

October 7, 2003

Mr. Daniel J. Malone
Site Vice President
Palisades Nuclear Plant
Nuclear Management Company, LLC
27780 Blue Star Memorial Highway
Covert, MI 49043-9530

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT - INFORMATION REQUEST
FOR AN NRC HEAT SINK PERFORMANCE BASELINE INSPECTION

Dear Mr. Malone:

On November 17, 2003, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will begin the required biennial inspection of heat sink performance at your Palisades Nuclear Generating Plant. This inspection will be performed in accordance with the NRC baseline inspection procedure 71111.07. The heat exchangers to be reviewed during the inspection are the control room air conditioning and containment air coolers.

In order to minimize the impact that the inspection has on the site and to ensure a productive inspection for both sides, we have enclosed a request for documents needed for the inspection. The documents have been divided into two groups. The first group lists information necessary in order to ensure the inspector is adequately prepared for the inspection. This information should be available to the Regional Office by no later than November 7, 2003. In so far as possible, this information should be provided electronically to the lead inspector.

The second group of documents requested are those items which the inspector will review or need access to during the inspection. It is important that these documents be as complete as possible, in order to minimize the number of documents requested during the preparation week or during the onsite inspection.

The lead inspector for this inspection is Andrew Dunlop. If there are any questions about the material requested, or the inspection, please call the lead inspector at 630-829-9726 or e-mail him at axd7@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure 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).

Sincerely,

/RA/

David E. Hills, Chief
Mechanical Engineering Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-255
License No. DPR-20

Enclosure: Initial Document Request

cc w/encl: J. Cowan, Executive Vice President
and Chief Nuclear Officer
R. Fenech, Senior Vice President, Nuclear
Fossil and Hydro Operations
D. Cooper, Senior Vice President - Group Operations
L. Lahti, Manager, Regulatory Affairs
J. Rogoff, Esquire, Nuclear Management Company, LLC
A. Udrys, Esquire, Consumers Energy Company
R. Remus, Plant Manager
P. Harden, Site Director
S. Wawro, Director of Nuclear Assets, Consumers Energy Company
W. Rendell, Supervisor, Covert Township
Office of the Governor
L. Brandon, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality -
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
Department of Attorney General (MI)

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Office of the Governor
L. Brandon, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality -
Waste and Hazardous Materials Division
Department of Attorney General (MI)

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Initial Document Request

I. Information Requested Expeditiously

The following information is requested to be provided as soon as possible, but no later than November 7, 2003, to support the biennial "Heat Exchanger Performance" inspection procedure 71111.07. Information should be provided for the selected heat exchangers: **control room air conditioning and containment air coolers**. In so far as possible, information should be provided electronically.

1. Copies of the procedures used to monitor or inspect heat exchanger performance.
2. A list of issues, with a short description, associated with heat exchangers, heat sinks, silting, corrosion, fouling, or heat exchanger testing that are documented in your corrective action system. (last 5 years)
3. Copy of system description and/or design basis document for the heat exchangers under review (as applicable).

II. Information Requested to be Available on First Day of Inspection

We request that the following information be available to the inspector once he arrives onsite November 17, 2003:

1. Copies of the two most recently completed tests confirming thermal performance for those heat exchangers which are performance monitored. Include documentation and procedures that identify the types, accuracy, and location of any special instrumentation used for these tests. (e.g., high accuracy ultrasonic flow instruments or temperature instruments). Include calibration records for the instruments used during these tests.
2. Copy of the evaluations of data for the two most recent completed tests confirming the thermal performance of each heat exchanger.
3. Copy of the calculation which establishes the limiting (maximum) design basis heat load which is required to be removed by each of these heat exchangers.
4. Copy of the calculation which correlates surveillance testing results from these heat exchangers with design basis heat removal capability (e.g., basis for surveillance test acceptance criteria).
5. The clean and inspection maintenance schedule for each heat exchanger.
6. Copy of the document describing the inspection results for the last two clean and inspection activities completed on each heat exchanger.

7. Copy of the document which identifies the current number of tubes in service for each heat exchanger and the supporting calculation which establishes the maximum number of tubes which can be plugged in each heat exchanger.
8. Copy of the document establishing the repair criteria (plugging limit) for degraded tubes which are identified in each heat exchanger.
9. Copy of the design specification and heat exchanger data sheets for each heat exchanger.
10. Copy of the vendor/component drawing for each heat exchanger.
11. Copy of the calculations which evaluate the potential for water hammer or excessive tube vibration in the heat exchanger or associated piping.
12. Copy of heat exchanger performance trending data tracked for each heat exchanger.
13. Copies of those documents that describe the methods taken to control water chemistry in the heat exchangers.
14. Copies of the documents that verify the following for the ultimate heat sink:
 - sufficient reservoir capacity;
 - provision to ensure freedom from clogging due to macrofouling (silt, dead mussel shells, debris, etc.);
 - provisions controlling for biotic fouling; and
 - functionality during adverse weather conditions, e.g., icing or high temperatures.

If the information requested above will not be available, please contact Andrew Dunlop as soon as possible at (630) 829-9726 or E-mail - axd7@NRC.gov.