



NRC NEWS

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NRC STAFF ISSUES CONFIRMATORY ORDER TO ENTERGY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued a Confirmatory Order to Entergy Nuclear Operations Inc., operator of the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant, to confirm the actions to be taken to address the violation of NRC requirements. Palisades failed to provide the NRC with complete and accurate security information. The plant is located in Covert, Mich., five miles south of South Haven.

The NRC identified the violation during an inspection and an investigation conducted in 2008 at the plant. Although the details of the violation are being withheld because they contain security related information, the problems associated with it have been resolved.

Entergy has agreed to the terms and conditions of the Confirmatory Order that requires it take a number of actions nuclear fleet wide such as: (1) develop and implement a process that ensures safeguards and security related information is processed appropriately through the corrective action program; (2) provide training to employees on the importance of providing complete and accurate information to the NRC and; (3) provide a lessons-learned presentation to utility groups that will address the events that led to the Confirmatory Order and the corrective actions taken.

The Confirmatory Order documents the commitments to the NRC, reached as a result of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process. The ADR process uses a neutral mediator with no decision-making authority to assist the NRC and its license holders in resolving differences regarding enforcement actions. Often, the ADR process is more effective than traditional enforcement in developing broad, long-term corrective actions, thus producing a greater benefit for public safety than a one-time fine or other enforcement action.

The NRC will not take any other enforcement actions against Entergy for these issues. However, the NRC staff will evaluate the commitments during future inspections. Copies of the Confirmatory Order issued will be available on the NRC Web Site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

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