

Official Transcript of Proceedings

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Decommissioning Activities Report

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING ON PILGRIM POST-SHUTDOWN
DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT

+ + + + +

TUESDAY,
JANUARY 15, 2019

+ + + + +

PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

+ + + + +

The meeting was convened in Room A, Hotel
1620, 18 Water Street, Plymouth, MA, at 6:00 p.m.,
Bruce Watson, chairman, presiding.

NRC STAFF:

DONNA JANDA, Facilitator

BRETT KLUKAN, Facilitator

JOHN LAMB, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

BRUCE WATSON, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and
Safeguards

ALSO PRESENT:

~~ANNETTE VIETTI COOK, Secretary of the Commission~~

~~MARIAN ZOBLER, General Counsel~~

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P R O C E E D I N G S

6:02 p.m.

MR. WATSON: Good evening. I'm Bruce Watson, Chief of the Reactor Decommissioning Branch in the Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery, and Waste Programs, and will be chairing tonight's session.

Our purpose is to obtain your comments on the Entergy Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report [PSDAR] and the Holtec license application and the related Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Report associated with it.

I would like to highlight [U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission] NRC's mission to protect public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment, and our current work related to the regulatory requirements during the decommissioning of power plants.

I would like to introduce a few of the NRC staff who will be here to listen to your comments. And hopefully, we, the staff, can collectively answer questions on the decommissioning process. If we can't, we'll do our best to get back to you.

So, you've met Brett, our Region I Counselor, who will be facilitating tonight's

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1 meeting, along with Donna Janda, also from Region I.
2 Also in attendance is John Lamb, the current Project
3 Manager for Pilgrim. Amy Snyder is here, who will
4 be the Decommissioning Project Manager when the plant
5 shuts down and is transferred over to our
6 organization.

7 Also in attendance is Mike Dusaniwsky,
8 our Senior Economist; Jason Plotter, Senior Engineer
9 in our Spent Fuel Management Group; Jessie Quintero,
10 our Environmental Review Specialist, and Ray Powell,
11 our Region I Branch Chief that will be inspecting the
12 plant during the decommissioning process. We also
13 have some additional folks in the audience that, if
14 we need to, we can call on them to help us with
15 comments or questions.

16 Next slide, please.

17 This is an NRC Category 3 public meeting
18 to obtain comments on the Entergy PSD[A]R and the
19 Holtec application and their supplemental PSD[A]R
20 that's with it. These documents were made publicly
21 available for comment.

22 The meeting is being transcribed and will
23 be made available for the public to review. There
24 will also be a meeting summary published for the
25 meeting.

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1 We have a planned short presentation by
2 John Lamb, who will discuss the PSD[A]R process and
3 the license review process. Then, Entergy and Holtec
4 will be giving short presentations. Speaking for
5 Entergy tonight is Mandy Halter -- she is the Director
6 of Nuclear Licensing -- and Andrea Sterdis from
7 Holtec, who from also the Comprehensive
8 Decommissioning International, who is a Vice
9 President of Regulatory Programs, Environment and
10 Safety.

11 After those presentations, we will turn
12 the meeting over to Brett and Donna, who will begin
13 the process to allow speakers to provide comments.
14 It is my full intention, if we can, to end this
15 meeting at 9:00 p.m.

16 I also want to emphasize that this
17 meeting is to discuss the upcoming permanent shutdown
18 of the Pilgrim Plant and the decommissioning process
19 associated with it.

20 Next slide, please.

21 Now I want to just discuss a little bit
22 of our decommissioning experience. We have many
23 years of decommissioning experience. We have over
24 21 years' experience with our current decommissioning
25 regulations and have completed over 80 complex

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1 material decommissionings and terminated those
2 licenses. They have all been released for
3 unrestricted use by the owner. So, they can be used
4 for any future purpose. And included in that 80 is
5 10 nuclear power plants.

6 Next slide, please.

7 On this slide is a picture of Yankee Rowe.
8 It's located here in Rowe, Massachusetts. It's one
9 of the 10 plants that was decommissioned. We
10 terminated the license in 2007. Pictured on the left
11 is the plant when it was in operation. Pictured on
12 the right is where the plant was greenfielded by the
13 utility associated with the requirements set up with
14 the State. The NRC does not require site restoration
15 as part of our process.

16 One of the things that I want to point
17 out to you is that, on the picture on the right there
18 is a hydroelectric dam that's been there for over 100
19 years. As you note, the nuclear plant operated, was
20 decommissioned, and is gone. However, on the hill
21 in the center there is a picture of the dry fuel
22 storage facility that is still located on their site
23 and under license, and will continue to be inspected
24 by our inspectors. Of course, the spent fuel is
25 there awaiting the final disposition of the high-

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1 level waste disposal, either interim or final
2 repository, here in the U.S.

3 Next slide, please.

4 I wanted to just briefly discuss the two
5 decommissioning options discussed in the November
6 200~~0~~[1]8 submittals. Regardless of the option chosen,
7 preparation of the decommissioning takes about one to
8 two years to remove the radioactive waste stored
9 onsite, remove filters, resins; drain systems to
10 allow the dismantling to begin and be done safely or
11 placed in storage. After the decommissioning
12 preparation period, the licensee can go into either
13 DECON or SAFSTOR.

14 DECON, or a prompt decommissioning, the
15 licensee begins the decommissioning activities and
16 usually transfer the spent fuel to dry storage. Past
17 experience has shown that decommissioning typically
18 takes seven to ten years to complete.

19 With SAFSTOR, the plant is placed in
20 storage -- we like to call it, it's cold and
21 dark -- until the licensee decides to dismantle and
22 decommission the plant. In SAFSTOR, the NRC will
23 continue to inspect the plants at least annually and
24 more frequently when decommissioning activities are
25 performed.

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1 Regardless of the decommissioning option
2 chosen, the NRC regulations require that the
3 decommissioning be completed in 60 years.

4 Next slide, please.

5 A few reminders. We are here to listen
6 to your comments on the Pilgrim decommissioning.
7 This is part of the process we've set up and it's
8 intended to hear your comments, so we can consider
9 those in our review of both the PSD[A]R from Entergy
10 and, also, the license application and the PSD[A]R
11 that supplements it from Holtec.

12 The meeting, again, is being transcribed,
13 and the transcript will be publicly available. A
14 meeting summary will be published and would be
15 publicly available.

16 And we will do our best to answer your
17 questions, where we can. There's going to be
18 possibly some that we can't answer, but we do our
19 best to get back to you.

20 I'm going to introduce John. John Lamb
21 is going to sit down and speak.

22 MR. LAMB: Yes.

23 MR. WATSON: Okay. Thank you.

24 MR. LAMB: Hi. Good evening. My name
25 is John Lamb. I am the Project Manager for Pilgrim

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1 at NRC Headquarters in Rockville. I've been working
2 for the NRC for 19 years, and prior to that, I worked
3 15 years in the power plant.

4 Next slide, please.

5 In accordance with the NRC regulations,
6 a Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, or
7 PSDAR, must be submitted to the NRC, and a copy to
8 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, prior to or within
9 two years following the permanent cessation of
10 operations of Pilgrim. Entergy submitted the Pilgrim
11 PSDAR on November 16th, 2018.

