



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 13, 2021

EA-21-158

Mr. A. Christopher Bakken, III
President, CEO
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT AND BIG ROCK POINT PLANT – ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF LICENSES AND DRAFT CONFORMING ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSE AMENDMENTS (EPID L-2020-LLM-0003)

Dear Mr. Bakken:

By application dated December 23, 2020 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20358A075), as supplemented by information provided in letters from Holtec Decommissioning International, LLC (HDI) dated December 23, 2020, December 23, 2020, and October 29, 2021 (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML20358A232, ML20358A239, and ML21302A064, respectively), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (ENOI), on behalf of itself; Entergy Nuclear Palisades, LLC (ENP); Holtec International (Holtec); and HDI (collectively, the Applicants), submitted "Application for Order Consenting to Transfers of Control of Licenses and Approving Conforming License Amendments." Specifically, the application requested that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) consent to (1) the indirect transfer of control of Renewed Facility Operating License No. DPR-20 for the Palisades Nuclear Plant (Palisades), the general license for the Palisades independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI), Facility Operating License No. DPR-6 for Big Rock Point Plant (Big Rock Point), and the general license for the Big Rock Point ISFSI (referred to collectively as the Sites and the licenses) to Holtec and (2) the transfer of ENOI's operating authority (i.e., its authority to conduct licensed activities at the Sites) to HDI. In addition, the Applicants requested that the NRC approve conforming administrative amendments to the licenses to reflect the proposed transfer of the licenses from ENOI to HDI and the planned name change from ENP to Holtec Palisades, LLC.

The NRC published its notice of consideration of approval of the application in the *Federal Register* on February 4, 2021 (86 FR 8225). The supplemental information in the letter dated October 29, 2021, provided additional information that clarified the application and did not expand the scope of the application as originally noticed.

The NRC staff has completed its review of the application. Enclosure 1 is the order that consents to the license transfer, subject to the conditions described therein. The order also approves the draft conforming administrative license amendments in Enclosure 2, which the NRC will issue and make effective at the time the transfer is completed. Enclosure 3 is the NRC staff's safety evaluation related to the application.

The NRC forwarded the order to the Office of the Federal Register for publication.

If you have any questions concerning this action, please contact me at (301) 415-2855 or by e-mail to Scott.Wall@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Scott P. Wall, Senior Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch III
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-155, 50-255,
72-007, and 72-043

Enclosures:

1. Order Approving License Transfer
(EA-21-158)
2. Draft Conforming Amendments
3. Safety Evaluation

cc: Listserv

ENCLOSURE 1

ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF

BIG ROCK POINT PLANT FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-6

PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20

BIG ROCK POINT PLANT INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

DOCKET NOS. 50-155, 50-255, 72-007, AND 72-043

(EA-21-158)

ENCLOSURE 2

DRAFT CONFORMING LICENSE AMENDMENTS

PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20

PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

DOCKET NOS. 50-255 AND 72-007

AND

BIG ROCK POINT PLANT FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-6

BIG ROCK POINT PLANT INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE INSTALLATION

DOCKET NOS. 50-155 AND 72-043

ENCLOSURE 3

**SAFETY EVALUATION RELATED TO THE REQUEST FOR
TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF
FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-6 FOR BIG ROCK POINT PLANT,
RENEWED FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-20 FOR PALISADES NUCLEAR
PLANT,
AND THE GENERAL LICENSES FOR THE INDEPENDENT SPENT FUEL STORAGE
INSTALLATIONS FOR BIG ROCK POINT PLANT AND PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT
DOCKET NOS. 50-155, 50-255, 72-007, AND 72-043**

SUBJECT: PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT AND BIG ROCK POINT PLANT – ORDER APPROVING TRANSFER OF LICENSES AND DRAFT CONFORMING ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSE AMENDMENTS (EPID L-2020-LLM-0003) DATED DECEMBER 13, 2021

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ADAMS Accession Nos.:**Package: ML21292A155****Letter: ML21292A145****Order: ML21292A146****Amendment: ML21292A147****Safety Evaluation: ML21292A148****FRN: ML21292A149**

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