr. Nathan L. Haskell  
Director, Licensing  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, MI 49043

SUBJECT: PALISADES PLANT - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT RE: CONVERSION OF  
CURRENT TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS TO IMPROVED TECHNICAL  
SPECIFICATIONS (TAC NO. MA0805)

Dear Mr. Haskell:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 189 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-20 for the Palisades Plant. The amendment consists of changes to the Technical Specifications (TSs) in response to your application dated January 26, 1998, as supplemented by letters dated April 30, September 14, October 12, and November 9, 1998, and March 1, March 22, March 30, April 7, May 3, June 4, June 11, June 17, July 19, July 30, September 17, September 30, October 22, and November 9, 1999. The supplemental letters were in response to questions from the NRC staff, including requests for additional information dated July 27, August 21, August 24, and December 4, 1998, and January 29, and March 17, 1999. Summaries of meetings between the NRC staff and Consumers Energy Company regarding the conversion were issued on May 26, 1998, and January 6, 1999.

The amendment reflects full conversion from your current TSs to a set of improved TSs based on NUREG-1432, "Standard Technical Specifications, Combustion Engineering Plants," Revision 1, dated April 1995, including subsequent approved changes to the standard TSs, and on guidance provided in the Commission's "Final Policy Statement on Technical Specifications Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors," published on July 22, 1993 (58 FR 39132) and in 10 CFR 50.36, "Technical Specifications," as amended July 19, 1995 (60 FR 36953).

In addition to changes that are directly part of the TS conversion, the amendment revises other current TS requirements. Consumers Energy Company considered these additional changes necessary to support the conversion or to improve the clarity of the converted TSs. These issues are referred to as beyond-scope and are discussed in Section 3.G of the enclosed safety evaluation.

The amendment also modifies the license by adding a new license condition for the schedule for the first performance of new and revised surveillance requirements. Implementation of the amendment shall include the relocation of certain TS requirements to licensee-controlled documents as stated in the Consumers Energy Company's letters and as discussed in the attached safety evaluation. You are requested to notify the NRC when you have completed implementation of this amendment.

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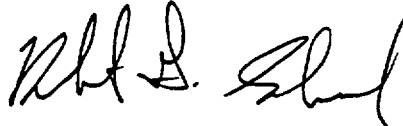
N. Haskell

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November 30, 1999

A copy of our safety evaluation is enclosed. Also enclosed is the Notice of Issuance, which has been forwarded to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.G. Schaaf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Schaaf" clearly distinguishable.

Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
Project Directorate III  
Division of Licensing Project Management  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-255

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 189 to DPR-20  
2. Safety Evaluation  
3. Notice of Issuance

cc w/encls: See next page

Mr. Nathan L. Haskell  
Consumers Energy Company

Palisades Plant

**cc: w/o Technical Specifications**

Mr. Thomas J. Palmisano  
Site Vice President  
Palisades Plant  
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043

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Protection Division  
Michigan Department of  
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Jerry Sarno, Supervisor  
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Office of the Governor  
P. O. Box 30013  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Resident Inspector's Office  
Palisades Plant  
27782 Blue Star Memorial Highway  
Covert, Michigan 49043

**NOTE: To receive a copy of the Technical  
Specifications, please call Robert  
Schaaf at (301) 415-1312.**

N. Haskell

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Sincerely,

Original Signed By

Robert G. Schaaf, Project Manager, Section 1  
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Division of Licensing Project Management  
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N. Haskell

- 2 -

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Project Directorate III  
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DATED: November 30, 1999

AMENDMENT NO. 189 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20 - PALISADES  
PLANT

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