12 A PSDAR must contain a description of the
13 planned decommissioning activities, along with a
14 schedule for their accomplishment and a site-specific
15 decommissioning cost estimate, including the
16 projected cost of managing irradiated fuel.

17 The NRC staff uses a Regulatory Guide
18 that provides guidance on the content and format of
19 PSDARs. The Regulatory Guide is available to the
20 public as noted on this slide.

21 Decommissioning activities must not
22 endanger the public health and safety or result in
23 significant environmental impacts not previously
24 reviewed.

25 Next slide.

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1 A PSDAR must contain a discussion that
2 provides the reasons for concluding that the
3 environmental impacts associated with site-specific
4 decommissioning activities will be bounded by
5 appropriate previously-issued Environmental Impact
6 Statements. Therefore, during the environmental
7 review of a PSDAR, the NRC uses various previous staff
8 reports to determine whether the environmental
9 impacts from decommissioning are bounded by these
10 reports. For instance, for Pilgrim, the NRC staff
11 will use a generic Environmental Impact Statement
12 regarding decommissioning and will also look at
13 previous Environmental Impact Statements developed
14 specifically for Pilgrim, such as the Environmental
15 Impact Statement developed for the renewal of the
16 Pilgrim operating license. The NRC staff will also
17 rely on findings from its inspection program.

18 Next slide, please.

19 The request for comment and meeting
20 notice for the Pilgrim PSDAR was published in The
21 Federal Register on December 21st, 2018. The 90-day
22 comment period ends on March 21st, 2019.

23 The NRC staff will notify the licensee if
24 the staff needs additional information to support its
25 review of the PSDAR. The NRC staff will document its

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1 PSDAR review in a letter to the licensee and will
2 address the comments received during the comment
3 period.

4 After the submission of the Pilgrim
5 PSDAR, the NRC regulations require that Entergy shall
6 notify the NRC in writing and send a copy to the
7 Commonwealth of Massachusetts before performing any
8 decommissioning activity inconsistent with or making
9 a significant schedule change from those actions and
10 schedules described in the PSDAR.

11 Next slide, please.

12 By letter dated November 16[t]h, 2018,
13 Entergy and Holtec submitted a license transfer
14 application requesting that the license for Pilgrim
15 be transferred from Entergy to Holtec. Before this
16 transfer may be completed, the NRC must determine
17 that Holtec is qualified to be the holder of the
18 Pilgrim license.

19 In order to make this determination, the
20 NRC staff reviews the following five areas:
21 financial qualifications; decommissioning funding
22 assurance; foreign ownership, control, and
23 domination; technical qualifications, and insurance
24 and indemnity. If the NRC finds that Holtec is
25 qualified in these areas, then it would approve the

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1 license transfer by an order and issue a conforming
2 license amendment.

3 Next slide, please.

4 License transfer applications are noticed
5 in The Federal Register, and the public can request
6 a hearing and/or provide comments on the application.
7 The ~~program~~ [Pilgrim] license transfer application is
8 ready for publication in The Federal Register.
9 However, The Federal Register is currently impacted
10 by the partial federal government shutdown.
11 Therefore, the Pilgrim license transfer federal
12 registration notification will not be published until
13 after the partial federal government shutdown ends.
14 Once this Federal Register notice is published, there
15 will be a 20-day hearing period, and then, a 30-day
16 comment period.

17 License transfer applications typically
18 contain proprietary information. A redacted,
19 nonproprietary version of the Pilgrim license
20 transfer application is available to the public and
21 can be found online through the NRC's electronic
22 library called ADAMS. The proprietary version can
23 be requested using a process that will be described
24 in The Federal Register notice.

25 Next slide, please.

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1 By letter dated November 16th, 2018,
2 Holtec submitted a proposed revised PSDAR for
3 Pilgrim. The Holtec PSDAR is a supplement to the
4 license transfer application, and therefore, is part
5 of the license transfer application action, and not
6 part of the Entergy PSDAR action. The Holtec PSDAR
7 is contingent upon the approval of the licensed
8 transfer application and the equity sale closure.
9 For purposes of this public meeting, the NRC will be
10 accepting comments on both the Entergy PSDAR action
11 and the license transfer application, which includes
12 the proposed Holtec PSDAR.

13 Next slide, please.

14 Holtec also submitted a request for an
15 exemption from the NRC's Decommissioning Trust Fund
16 requirements in an enclosure to the license transfer
17 application. If this request were to be granted,
18 then Holtec would be allowed to use the Pilgrim
19 Decommissioning Trust Fund not only for radiological
20 decommissioning expenses, but also for expenses
21 related to spent fuel management activities and site
22 restoration activities. Like the Holtec PSDAR, this
23 exemption request is contingent upon the approval of
24 the license transfer application and the equity sale
25 closure.

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1 Next slide, please.

2 Comments regarding the Entergy PSDAR can
3 be submitted on regulations.gov website under Docket
4 ID NRC-2018-0286 until March 21st, 2019. Comments
5 regarding the license transfer application can be
6 submitted during tonight's public meeting. Once the
7 license transfer application is noticed in The
8 Federal Register, then comments can be submitted on
9 the regulations.gov website under Docket ID
10 NRC-2018-0279 for a period of 30 days for comments,
11 and a hearing can be requested for a period of 20
12 days.

13 Next slide, please.

14 This slide shows where to mail comments
15 regarding Entergy PSDAR or the license transfer
16 application. Please remember to use the Docket ID
17 associated with each application.

18 That concludes my presentation. I'll
19 turn it back over to Bruce.

20 MR. WATSON: Okay. Our next speaker is
21 Mandy Halter from Entergy.

22 MS. HALTER: Good evening. My name is
23 Mandy Halter, and I'm the Director of Nuclear
24 Licensing for Entergy Nuclear. With me tonight is
25 Mike Twomey, the Vice President of External Affairs

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1 for Entergy Wholesale Commodities. I appreciate the
2 opportunity to be here tonight to provide you
3 information on Entergy's plans to decommission the
4 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

5 2019 is a significant year for Entergy,
6 for Pilgrim, and for this area. On May 31st of this
7 year, Pilgrim will permanently cease power
8 operations. In June, we will certify to the NRC that
9 the reactor is permanently shut down and defueled.
10 Also in June, Pilgrim will complete its first staffing
11 reduction, as we transition the organizational
12 structure to support Pilgrim's SAFSTOR
13 decommissioning plan. Throughout the final months
14 of plant operation, and as we transition to
15 decommissioning, we remain committed to safety,
16 health, and security of the plant, its employees, and
17 you, the public.

18 Next slide. Next slide, please. Thank
19 you.

20 The Entergy Post-Shutdown
21 Decommissioning Activities Report, or PSDAR, was
22 submitted to the NRC on November 16th, 2018, and
23 outlines our plan to use the SAFSTOR decommissioning
24 strategy. Our PSDAR was prepared by a team of
25 experts, in accordance with regulations, NRC

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1 guidance, and a thorough review of PSDARs submitted
2 to the NRC by plants in decommissioning.

