

January 9, 2014

Mr. James T. Brett
President & Chief Executive Officer
The New England Council
98 North Washington St.
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Mr. Brett,

I am writing to you in response to your November 21, 2013, letter related to my tour of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts on November 8, 2013. I regret that I was unable to meet with the New England Council during that visit. Unfortunately, the schedule for the visit was very tight, and it only allowed for limited engagements.

I would like to thank you for your insights regarding the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. The NRC is a mature regulator and has a very robust inspection program in place to monitor the licensee's performance and to ensure protection of public health and safety and the environment. This inspection program helps ensure the continued safe operations of all of the country's nuclear reactors by verifying that the organizational structure, operator qualifications, design, maintenance, operations, fuel handling, and environmental and radiation protection programs are adequate and comply with the NRC's safety and security requirements.

In the event that I visit the New England area in the future, I will ensure my staff reaches out to your organization in advance of the visit. If you or anyone from your delegation visits the Washington, DC area, I would be pleased to make time for you to have a brief visit with myself or one of my staff.

Thank you for your letter and your attention to the safety and security of NRC-licensed facilities.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Allison M. Macfarlane