



**Consumers
Power
Company**

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PALISADES**

James G Keppler, Administrator
Region III
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 -
PALISADES PLANT - AUXILIARY FEEDWATER FLOW RATES

By letter dated October 1, 1980, the NRC set administrative limits on Auxiliary Feedwater (AFW) System flow, limiting the initial AFW flow rate to 300 GPM (gallons per minute) to a single steam generator in an event such that full power cooldown is imposed on a single steam generator. In this October 1, 1980 letter, the NRC also requested Consumers Power Company to initiate studies to develop a program for the mitigation or elimination of feedwater line and steam generator water hammer by December 1, 1980. Consumers Power Company responded to the NRC requests in letter dated December 1, 1980, and included in this letter proposed modifications to the AFW System to be implemented during the next refueling outage.

The proposed modifications to the AFW System were made during the refueling outage of late 1981. In December of 1981, a water hammer test (see Attachment I for test procedures) was performed to determine whether or not a main feedwater line or auxiliary feedwater line water hammer would result from the covering of the feedwater spargers following their uncovering and drainage at various Steam Generator pressures and auxiliary feedwater flow rates. Evaluation of the test data, showed that no water hammer resulted at any pressure or flow test performed in the procedure.

The current AFW flow rate limits, found in the Palisades Emergency and Operating Procedures, are based on the Administrative Limits placed on the AFW System due to the concern with the possibility of water hammer. These limits, including internal limits more restrictive than those imposed by the NRC, are shown in the Attachment II. Based on the aforementioned negative water hammer test results, Consumers Power Company will remove all internally imposed administrative controls on restricted AFW flow rates.

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JGKeppler, Administrator
Palisades Plant
AFW Flow Rates
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Consumers Power Company also requests that due to these negative test results that the 300 GPM administrative limit of initial AFW flow to a single steam generator imposed by the NRC be removed and that new maximum AFW flow rates be established and administratively controlled based on those flow rates attained during the performance of the water hammer tests.

Brian D Johnson (Signed)

Brian D Johnson
Staff Licensing Engineer

CC Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement
NRC Resident Inspector - Palisades

Attachment - 7 Pages