



**Consumers  
Power  
Company**

**REGULATORY DOCKET FILE COPY**

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November 10, 1976

Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
Att: Mr Albert Schwencer, Chief  
Operating Reactor Branch No 1  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 -  
PALISADES PLANT - FULL-TERM OPERATING  
AND POWER INCREASE LICENSE

Ref: Letter to J F O'Leary From R A Lamley Dated January 22, 1974  
Letter to R C Youngdahl From R A Purple Dated January 15, 1975  
Letter to R A Purple From R B Sewell Dated February 5, 1975  
Letter to R C Youngdahl From R A Purple Dated March 14, 1975

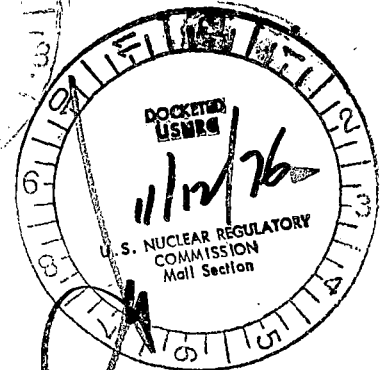
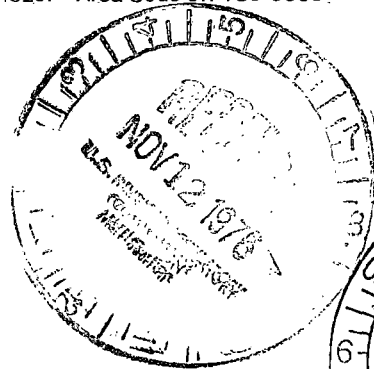
Consumers Power Company made application for a power increase and full-term license by letter dated January 22, 1974. Other related correspondence is referenced above.

Your March 14, 1975 letter requested additional information related to ECCS and steam generator analysis and a schedule for submittal of this information. In addition, discussion with your staff indicated a concern with the performance capabilities of the plant cooling towers and steam generators.

We have recently completed a study of the cooling towers and have concluded that they are capable of meeting the requirements for the power increase requested although some derate may be required during certain adverse and relatively infrequent summer weather conditions.

As you are aware, conformance to ECCS Final Acceptance Criteria was demonstrated with the licensing action which took place, during the spring of 1976, for the current operating power level. In addition, a steam generator tube analysis was performed based on a primary system operating pressure of 2100 psi (present license operating pressure is 1800 psi). We have also reviewed the steam generator performance capabilities and have concluded that they are adequate for the power level increase requested. This capability remains, even though a large number of tubes have been plugged, because of the large excess capacity built into the steam generators originally.

As requested in your March 14, 1975 letter, we have developed a tentative schedule for providing you with additional information. This schedule includes a May 15, 1977 date for completion of licensing action. This schedule will allow for a



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reasonable operating period, at a higher power level, prior to the next refueling outage. We conclude that this experience is important, particularly with respect to evaluating the results of the steam generator inspection scheduled during the next refueling outage.

As noted in the schedule, we are proposing an interim pressure increase. We would like to have approval of this request in January. Operating experience at the interim pressure will provide data for fine tuning of the final analysis.

A review of the dates when some of the analysis will be completed indicates that it will take longer than originally expected. In an effort to permit as much flexibility as possible and still meet the completion date, we are planning to submit the information as it is completed. This schedule is as follows:

Palisades Full-Term and Power Increase Schedule

1. Submit interim pressure increase information (~2100 psi) - Dec 1, 1976  
This submittal will contain ECCS and DNB analysis for the interim pressure increase.
2. Receipt of amendment to allow for interim pressure increase - Jan 15, 1976  
Operating experience at the interim pressure is required to provide data for fine tuning of final analysis.
3. Submit revised steam generator tube analysis for an operating pressure of ~2250 psi - Feb 15, 1976  
This revised analysis is expected to provide for a change in the allowable tube wall degradation based on position of the degradation (above or below the top tube support plate).
4. Submit revised ECCS and DNB analysis for full operating pressure (~2250 psi) - Mar 15, 1976
5. Submit review of transient analysis for full operating pressure (~2250 psi) - Apr 15, 1976
6. Receipt of full-term operating and power increase license - May 15, 1976

Depending on the results of the steam generator tube analysis, a temporary Technical Specification may be requested. The specification would limit both primary system pressure and reactor power until the steam generator has been plugged to the new criteria.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions concerning the proposed schedule.

*David A. Bixel*

David A Bixel  
Assistant Nuclear Licensing Administrator

CC: JGKepler, USNRC