

COPY



Consumers  
Power  
Company

General Offices: 212 West Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201 • Area Code 517 788-0550

April 3, 1974

Mr. John F. O'Leary, Director  
Directorate of Licensing  
US Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, DC 20545

Re: Docket 50-255  
License DPR 20

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

On February 16, 197<sup>4</sup>, a situation arose in which there were only two licensed operators on the site at the Palisades Plant for a period of approximately 40 minutes. Technical Specifications 6.1.3 require three licensed operators to be on the site at all times. This event was discussed with a representative of Region III of the Directorate of Regulatory Operations and we agreed that it would be reported even though it was not classified as a reportable event.

The event occurred because of an error in scheduling licensed operator work periods and as a result relief was not provided for one licensed operator at the end of his normal working schedule. As the licensed operator had not been informed ahead of time that he would be expected to work an additional hour, he felt that he had the right to leave at the time he would normally be relieved. Neither he nor the supervisors present at the plant site at that time recognized that Company procedures require personnel in this job classification to be properly relieved regardless of whether or not overtime has been correctly scheduled.

Since that occurred, the situation has been reviewed with the Plant Operations Superintendent and the shift supervisors. They now understand that an operator or a shift supervisor is expected to stay on the job until properly relieved and that operators can be required to work a reasonable amount of overtime even if not scheduled ahead of time.

We believe that the Palisades Plant's shift supervisors now understand the ramifications of this type of situation and that we will not find ourselves in this position again.

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At the time this incident occurred, the plant was shut down  
with all fuel stored in the spent fuel pool.

Yours very truly,

Ralph B. Sewell (Signed)

RBS/ds

Ralph B. Sewell  
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

CC: JGKeppler,  
USAEC