

August 15, 2006

LICENSEE: Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.

FACILITY: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC AUDIT STATUS BRIEFING WITH ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC., ON LICENSE RENEWAL SCOPING AND SCREENING METHODOLOGY AND THE AGING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND THE AGING MANAGEMENT REVIEW AUDITS FOR THE PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION (TAC NO. MC9669)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff conducted a public audit status briefing meeting with Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy). The public meeting was conducted on Wednesday, July 19, 2006, in the Duxbury Room at the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor Ballroom, 180 Water Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts. The subject of the meeting was to summarize the staff's audit findings associated with the scoping and screening methodology and the aging management program (AMP) and aging management review (AMR) audits of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station license renewal application (LRA). Twenty-three people attended the meeting which included members of the NRC staff, Entergy and a few citizens from the town of Plymouth, MA (Enclosure). This was a Category 1 Meeting. The following is a summary of the meeting.

The Project Manager for the LRA provided an introduction and said that since May 2006, the staff conducted on-site audits on scoping and screening methodology, AMPs, AMRs and TLAAs on the information that Entergy submitted in the renewal application. One of the milestones of the project was to provide feedback on the ongoing review process. In fulfilling that objective, on July 19, 2006, the staff met with the applicant to discuss the status of the audits and also share the results with the public.

The team leader for the scoping and screening methodology audit presented his findings on the portion of his audit as follows. During the week of June 6-9, 2006, the staff conducted a scoping and screening methodology audit at the Entergy Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. The audit activities included a detailed review of the scoping and screening methodology and implementation of that methodology for the evaluation of plant mechanical and electrical systems, as well as structures, in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 54.4(a) and 10 CFR 54.21, respectively. As a result of this audit, the staff gained valuable insights regarding the scoping and screening implementation processes and identified several areas where additional information will be required to complete the staff's final safety determination. At the end of the audit the staff needed additional information from the applicant and issued three requests for additional information. These related to (1) non-safety structure, system, and components (SSCs) affecting safety-related SSCs, (2) quality control requirements applied to certain AMP attributes, and (3) the evaluation of SSCs credited for design-basis events.

The team leader for the AMP/AMR audits presented his findings on the portion of his audits as follows. During the weeks of May 22-26, 2006, June 19-23, 2006 and July 17 and 18, 2006, staff conducted the AMP/AMR audits at the Entergy Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. NRC performs audits early in the license renewal review process to evaluate whether the application is consistent with established guidance and NRC staff positions. The purpose of this audit status briefing was to summarize the audit findings and to provide the status of questions posed to the applicant during the audits. Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station submitted 38 AMPs and the safety audit team reviewed 37 of the programs. The remaining program was reviewed by NRC headquarters staff. In addition, the applicant added a new AMP on bolting integrity, which was not included in the original LRA. The audit team performed reviews on approximately 2800 components included in the various system that were scoped in the application. An AMR lists the component, what the component is made from, the environment the component is exposed to, the anticipated aging effect(s), and the AMP or programs that is credited to manage the aging effects during the period of extended operation. There were 329 staff questions submitted to the applicant and the answers to 328 of the questions were found to be acceptable and documented as a part of the audits. This document was made available at the public meeting for interested members of the public (ML061940175). The ADAMS Public Electronic Reading Room is accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> on the NRC web site. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS, should contact the NRC's Public Document Room reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, or 301-415-4727, or by e-mail at pdr@nrc.gov. At the end of the audit the staff needed additional information from the applicant on the one remaining item and this was issued as request for additional information.

The public was invited to observe the meeting and had an opportunity to communicate with the NRC staff after the business portion, but before the meeting was adjourned. The staff also stayed behind and met with a few interested members of the public and addressed their specific questions personally. During the public question session one concerned citizen, Ms. Marie Fehlow, a resident of Plymouth, stated she had provided written comments on the public feedback form during the end-of-cycle meetings in 2004 and 2005, participated by the Senior Resident Inspector at the Pilgrim Nuclear Station. Although she requested on the forms that NRC contact her, she was never contacted. The senior resident inspector who was present for the July 19, 2006 meeting met with Ms. Fehlow after the formal meeting to apologize for the NRC's lack of response and obtained specifics on her concerns. Region I will be following-up with her on this matter further.