3 The Pilgrim PSDAR contains a description
4 of our planned decommissioning activities as well as
5 a schedule for their completion, an estimate of the
6 cost, and a discussion of the environmental impacts
7 of these activities. And I will provide more
8 information in the following slides.

9 Next slide, please.

10 The majority of the dormancy period of
11 our SAFSTOR plan will involve all spent fuel in dry
12 fuel storage. This slide shows our plan to achieve
13 the dry fuel storage [dormancy] ~~storm and sea~~ state
14 by the end of 2022. Along the way, Pilgrim will make
15 adjustments to its staffing levels and the emergency
16 plan, in accordance with appropriate regulatory
17 approvals, based on the status of the fuel and the
18 corresponding decreasing risk of offsite radiological
19 consequences from an accident.

20 Next slide, please.

21 Under the SAFSTOR methodology, we will
22 maintain and monitor Pilgrim in a dormancy period to
23 allow for the radioactive decay of the plant, followed
24 by the dismantlement and decontamination to permit
25 NRC license termination within 60 years, as required

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1 by regulations. Under Entergy's plan, radiological
2 decontamination and dismantlement will occur safely
3 by the year 2079. We plan to restore the site
4 following license termination.

5 Next slide, please.

6 In accordance with regulations, we
7 developed a site-specific estimate of the costs for
8 the planned SAFSTOR decommissioning activities at
9 Pilgrim. This cost estimate was developed by a
10 leading expert using up-to-date and best available
11 data. In addition to estimating the costs associated
12 with license termination, we also estimated the cost
13 associated with spent fuel management and site
14 restoration. Our SAFSTOR decommissioning cost
15 estimate for Pilgrim is included as an attachment to
16 the Entergy PSDAR.

17 Next slide, please.

18 The site-specific decommissioning cost
19 estimate submitted to the NRC in November 2018 was
20 reported using 2018 dollars and up-to-date 2018
21 pricing information. The total estimated cost
22 associated with license termination as well as spent
23 fuel management and site restoration for Pilgrim is
24 \$1.66 billion. We will periodically update the
25 decommissioning cost estimate throughout the SAFSTOR

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1 period, in accordance with regulations.

2 It is very important to note that we are
3 required by regulation, as the owner of the plant, to
4 demonstrate reasonable assurance that there are
5 adequate funds available to cover the cost of license
6 termination. We provide this funding for Pilgrim
7 through a Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund, which,
8 as reported to the NRC and the PSDAR, was funded at
9 \$1.05 billion at the end of October 2018. Accounting
10 for the growth of these funds over time, as permitted
11 by NRC methodology, the Pilgrim nuclear
12 decommissioning trust balance does not provide
13 financial assurance for the decommissioning costs of
14 our SAFSTOR plan.

15 Next slide, please.

16 We have concluded that the environmental
17 impacts associated with planned SAFSTOR
18 decommissioning activities at Pilgrim are less than,
19 and are bounded by, impacts addressed in previously-
20 issued Environmental Impact Statements. A more
21 detailed discussion of the reasons for our conclusion
22 is included in the PSDAR.

23 Next slide, please.

24 In November 2018, we filed an updated
25 Pilgrim Spent Fuel Management Plan with the NRC which

1 outlines our intent to store all spent fuel on a new,
2 larger, independent spent fuel storage installation
3 pad which will be located at a higher elevation on
4 the program site. This pad, which we plan to
5 construct by the end of 2020, will store a total of
6 61 casks, including the 17 casks that are on the
7 current pad, as well as 44 additional casks which are
8 needed to store the fuel that is currently in the
9 reactor vessel and the spent fuel pool.

10 Next slide, please.

11 In November 2018, Entergy and Holtec
12 submitted a request to the NRC to transfer the control
13 of Pilgrim's plant and [Independent Spent Fuel
14 Storage Installation] ISFSI licenses from Entergy to
15 Holtec. If approved by the NRC, the license transfer
16 will allow for prompt decommissioning under Holtec's
17 plan, which is different than Entergy's plan.
18 Specifically, Holtec plans to decommission Pilgrim
19 using a DECON or immediate dismantlement strategy by
20 approximately 2024. Additionally, Holtec intends to
21 move all spent fuel to dry fuel storage on the new
22 pad by the end of 2021. Following this presentation,
23 Andrea Sterdis will provide more information on
24 Holtec's decommissioning plans for Pilgrim.

25 A major benefit of decommissioning under

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1 Holtec's plan is that it will allow for earlier
2 release of portions of the Pilgrim site for reuse.
3 We have requested that the NRC review and approve the
4 license transfer application by May 31st of this year.
5 We know that this is an aggressive review schedule
6 for the staff and we are certain that the NRC will
7 conduct a very diligent review, and we expect nothing
8 less. The intent behind this requested timeline is
9 to provide certainty to the plant employees and to
10 the citizens of Plymouth and the surrounding areas on
11 plant ownership as well as the decommissioning plan
12 and timeline following plant shutdown.

13 Next slide, please.

14 More information about Pilgrim's plans
15 for decommissioning as well as our related submittals
16 that we have provided to the NRC are publicly
17 available on our website, www.pilgrimpower.com.

18 I thank you for your time. And a number
19 of us are here from Entergy, and we look forward to
20 answering your questions later in the evening. Thank
21 you.

22 MR. WATSON: Thank you for your
23 presentation.

24 Our next presentation is by Andrea
25 Sterdis from Holtec International and CDI, I believe

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1 it's called.

2 MS. STERDIS: Thank you, Bruce.

3 Good evening. I really appreciate the
4 opportunity to provide you all with a brief overview
5 of the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities
6 Report that has been prepared to show the Holtec plan
7 for initiating plant decommissioning following NRC
8 approval of the license transfer application,
9 execution of the license transfers, and completion of
10 the sale closure.

11 Next slide, please.

12 On this slide, you can see that I am up
13 here providing the presentation. I'm Andrea Sterdis.
14 I'm the Vice President for Regulatory Programs,
15 Environment and Safety for Comprehensive
16 [De]Commissioning International. I am joined tonight
17 by Joy Russell, Senior Vice President for Holtec
18 International.

19 Next slide.

20 On November 16th, 2018, Holtec submitted
21 a revised Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities
22 Report, or PSDAR, based on their plan to initiate
23 prompt DECON. Our PSDAR for DECON includes a
24 description of the planned activities, specifically
25 the activities that are required to initiate that

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1 prompt DECON and complete it. It also includes a
2 planned DECON decommissioning schedule and a cost
3 estimate reflecting that schedule and the DECON plan.
4 Lastly, it includes a discussion of the environmental
5 impacts for the specific activities that will be
6 performed during the execution of the dismantlement
7 and the waste removal from the site to complete the
8 radiological decommissioning.

9 The PSDAR was prepared in accordance with
10 NRC regulations and addresses NRC guidance. It was
11 prepared by a team that is experienced in planning,
12 estimating, and executing nuclear power plant
13 decommissioning. It was also informed by a review
14 of previously-submitted PSDARs, as well as
15 particularly a review and an alignment with the
16 assumptions that were provided and used in the Entergy
17 SAFSTOR PSDAR. The DECON PSDAR is contingent upon NRC
18 approval of the license transfer, execution of the
19 transfers of the license, and completion of the sale.

