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PNP 2016-059

November 02, 2016

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Notification of Inoperability of One Core Exit Temperature Indication Channel
Palisades Nuclear Plant
Docket 50-255
License No. DPR-20

REFERENCE: Palisades Technical Specification 5.6, Reporting Requirements

Dear Sir or Madam:

Palisades Technical Specifications (TS), Table 3.3.7-1, Item 16, requires that four channels of core exit temperature indication be operable in reactor quadrant one in Modes 1, 2, and 3. TS 5.6.6, in conjunction with TS 3.3.7.B.1, requires that a report be submitted to the NRC within 14 days when one core exit temperature indication channel is inoperable and not restored to operable status within 30 days. The report is to contain an outline of the preplanned alternate method of monitoring, the cause of the inoperability, and the plans and schedule for restoring the instrumentation channel to operable status. The required report is attached.

This letter contains no new commitments and no revisions to existing commitments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JAH" followed by a stylized flourish.

JAH/tad

Attachment: Notification of Inoperability of One Core Exit Temperature Indication Channel

CC: Administrator, Region III, USNRC
Project Manager, Palisades, USNRC
Resident Inspector, Palisades, USNRC

ATTACHMENT

NOTIFICATION OF INOPERABILITY OF ONE CORE EXIT TEMPERATURE INDICATION CHANNEL

CAUSE OF INOPERABILITY

On September 25, 2016, qualified CET-16 was declared inoperable due to erratic indication. The probable cause of the erratic indication is a poor connection in the circuit. The most probable location of the poor connection in the circuit is at the reactor vessel head. This location is inaccessible during plant operation.

PREPLANNED ALTERNATE METHOD OF MONITORING

Plant procedures and the plant process computer use the average temperature from qualified CET's as the monitored parameter to ensure adequate core cooling in a post-accident scenario. CET-16 is no longer included in the average. Fifteen qualified CET's remain operable as the primary means for monitoring core exit temperature.

PLAN AND SCHEDULE FOR RETURN TO SERVICE

Full compliance with TS Table 3.3.7-1, Item 16, for core exit temperature indication in quadrant one, will be restored prior to startup from the next refueling outage. The faulted connection will be corrected by replacement of the CET, and/or replacement of the associated qualified instrument cable as necessary. Alternatively, if replacement of these components is not feasible, the qualified cable may be routed to another CET within reactor quadrant one to meet the requirements of Technical Specification Table 3.3.7-1, Item 16.