

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – REAFFIRM SUPPORT FOR THE REPOWERING OF THE PALISADES NUCLEAR PLANT BY HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL**

WHEREAS, Holtec International has reported that,

- the Palisades Nuclear Plant has historically provided over 800 megawatts of safe, reliable, and clean energy to the State of Michigan, and has been a key contributor to the energy reliability and economic vitality of Southwest Michigan,
- it maintained an exemplary operational record before its scheduled closure, including consecutive record-breaking generation runs, an online reliability factor exceeding 95 percent,
- during operation the plants supported over 600 full-time, high-skill, high-wage jobs, in addition to creating employment for more than 1,000 specialty workers during outages, and was one of the region's largest taxpayers, supporting local schools, colleges, libraries, and area services, a study by the Economic Growth Institute at the University of Michigan found that the Palisades closure resulted in an annual loss of \$259 million in labor income and value-added for the surrounding tri-county region,
- the Palisades restart effort has regrown the plant's full-time workforce to nearly 600, supported by hundreds of specialty and skilled trades contractors,
- significant investments have been made in the plant's restart and long-term safe and reliable operation, including scheduled inspections, testing, maintenance, repairs, and upgrades, thanks to the support of the U.S. Department of Energy, State of Michigan, and plant owner Holtec International,
- the plant has entered into a long-term power purchase agreement with two rural electric cooperatives to ensure the plant's financial viability and sustained reinvestment in safe and reliable operations for decades to come,
- the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued in May 2025 a final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact with respect to the plant's restart, a testament to nuclear as both the most environmentally friendly and reliable 24/7 source of electrical generation; and
- Palisades ranked in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's highest safety category and has been recognized by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations as a top-performing plant in the country,
- Palisades operated, and would continue operations, in strict adherence to all federal and state regulations under the independent oversight of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to maintain the health and safety of our community, the plant workforce, and our environment,
- the Palisades restart has been subject to 20 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission public meetings, providing the opportunity for education and public comment,
- Holtec International has demonstrated a commitment to transparency, regulatory compliance, and community engagement, both throughout the repowering of the existing plant and the future deployment of advanced Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) at the Palisades site,
- the restart of Palisades helps meet the regional need for reliable baseload generation, both in satisfying current electricity demands as well as forecasted increases in demand driven by advanced manufacturing, AI, data storage, and electrification,
- nuclear energy is broadly recognized as critical to our nation's energy independence, economic growth, and national security,
- the deployment of two SMR-300 units, generating a combined 600 megawatts of additional safe baseload energy, would further strengthen Michigan's leadership in nuclear innovation, while supporting national goals for energy security and reliability,
- the SMR project is expected to create hundreds more permanent, high-paying jobs and thousands of construction and maintenance jobs, benefiting the workforce of Allegan County and the broader Southwest Michigan region; and

WHEREAS, Allegan County supports efforts that align with economic development, public health, energy reliability, and environmental sustainability.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegan County Board of Commissioners (Board) reaffirms its support for the repowering of the Palisades Nuclear Plant by Holtec International; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Elissa Slotkin, U.S. Representative Bill Huizenga, Governor Gretchen Whitmer, State Senators Aric Nesbitt, Roger Victory, and Thomas Albert, and State Representatives Joey Andrews, Matt Hall, Rachelle Smit, Nancy DeBoer, Pauline Wendzel, and Angela Rigas.

DRAFT

S T A T E O F M I C H I G A N

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—SUPPORT THE REPOWERING OF PALISADES BY PLANT OWNER  
HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL**

**WHEREAS**, the Palisades Nuclear Plant provided more than 800 megawatts of safe, reliable, and carbon-free generation to the State of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades recently completed consecutive record-breaking generation runs and boasted an online reliability factor greater than 95 percent, a testament to the workforce and continuous investment in safety and equipment reliability; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades provided 600 full-time, highly skilled, and good-paying jobs in Southwest Michigan, which were supplemented by the influx of an additional 1,000 specialty workers into the community to support scheduled refueling and maintenance outages; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades was one of the largest taxpayers in the region, directly supporting local public school districts, Lake Michigan College, public libraries, and vital municipal services; and

**WHEREAS**, a study by the Economic Growth Institute at the University of Michigan found that the shutdown of Palisades resulted in the annual loss of \$259 million in labor income and value-added for the tri-county region; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades and its employees have long been actively involved and invested in community partners; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades has maintained strong community outreach and engagement with its stakeholders, including but not limited to state and local units of government, economic development organizations, non-profit organizations, labor, federally recognized Tribes, the public, and disadvantaged communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades provided a bridge of clean, reliable generation for the State of Michigan as it transitioned from fossil-fuel generation to renewable and advanced technologies, including the potential deployment of small modular reactors; and

**WHEREAS**, the operation of Palisades supported the State of Michigan's goals to cut carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions by millions of tons per year, thereby reducing the direct environmental and human health costs to disadvantaged communities and the general public; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades ranks in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's highest safety category and has been recognized by the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations as a top-performing plant in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, Palisades operated in strict adherence to all federal and state regulations under the independent oversight of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to maintain the health and safety of our community, its workforce, and our environment.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Allegan County Board of Commissioners that it supports the repowering of Palisades by plant owner Holtec International in its application to the U.S. Department of Energy's Civil Nuclear Credit Program; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be sent to the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners, U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, U.S. Rep. Bill Huizenga, Governor Whitmer, State Senators Aric Nesbit, Roger Victory, and Thomas Albert, and State Representatives Joey Andrews, Matt Hall, Rachelle Smit, Nancy DeBoer, Pauline Wendzel, and Angela Rigas.

Moved by Commissioner Storey, seconded by Commissioner Kapenga to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. Yeas: 5 votes. Nays: 0 votes.

ATTEST, A TRUE COPY



\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk-Register

APPROVED: January 26, 2023

cc: Admin. - Finance - Human Resources