20 Next slide, please.

21 The DECON PSDAR reflects Holtec's plan to
22 promptly start decommissioning activities following
23 the license transfer and sales closure. The schedule
24 reflects the project goal to achieve partial site
25 release within eight years.

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1 The decommissioning cost estimate
2 reflects DECON activities and schedule for completing
3 radiological decommissioning, managing the spent
4 fuel, and completing site restoration activities.

5 The environmental evaluation considers
6 the DECON activities and provides evidence that those
7 activities are bounded by the existing Environmental
8 Impact Statements that are applicable to the Pilgrim
9 site, including the NRC generic Environmental Impact
10 Statement for Decommissioning as well as the Pilgrim
11 Site License Renewal Environmental Impact Statement.

12 If you look at the SAFSTOR PSDAR and
13 compare the decommissioning cost estimate with that
14 provided in our PSDAR for DECON, you will see some
15 differences. Those differences are primarily driven
16 by two reasons. First, the core business for Entergy
17 in the current time is to provide and generate
18 power/electricity. The core business for Holtec,
19 including CDI, is managing spent fuel and executing
20 decommissioning projects. And therefore, the Holtec
21 team has the latest technology, the engineering
22 expertise, and the project management expertise to
23 apply cost- and time-effective methods for
24 decommissioning, resulting in a difference in the
25 decommissioning cost.

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1 In addition, the DECON plan eliminates
2 the transition to the dormant state, maintaining that
3 plant dormant state for almost 40 years, and the
4 transition to reactivate the plant and complete the
5 dismantlement and waste removal activities about 40
6 years down the road.

7 It's important to note that the SAFSTOR
8 dismantlement and waste removal schedule and the
9 DECON dismantlement and waste removal schedule are
10 similar in duration. The difference is the prompt
11 DECON one modeled in our PSDAR is initiated
12 immediately after license transfer in 2019 and
13 completes in approximately five years.

14 On the next slide, please.

15 The schedule provided in the DECON PSDAR
16 assumes that the NRC will approve the license transfer
17 application in time to support a July 31st transfer
18 of the licenses and sale closure. This slide
19 provides some key assumptions that drove the schedule
20 that's included in that PSDAR, starting with the fact
21 that we've assumed an initiation of decontamination
22 and dismantlement activities in 2019 following the
23 license transfer. It also assumes that the newest
24 ISFSI pad construction is completed and the pad is
25 available for use in 2020. It assumes that the

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1 offloading of the spent fuel transitioning the site
2 from a combined wet and dry spent fuel storage site
3 to a dry fuel storage site only occurs by the fourth
4 quarter of 2021.

5 Similar to the SAFSTOR PSDAR schedule
6 submitted by Entergy, our DECON PSDAR schedule
7 assumes that the [Department of Energy] DOE completes
8 the spent fuel removal from the site in the 2062 time
9 period. The DECON PSDAR schedule shows radiological
10 decommission, except for the independent spent fuel
11 storage installation, ISFSI, is accomplished within
12 approximately five years following the license
13 transfer and sale closure. It also assumes that site
14 restoration activities, which are not required for
15 the partial site release approval by the NRC, are
16 continuing beyond that approximately one year.

17 Next slide, please.

18 The Holtec DCE, or decommissioning cost
19 estimate, that's included in the DECON PSDAR results
20 in approximately \$1.134 billion cost in 2018 dollars.
21 The Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund for Pilgrim is
22 currently valued at \$1.05 billion as of October 31st,
23 2018. The cash flow analyses that were submitted as
24 part of the license transfer application as well as
25 the DECON PSDAR and decommissioning cost estimate

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1 demonstrate that the Pilgrim Nuclear Decommissioning
2 Trust Fund contains sufficient funds to cover our
3 plan for radiological decommissioning, spent fuel
4 management, and site restoration.

5 It's important to note that, pursuant to
6 NRC regulations, we will be required, as the licensee,
7 to prepare and submit an annual report that provides
8 the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust [NDT] Fund status,
9 including expenses and activities executed in the
10 previous year, the remaining NDT balance, and showing
11 financial assurance that the balance can address and
12 cover the remaining costs of all the activities
13 required to complete the license termination. This
14 is a public report and is made available each year by
15 the NRC.

16 With that, I'd like to thank you for your
17 time, and I'd like to thank the NRC for this meeting.
18 Thank you.

19 MR. WATSON: Thank you, Andrea.

20 Before I turn the meeting over to Brett
21 and Donna to facilitate the comment session, I would
22 like to invite any elected officials or their
23 representatives or any Native American tribe
24 representations to make statements if you're
25 available now. So, if you would, those that are

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1 interested, please come up to the microphone and state
2 your name for the record.

3 MR. KLUKAN: So, we actually have a
4 couple who have preregistered with us, and we are
5 going to go down through that list. And then, we'll
6 open it up to those who did not preregister.

7 So, first up, we're going to have Ms.
8 Jessica Wong from the Office of Senator Elizabeth
9 Warren.

10 MS. WONG: Good Evening. Thank you. As
11 Brad said, my name is Jessica. I am from Senator
12 Elizabeth Warren's office, and I'm her Regional
13 Director.

14 So, Senator Warren reiterates her deep
15 concerns with the consistently poor public safety
16 record at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station and the
17 Nuclear Regulatory Commission's pattern of ignoring
18 critical discrepancies in Entergy's safety measures
19 that put Massachusetts residents at risk. This
20 cannot continue, especially as the NRC reviews the
21 license transfer for the decommissioning from Entergy
22 to Holtec International. To date, she has sent six
23 letters to the NRC expressing these concerns, most
24 recently in October, following the reports of
25 unplanned shutdowns due to problems with equipment.

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1 Entergy cannot continue to use the
2 summer's planned shutdown as an excuse to avoid much-
3 needed safety upgrades that protect our communities.
4 Senator Warren urges the company to prioritize the
5 people of southeastern Massachusetts over its
6 profits.

7 Similarly, the NRC can no longer shirk
8 its responsibilities to establish and enforce proper
9 safety standards. The Senator, once again, calls on
10 the NRC to require Entergy to immediately comply with
11 federal safety standards, and if they refuse to do
12 so, then the NRC must take necessary steps to shut
13 down the plant.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

16 Next, we will have Ms. Rory Clark from
17 the Office of Senator Ed Markey.

18 MS. CLARK: Thank you for having me. As
19 you said, I'm Rory Clark. I'm Senator Markey's
20 Regional Director. I'll be reading a statement on
21 Senator Markey's behalf.

22 "I've long been concerned about Pilgrim's
23 safety and operating record and its management's
24 history of cutting corners at the expense of increased
25 risk to Massachusetts residents. As we turn our

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1 attention now to the details of the Post-Shutdown
2 Decommissioning Activities Reports submitted by
3 Entergy and Holtec International, I must remind the
4 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Entergy, and Holtec
5 that the people of Massachusetts will settle for
6 nothing less than the most stringent safety measures.

7 "As the federal regulatory body
8 overseeing the decommissioning process, we all expect
9 the NRC will review both Entergy and Holtec's proposed
10 decommissioning plans with the utmost of care and
11 caution. The safety of Massachusetts residents
12 demands this thorough review.