/RA/

Ram Subbaratnam, Project Manager
License Renewal Branch A
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure:
List of Participants

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/RA/

Ram Subbaratnam, Project Manager
License Renewal Branch A
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure:
List of Participants

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OFFICE	PM:RLRA:DLR	LA:DLR	BC:REBB:DLR
NAME	RSubbaratnam	YEdmond	LLund_ (Rauluck for)
DATE	8/ 14 /06	8/ 11 /06	8/ 15 /06

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Public Meeting Summary dated August 15, 2006

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC AUDIT STATUS BRIEFING WITH ENTERGY
NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC., ON LICENSE RENEWAL SCOPING AND
SCREENING METHODOLOGY AND THE AGING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
AND THE AGING MANAGEMENT REVIEW AUDITS FOR THE PILGRIM
NUCLEAR POWER STATION (TAC NO. MC9669)

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DLR R/F

E-MAIL:

JFair
RWeisman
AMurphy
RPettis
GGalletti
DShum
GBagchi
SSmith (srs3)
SDuraiswamy
YL (Renee) Li
RidsNrrDlr
RidsNrrDlrRIra
RidsNrrDlrRIrb
RidsNrrDe
RidsNrrDci
RidsNrrEemb
RidsNrrDeEeeb
RidsNrrDeEqva
RidsNrrDss
RidsNrrDnrl
RidsOgcMailCenter
RidsNrrAdes
DLR Staff

RSubbaratnam
SHoffman
SUttal
JShea
NSheihan
GWilson
CAnderson, Region 1
WRaymond, Region 1
NSheehan, Region 1

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE
PILGRIM ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETINGS**

July 19, 2006

PARTICIPANTS

Ram Subbaratnam

James Davis

Peter Wen

Dan Hoang

Don Jackson

Mike Balduzzi

Ken Chang

Gary G. Young

David J. Lach

Bryan Ford

Greg Galletti

Fred Mogolesko

Laris Chan

James Medoff

Fred Di Cristofaro

Kevin Bronson

Carol Wicohtman

Bill Rogers

Alan Cox

Marie Fehlow

William D. Meinert, P.E.

Frank Gillespie

William J. Raymond

AFFILIATION

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

NRC

NRC

NRC

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy)

Entergy

NRC

Entergy

Entergy

Entergy

NRC

Entergy

Entergy

NRC

Local 369 (Entergy)

Entergy

Entergy

NRC

Entergy

Plymouth

Public

NRC

Senior Resident Inspector, Pilgrim

ENCLOSURE

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

Regional Administrator, Region I
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Senior Resident Inspector
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
Post Office Box 867
Plymouth, MA 02360

Chairman, Board of Selectmen
11 Lincoln Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

Chairman
Nuclear Matters Committee
Town Hall
11 Lincoln Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

Chairman, Duxbury Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
878 Tremont Street
Duxbury, MA 02332

Office of the Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection
One Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Office of the Attorney General
One Ashburton Place
20th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

MA Department of Public Health
Radiation Control Program
Schrafft Center, Suite 1M2A
529 Main Street
Charlestown, MA 02129

Secretary of Public Safety
Executive Office of Public Safety
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

Director, Massachusetts Emergency
Management Agency
Attn: James Muckerheide
400 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01702-5399

Mr. William D. Meinert
Nuclear Engineer
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale
Electric Company
P.O. Box 426
Ludlow, MA 01056-0426

Mr. Michael A. Balduzzi
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360-5508

Mr. Stephen J. Bethay
Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360-5508

Mr. Bryan S. Ford
Manager, Licensing
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360-5508

Mr. Gary J. Taylor
Chief Executive Officer
Entergy Operations
1340 Echelon Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

cc:

Mr. John T. Herron
Sr. VP and Chief Operating Officer
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Oscar Limpias
Vice President, Engineering
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Christopher Schwarz
Vice President, Operations Support
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. John F. McCann
Director, Nuclear Safety Assurance
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Ms. Charlene D. Faison
Manager, Licensing
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. Michael D. Lyster
5931 Barclay Lane
Naples, FL 34110-7306

Mr. Michael J. Colomb
Director of Oversight
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Ms. Stacey Lousteau
Treasury Department
Entergy Services, Inc.
639 Loyola Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70113

Mr. James Sniezek
5486 Nithsdale Drive
Salisbury, MD 21801

Mr. Travis C. McCullough
Assistant General Counsel
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

Mr. James Ross
Nuclear Energy Institute
1776 I Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006-3708

Plymouth Public Library
Attn: Dinah O'Brien
132 South Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

Duxbury Free Library
ATTN: Ms. Elaine Winquist
77 Alden Street
Duxbury, MA 02332

Kingston Public Library
ATTN: Reference Librarian
6 Green Street
Kingston, MA 02364

Ms. Mary Lampert
Duxbury Nuclear Advisory, Chair
Pilgrim Watch, Director
148 Washington Street
Duxbury, MA 02332