



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD.
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

January 24, 2017

The Honorable Vinny deMacedo
Massachusetts Senate
State House, Room 313C
Boston, MA 02133-1053

Dear Mr. deMacedo:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of December 12, 2016, in which you requested the NRC meet with the town of Plymouth to answer questions about the safety of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

The NRC understands that the inadvertent disclosure of the preliminary thoughts expressed in a December 6 email has caused concerns among the public about Pilgrim's safety. Therefore, Don Jackson, the Pilgrim IP 95003 inspection team lead, and I briefed the preliminary inspection results and next steps to Plymouth Board of Selectmen Chairman Ken Tavares, and Plymouth Town Manager Melissa Arrighi on January 13.

In addition, we have scheduled a meeting with the public on Tuesday, January 31, in Plymouth, to discuss preliminary findings from the team inspection at Pilgrim Station. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Hotel 1620 Plymouth Harbor, located at 180 Water St. in Plymouth. Following an NRC presentation, attendees will have an opportunity to offer comments and pose questions to NRC staff. A second public meeting will be held at a later time to discuss the final results of the Pilgrim 95003 Inspection. Mr. Jackson will speak and answer questions at these public meetings.

Let me assure you that Pilgrim is operating safely. Our inspectors continuously evaluate plant safety. As issues are identified, they are evaluated to determine their impact on Pilgrim's ability to fulfill safety functions that protect the reactor and spent fuel. Based on all of the information developed to date, there remains substantial safety margin in the design and operations of Pilgrim. We will continue to comprehensively inspect Entergy's performance to ensure our assessment remains accurate.

I appreciate your correspondence on this matter. As always, the health and safety of the public is of paramount importance to the NRC, and we appreciate your interest in our mission. If you need any additional information, please contact Doug Tifft, State Liaison Officer, at 610-337-6918.

Sincerely,

/RA/ Original Signed by

Daniel H. Dorman
Regional Administrator

Identical letters sent to:

The Honorable Randy Hunt
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Thomas J. Calter
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Matt Muratore
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
Boston, MA 02133

SUBJECT: NRC RESPONSE TO SENATOR DEMACEDO REGARDING PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION DATED JANUARY 24, 2017.

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