13 "Plans for the ownership and
14 decommissioning of Pilgrim must prioritize safety ~~and~~
15 [and] security. The NRC must evaluate both Entergy
16 and Holtec's PSDARs to ensure that each provides a
17 comprehensive accounting of how that owner will
18 assume responsibility for safe operations, improve
19 upon the abysmal safety record at Pilgrim, and finance
20 the complete decommissioning process.

21 "I understand that it's common practice
22 for the NRC to issue exemptions that would limit the
23 required emergency planning zone when the plant
24 begins the decommissioning process, but I must urge
25 the NRC to require Pilgrim's owner, be it Entergy or

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1 Holtec, to work with local communities to maintain
2 and fund the significant emergency planning zone and
3 ensure that local communities are prepared for any
4 eventuality.

5 "Last year I was proud to cosponsor the
6 Safe and Secure Decommissioning Act which would
7 prohibit the NRC from issuing waivers or granting
8 exemptions from complying with safety and emergency
9 preparedness regulations put forth in the Atomic
10 Energy Act of 1954 until nuclear fuel had been
11 transferred to spent nuclear fuel dry casks. I will
12 continue to push for all parties involved in the
13 decommissioning of Pilgrim to abide by such
14 standards.

15 "As we are all aware, this region is home
16 to fierce nor'easter storms and rising tides, posing
17 safety concerns that other nuclear facilities around
18 the country do not have to contend with. Especially
19 given this region's harsh environmental conditions,
20 the NRC should ensure the completion of a full
21 National Environmental Policy Act analysis that would
22 exam the effect of the proposed decommissioning plans
23 on the environment and allow for additional public
24 involvement.

25 "Furthermore, any Pilgrim licensee should

1 provide thorough plans for communicating regularly
2 with the public and local stakeholders throughout the
3 decommissioning process. This communication is
4 essential to ensure that all members of the community
5 understand how Pilgrim will be safely decommissioned
6 and foster confidence that security measures satisfy
7 federal safety standards and community expectations.

8 "I was proud to be an original cosponsor
9 of additional legislation in 2018 entitled 'The
10 Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Act,' which would
11 ensure the states and local communities have a
12 meaningful role in the crafting and preparation of
13 decommissioning plans for retired nuclear plants
14 located in our community. This bill also requires
15 the NRC to publicly and transparently approve or
16 reject every proposed decommissioning plan, which it
17 currently is not required to do.

18 "I will be introducing the Dry Cask
19 Storage Act this session, which would ensure every
20 nuclear reactor operator must be compelled to comply
21 with an NRC-approved plan that would require the safe
22 removal of spent nuclear fuel from spent nuclear fuel
23 pools and placed that fuel into dry cask storage
24 within seven years of the time that the plan is
25 submitted to the NRC. This bill would further

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1 provide funding to help reactor licensees implement
2 these plans and would expand the emergency planning
3 zone for all noncompliant reactor operators to 50
4 miles.

5 "As we consider tonight the shutdown
6 process for Pilgrim, Entergy and Holtec must provide
7 conclusive proof that there are sufficient funds
8 available in the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust to
9 decommission Pilgrim in a safe and secure manner. It
10 will be unacceptable for Entergy or Holtec to demand
11 additional money from Massachusetts ratepayers to
12 complete the decommissioning process at Pilgrim.
13 There can be no second chances here.

14 "Historical data and NRC guidelines
15 indicate that the decommissioning costs are likely to
16 increase faster ~~than~~ [than] inflation. Entergy and
17 Holtec must each account for that fact or find a way
18 to clearly rebut it. Given the amount currently
19 available in the Trust Fund, the NRC must carefully
20 assess if the proposed decommissioning timeline is
21 achievable in a safe and secure manner and require
22 there is reasonable public assurance of available
23 funds for the totality of the process. Additionally,
24 as the proposed license transfer will further strain
25 the NRC's resources, it is imperative that the NRC

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1 assign additional staff to work on these issues and
2 charge the licensees for their salaries.

3 "In the recent past, I have also
4 expressed my concerns to the NRC regarding the draft
5 decommissioning rule currently awaiting review, which
6 is intended to provide clear guidelines for all plants
7 that are undergoing the decommissioning process.
8 This proposal falls far short of the NRC's stated
9 goals of providing for a safe, effective, and
10 efficient decommissioning process for nuclear plants.
11 In its current form, this fails to propose a
12 comprehensive set of decommissioning and cleanup
13 regulations, would result in the automatic approval
14 of facilities' exemptions from safety, security, and
15 emergency planning regulations, and would continue to
16 rubberstamp the industry's Post-Shutdown
17 Decommissioning Activities Report. I continue to
18 urge the NRC to reject this draft and, instead, write
19 a rule that will affirmatively guide plants and
20 communities through the decommissioning process.

21 "Thank you."

22 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

23 Next, we will have Mr. Michael Jackman of
24 the Office of Congressman Bill Keating.

25 MR. JACKMAN: Thank you.

1 I do have a statement from the
2 Congressman I'd like to read, but before I do that,
3 I have just some housekeeping questions. The slide
4 presentations that were made tonight, are those
5 available online or will they be available online?

6 MR. KLUKAN: For the record, yes, they
7 will be available online on the NRC's website.

8 MR. JACKMAN: Okay. Only because I think
9 if people want to make comments both on the PSDAR and
10 the license transfer, there's a lot of good
11 information in there. Thank you.

12 "Thank you for the opportunity to address
13 you at tonight's public meeting. Unfortunately, the
14 House voting schedule prevents me from being here in
15 person, but I wanted to restate my opinion that, as
16 we draw closer to the cessation of operations at
17 Pilgrim, the rigorous scrutiny of the operations at
18 the plant must continue. Entergy must not be allowed
19 to languish in column 4, representing the minimum
20 level of operational safety for the remainder of its
21 life as a power generating plant.

22 "In addition, the NRC must scrutinize
23 Entergy's and Holtec's Post-Shutdown Decommissioning
24 Activities Reports to ensure that the health and
25 safety of Massachusetts residents is not at risk.

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1 The NRC must enforce its regulations and require the
2 licensee to adhere to the most stringent standards
3 for facility security, cybersecurity for all the
4 plant systems, structural integrity of the onsite dry
5 cask storage system, and mitigation of environmental
6 hazards.

7 "In addition, decommissioning activities
8 must be fully funded by the licensee, and the NRC
9 must do all it can to ensure that taxpayers, be they
10 residents of Plymouth, the Commonwealth of
11 Massachusetts, or the United States of America, are
12 not left to shoulder the burden of the cost of the
13 cleanup of the Pilgrim site.

14 "Given the real prospect of ongoing
15 nuclear waste storage here in Plymouth, it is
16 incumbent upon all levels of government to work
17 together to ensure the safety of our residents. It
18 is imperative that those residents and residents of
19 all affected communities in Plymouth County, the
20 Cape, and the islands are included in the discussion
21 and decisions involved with the decommissioning
22 process.

