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Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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DOCKET 50-255 - LICENSE DPR-20 - PALISADES PLANT -
UPPER SHELF ENERGY OF MATERIAL IN REACTOR BELTLINE

NRC letter dated May 14, 1990, while relying on a preliminary conservative estimate of the predicted Upper Shelf Energy (USE) of the Palisades Reactor Vessel (RV) beltline material at end-of-plant life, assumes that the USE of the Palisades RV beltline material will fall below the 50 ft-lbs required by 10 CFR 50 Appendix G, Section IV.1; and, therefore, requests CPC to submit plans for meeting the Appendix G USE requirements by complying with Section V.C. of Appendix G.

Recent and more extensive analysis, which considers the low leakage fuel design now used at Palisades and data from the RV material surveillance coupons to predict the time when the Palisades RV baseline material USE will fall below the required 50 ft-lbs, has resulted in the preliminary conclusion that it will occur in the year 2032. This is well beyond the currently projected plant end-of-life at year 2011. Therefore, CPC does not foresee the need to rely on Section V.C. of Appendix G to remain in regulatory compliance with the USE requirements of Section IV.A.1 of 10 CFR 50 Appendix G. Final results of the recent analysis will be submitted before September 1, 1990.

Richard W Smedley (Signed)

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