23 "The Plymouth Town Select Board, the
24 State legislative delegation, the Nuclear
25 Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel, private

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1 groups like Pilgrim Watch and Cape Downwinders, and
2 many other concerned individuals and groups, all have
3 been engaged in this vital discussion over the years,
4 and they all deserve to have their input heard and
5 incorporated into the decisionmaking process. I am
6 proud to have cosponsored legislation, which I've
7 already referred to, the Nuclear Plant
8 Decommissioning Act, that will do just that.

9 "I applaud all those present tonight for
10 sharing their perspectives, and I will continue to
11 fight to make sure that your voices are heard. Thank
12 you."

13 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

14 Next, we will have Mr. Seth Schofield
15 from the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

16 MR. SCHOFIELD: Thank you, Brett.

17 Good evening. I'm Seth Schofield, Senior
18 Appellate Counsel and Assistant Attorney General in
19 the Energy and Environment Bureau of the Office of
20 Attorney General Maura Healey.

21 First, I'd like to thank the Nuclear
22 Regulatory Commission for coming to Plymouth tonight,
23 so that the public has an opportunity to voice their
24 thoughts and concerns about the power plant and the
25 proposed plans to decommission the plant following

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1 its shutdown this spring.

2 From the Attorney General's perspective,
3 the proposed sale of Pilgrim and the related transfer
4 of Pilgrim's operating license from Entergy to a
5 Holtec subsidiary raise significant health, safety,
6 environmental, and financial concerns for the
7 Commonwealth and its citizens. We appreciate the
8 potential benefits of accelerated decommissioning
9 that forms the basis for the sale and license transfer
10 application, but we currently have serious concerns
11 about whether Pilgrim's Decommissioning Trust Fund
12 contains sufficient funds to cover the performance of
13 all necessary decommissioning, site restoration, and
14 spent fuel management activities on an indefinite
15 basis.

16 As currently proposed, neither Holtec,
17 Pilgrim, LLC, the proposed licensee, nor Holtec
18 Decommissioning International, LLC, the proposed
19 licensed operator, will generate any revenue or bring
20 with them any new assets that could be used to fund
21 and complete site decommissioning, restoration, and
22 spent fuel management activities at the site.
23 Instead, Holtec-Pilgrim and Holtec Decommissioning
24 International's only planned source of funds are the
25 funds currently existing in the Pilgrim Trust Fund,

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1 and as currently proposed, there exists no guaranteed
2 add to the parent company of those two single-purpose
3 limited liability companies to compensate for any
4 funding shortfall in the Trust Funds. If there are
5 insufficient funds in the Trust Fund, Holtec would
6 likely default on its obligation and likely leave the
7 Commonwealth and its taxpayers with those
8 obligations, both as the payer of last resort and the
9 party responsible for protecting public safety and
10 the environment for an indefinite period.

11 Based on our preliminary review of the
12 license transfer application and the revised Post-
13 Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, we have
14 reason to believe that a Trust Fund shortfall could
15 very well occur. For example, Holtec's estimate of
16 what it will cost to decommission, restore, and manage
17 spent fuel at the site is only \$3.615 million less
18 than the total amount of money expected to be in the
19 trust. That means there would be insufficient funds
20 to cover any cost overrun in excess of \$3.6 million.

21 Past experience, however, including
22 decommissioning experience at other sites in New
23 England, demonstrates that the potential discovery of
24 previously unidentified radiological and non-
25 radiological contamination, potential unanticipated

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1 work delays, and other potential problematic events
2 could well drive costs significantly beyond
3 preliminary post-shutdown decommissioning cost
4 estimates.

5 For example, the discovery of
6 strontium-90 during decommissioning at Connecticut
7 Yankee doubled the anticipated decommissioning cost
8 there. The discovery of highly contaminated
9 groundwater during decommissioning at Maine Yankee
10 also increased costs beyond those anticipated to
11 decommission that site. And the discovery of
12 [polychlorinated biphenyl] PCB
13 contamination/radiological groundwater contamination
14 during decommissioning at Yankee Rowe, similarly,
15 caused significant and unanticipated cost increases.

16 Holtec and its partner, SNC-Lavalin, have
17 poor track records on other projects at other sites
18 around the country, which amplifies the
19 Commonwealth's concerns about the potential for cost
20 overruns, delays, and other issues that will both
21 imperil public safety and our environment, while at
22 the same time enhancing the risk of a Trust Fund
23 shortfall that would make matters even worse. For
24 example, the NRC just recently issued a Notice of
25 Violation related to Holtec's mishandling of dry cask

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1 loading and transfer operations at San Onofre Nuclear
2 Generation Station in California, and its failure to
3 timely report that matter to the NRC.

4 Because of the significant risk to the
5 Commonwealth embodied by the pending license transfer
6 proposal, we implore the NRC to join us in ~~closing~~
7 [closely] scrutinizing the proposal's terms and
8 ensure that substantial financial assurances exist to
9 ensure that those risks are fully addressed. To that
10 end, the Attorney General intends, on behalf of the
11 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to intervene in the
12 pending license transfer proceeding to articulate
13 these and other concerns for evaluation by the
14 Commission and the imposition of protective
15 safeguards and other conditions with respect to any
16 license transfer.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

19 Next up, we have several authorized
20 representatives from the Board of Selectmen of the
21 Town of Duxbury.

22 MS. M. LAMPERT: Good evening. I'm Mary
23 Lampert, speaking tonight on behalf of the Duxbury
24 Board of Selectmen.

25 The town is very concerned the site will

1 not be properly cleaned up due to reliance on a
2 [Generic Environmental Impact Statement] GEIS written
3 in 2002 and an [Supplemental Environmental Impact
4 Statement] SEIS written in 2006 that are outdated,
5 incomplete, and ignore new and significant
6 information, and the failure of NRC to require a
7 [National Environmental Policy Act] NEPA analysis, as
8 required by federal law and legal precedent, into
9 insufficient funds in the [Decommissioning Trust
10 Fund] DTF.

11 With respect to the GEIS and SEIS,
12 Duxbury sees no rational basis for NRC to assume that
13 the environmental impacts are bounded by these
14 documents, nor that environmental impacts will be
15 small or that the site is essentially clean. It is
16 not. A few examples:

17 The SEIS incorrectly denies that the
18 National Academy's Biological Effects of Radiation
19 Report, 2006, denies to provide new and significant
20 information from the 1990 report. The 2006 report
21 found mortality rates for women exposed to radiation
22 was 37.5 percent higher than its 1990 report and the
23 impact of allowable radiation standards on workers
24 was twice that estimated in 1990. Therefore,
25 allowable doses need to be reduced from the 25

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1 millirem a year to less than 10 millirem a year, as
2 the State has requested, and reduction in allowable
3 doses to workers. You are obligated to follow the
4 latest scientific information, not go back to 1990.

5 Second, contamination onsite must be
6 updated. In the GEIS and SEIS, NRC didn't lift a
7 shovel. You just relied on the licensees' reports.
8 Their conclusions cannot be relied upon. Pilgrim
9 opened with bad fuel and no off-gas treatment system,
10 and blew its filters in 1982.

11 Where did the contamination go?
12 Hazardous waste is buried onsite, including on the
13 property off the access road. Construction has
14 occurred at the site and the soil buried. What's in
15 that soil? There's a crack in the reactor's torus
16 floor. Soil outside the reactor, beneath it, must
17 be analyzed. The source of tritium levels of
18 monitoring wells is unknown. Other slower-moving
19 radionuclides also are likely to be there, not yet
20 picked up by the monitoring wells. Also, what is
21 leaked from seismic gaps and the condensate system?
22 Again, who knows? It's not in the 2002 report. It's
23 not in the SEIS written in 2006.

24 NRC's 2014 continued storage rule that
25 the waste may be stored onsite indefinitely has to be

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1 considered. The PSDAR's assumptions that spent fuel
2 will be offsite by 2062 cannot be accepted by NRC.
3 Entergy relied on DOE for its projections, but DOE
4 qualified its projections. Entergy and Holtec did
5 not.

6 PSDAR cost estimates and plans to ensure
7 the long-term integrity of the casks must be revised
8 to provide a contingency fund for long-term storage.
9 NRC's Mark Lombard stated that there is no technology
10 to find cracks in Holtec casks. They're made of
11 steel and subject to corrosion. Dr. Kris Singh, the
12 President of Holtec, said that it's not feasible to
13 repair Holtec's sealed canisters.

14 These facts cannot be ignored. Casks
15 must be better protected, monitored for heat, helium,
16 and temperature, and funds for mitigation included in
17 cost estimates because the fuel, as NRC has said,
18 could remain here indefinitely in an environment
19 subject to corrosion, moisture, and salt.

20 The GEIS and SEIS found socioeconomic
21 impacts small. Again, not so. A University of
22 Massachusetts Amherst study commissioned by the Town
23 of Plymouth found that the economic impact on Plymouth
24 alone would be almost \$500 million and that there
25 would be more than \$100 million impact on the rest of

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1 the region, including Duxbury.

2 Conclusion: therefore, it's clear that
3 the GEIS and SEIS are totally inadequate and do not
4 bound the environmental impact. The NRC must require
5 both a comprehensive environmental analysis that
6 includes shovels and testing, made public, quite
7 obviously, at the beginning of the decommissioning
8 process and a NEPA analysis.

9 This is a major federal reaction. You
10 cannot pretend it is mere oversight to wiggle your
11 way out of the requirement. You gave the license and
12 you will terminate the licenses. That is a major
13 federal action.

14 And thank you very much.

15 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

16 MR. J. LAMPERT: I'm Jim Lampert, and I
17 am also here representing the Duxbury Board of
18 Selectmen. And I'd like to speak briefly on just one
19 aspect.

20 The Selectmen in the Town of Duxbury have
21 serious concerns about the financial aspects of
22 decommissioning. You heard Senator Markey's
23 representative, Senator Warren's representative,
24 Representative Keating's representative, and the
25 Attorney General's Office refer to these.

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1 Holtec's PSDAR, like Entergy's, says
2 there is enough money in the Decommissioning Trust
3 Fund to accomplish the job. Putting aside all of the
4 things the PSDAR doesn't talk about, and Mrs. Lampert
5 just listed, that assumption by Entergy and Holtec
6 rests on a further assumption that future costs in
7 decommissioning will not be more than future
8 increases in general inflation. That assumption is
9 highly questionable.

10 According to Callan Associates that
11 annually puts together a report on decommissioning
12 costs for the nuclear industry, decommissioning costs
13 increased at an annual rate of about 5.8 percent
14 between 2008 and 2016. This increase in cost is
15 about 4.5 percent above inflation. For a benchmark,
16 the NRC and the PSDARs assume that the Trust Fund
17 will grow at a rate of only 2 percent of the general
18 inflation.

19 The NRC's own questions and answers on
20 decommissioning financial assurance say that, over a
21 20-year period, there will be an annual increase in
22 decommissioning costs of between 5 and 9 percent.
23 Again, well over both inflation and 2 percent above
24 inflation. If the NRC's statements are correct, and
25 if Callan's reports of actual past history are

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1 correct, it seems highly unlikely that there's going
2 to be enough money in the fund to accomplish the job.

3 Which leads me to a fundamental question
4 of the Board of Selectmen: if there is not enough
5 money, what law or regulation requires a licensee,
6 particularly a limited liability corporation like
7 Holtec-Pilgrim, or any of its parent or associated
8 entities, to pay the shortfall? Can you tell me if
9 there is such a regulation? And if so, tell me what
10 it is. And if you cannot do now, can I ask that you
11 tell us all tomorrow night at the decommissioning
12 panel meeting to give you the time to get the answer?

13 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

14 MS. CHIN: Rebecca Chin for the Town of
15 Duxbury. The Selectmen asked me to speak on public
16 safety this evening.

17 And we urge you to retain the current
18 offsite emergency planning funded by the licensee
19 until the spent fuel pool is emptied and continue
20 licensee-funded offsite emergency planning on a
21 reduced level until all the fuel leaves the site.

22 Entergy has currently filed for a license
23 exemption to end offsite and reduce onsite funding,
24 and this should be denied by the NRC. You cannot
25 expect mutual aid with no funding.

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1 The second is on monitoring. Mass
2 Department of Public Health should continue to expand
3 offsite radiological monitoring and onsite tritium
4 monitoring. The licensee should continue to provide
5 Mass Department of Public Health with its funding.
6 It needs to be required of the licensee.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

9 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Sheila Lynch-
10 Benttinin in Duxbury, speaking on behalf of the Board
11 of Selectmen.

12 I would like to address one issue. Forty
13 years ago when community safety was being addressed,
14 telephone poles and speakers were the technology of
15 the time. Currently, in our Town of Duxbury, which
16 is within the 5-mile zone of Pilgrim, we have an Old
17 Colony network, digital network, of public safety
18 addresses. I would like Holtec, if they are going
19 to start next July, to engage the regional fire
20 departments and the Old Colony system of current
21 digital notification to be engaged in community
22 safety and planning during the three very important
23 years, especially after what just happened in
24 California with the accident. If there's an accident
25 during the Holtec time, if they're given the license,

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1 and you're not up-to-date with the current fire
2 department technologies in the region, it will be a
3 very tragic day. So, I encourage Holtec, if they're
4 given the license in July, to reach out to the
5 regional fire departments and the emergency
6 notification system, which has been greatly upgraded
7 since 40 years ago.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

10 Are there any other elected officials or
11 representatives of elected officials or
12 representatives of federally-recognized tribes who
13 would like to introduce themselves this evening
14 before we move on to the public comment portion?

15 (No response.)

16 All right. Hearing none, I would like
17 to introduce Donna Janda, and we will proceed with
18 the public comment portion.

19 MS. JANDA: Thanks, Brett.

20 Good evening, everyone. As Brett said,
21 my name is Donna Janda, and I'll be facilitating
22 tonight's meeting along with Brett.

23 For those of you who registered to speak,
24 you should have received a ticket, the other half of
25 which Brett has in a container over here. And the

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1 speaking order is going to be determined by the
2 numbers that are pulled from the container. And the
3 intent of this is so that the speaker order is just
4 random.

5 So, I do want to emphasize there is no
6 prohibition against donating your ticket to others.
7 You are free to do so. However, both individuals
8 should be present at the time that number is called,
9 and the donation must be announced at that time.

10 In addition, if an individual has already
11 spoken during the meeting as a result of someone
12 donating their ticket, and then, that individual's
13 ticket is called, that individual may not use that
14 ticket, but they can donate it to someone else. This
15 is just to give opportunity to everyone to be able to
16 speak.

17 So, when your number is called, please
18 queue up to the microphone that's in the aisle, in
19 the center aisle right there. And if you need to
20 have a microphone brought to you, just let us know,
21 and Brett will take care of that for you.

22 Just so you have some advanced warning of
23 when it's your turn to speak, Brett's posting the
24 numbers right now as I'm speaking, and we're going to
25 just go down them in sequential order there.

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1 In an effort to give everybody the
2 opportunity to speak tonight, please limit yourselves
3 to three minutes when we speaking. We do have a
4 clock here on this table in the center here, in front
5 of the podium, and we'll count down those three
6 minutes. And after the three-minute mark, I'll
7 politely ask you to conclude your remarks.

8 For your awareness, the meeting tonight
9 is being recorded, and there is a transcript that
10 will generated after the meeting. Both the audio and
11 the transcript will be posted to the NRC website.
12 So, in light of that, I would ask, when it's your
13 turn to speak, that you please identify yourself.
14 And I would also ask, for the sake of the audio
15 recording, that people not speak over each other.

16 I would also ask that we keep this area
17 clear in front of the stage. If there is something
18 you would like to give to the NRC staff, you can give
19 that to Brett and he'll take care of that.

20 And now, just some basic groundrules to
21 go over. While recognizing many of you have
22 strongly-held opinions concerning the matters that
23 were discussed tonight, I ask that you, nonetheless,
24 adhere to civil decorum, that you respect each other.
25 So, please do not disrupt each other. Just as you

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1 wouldn't want to be interrupted during your three
2 minutes at the microphone, please respect the
3 speaking time of others.

4 Any threatening gestures or statements
5 will under no circumstances be tolerated and will be
6 cause for immediate ejection from the meeting. If
7 you feel you've been threatened, please let me know
8 or please tell one of the NRC security personnel or
9 police officers in the room, and we will try and
10 address that.

11 The one thing that I do want to also
12 note -- and I haven't heard any tonight -- but please
13 make sure you silence your cell phones, so that
14 doesn't disrupt the meeting.

15 And I think we are ready to go at that.
16 So, the first number on the list is No. 2.

17 PARTICIPANT: I've already spoken.

18 MS. JANDA: Okay. Would you like to
19 donate that ticket to somebody else to speak?

20 MR. KLUKAN: Would anyone who didn't sign
21 up yet to speak like to speak right now?

22 (No response.)

23 All right. So, let's break this down.
24 This system is designed -- I actually just experienced
25 this at a Westinghouse meeting in South Carolina where

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1 we didn't have that many numbers. So, this is
2 everyone. This is everyone who signed up to speak.
3 So, we have 14 people who signed up to speak. There
4 will likely be some opportunity at the end, after
5 these individuals have spoken, if you haven't signed
6 up to speak, or if you decide after hearing comments
7 to speak then.

8 So, the plan is just to move through these
9 numbers, and then, again, open it up after that. I'm
10 still going to keep people to the three minutes. And
11 then, if people have additional things to say after
12 that, once we've gotten through the list, and whether
13 there's any additional people who would like to speak,
14 then we can add on a second round, as time permits.
15 Okay?

16 So, did anyone want to use the No. 2
17 ticket?

18 (No response.)

19 If not, we will move on to the No. 12
20 ticket.

21 Pass? All right. Look at the time we
22 are making this evening.

23 (Laughter.)

24 The No. 1 ticket. Do you want to go?

25 MS. LAMPERT: Yes.

1 MR. KLUKAN: All right, go. All right.

2 MS. LAMPERT: Mary Lampert for Pilgrim
3 Watch.

4 I just want to amplify the concern of our
5 town and other speakers of maintaining licensee
6 responsibility for offsite emergency planning in full
7 force, as it is now, whatever it is, until the pool
8 is emptied, and then, ratcheted-down until fuel
9 leaves the site.

10 What is not properly considered by NRC or
11 the licensees is our acts of malice. We know there
12 is a heightened threat environment, and we know that
13 the spent fuel pool is a vulnerable target, as
14 demonstrated by an expert for our Attorney General,
15 Dr. Gordon Thompson, during relicensing.

16 We know, also, that even in a cask they
17 are vulnerable to acts of malice by a shoulder-launch
18 missile, for example, and then, in the hole, putting
19 in an explosive. This is described in excruciating
20 detail, again by Dr. Thompson, both in hearings in
21 the United States, recent ones, and in Canada.

22 So, you have to consider it. The fact
23 that the probability may be low, you can take an
24 arithmetic view to it because of the consequences
25 being so great as they are.

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1 And consider also, we are very glad the
2 ISFSI pad has been moved to higher ground. However,
3 unfortunately, it wasn't moved to the Manomet side.
4 It was moved more towards, I'd say, the Duxbury side.
5 And it is very, very close to Rocky Hill Road.

6 So, we have gained a great deal by not
7 having it subject to climate change effects, but we
8 have lost on security. Therefore, we need a
9 reinforced barrier or some measure, a building or
10 something, to provide the security we need, because
11 the threat is not going away and each cask contains
12 over half the cesium-137 released in Chernobyl.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

15 MS. JANDA: And the next number is No.
16 3.

17 PARTICIPANT: Pass.

18 PARTICIPANT: I'll take it.

19 MR. KLUKAN: It's important to hold the
20 physical copy of the ticket. I'm just kidding.

21 Could you state your name for the record?

22 MR. WOLFE: My name is Dan Wolfe. I'm
23 from Harwich on Cape Cod, and I also serve on the
24 Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel. So,
25 I'll see you all tomorrow night, and I appreciate

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1 your being here.

2 In case there are people that can't be
3 there tomorrow night that are here tonight, we have
4 heard expressed by numerous folks from our
5 legislative delegation, the Attorney General's
6 Office, a real concern that there isn't sufficient
7 funds. And we could go back and forth on that. It's
8 conjecture. It's based on certain assumptions
9 relative to economic returns on what's in the Trust
10 Fund.

11 So, I guess I have a really specific
12 question. And that is, what happens if there isn't?
13 What happens if there is not specific funds? Where
14 does the burden go?

15 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

16 MR. WATSON: The short answer is the
17 licensee remains responsible for completing the
18 decommissioning and providing the funds that are
19 necessary to do that. So, that would be a
20 responsibility that, if we were to grant the license
21 transfer to Holtec, they would be responsible for and
22 for complying with the requirements.

23 MR. WOLFE: Could I ask a followup
24 question to that, please?

25 MR. KLUKAN: Sure. You have like two

1 minutes left.

2 MR. WOLFE: Okay. Thanks.

3 So, I guess question would be, is there
4 any precedent or is there an ability to hold the
5 original licensee liable in addition to Holtec?
6 There are layers of sort of corporate creation here
7 that I think limit and insulate from liability. So,
8 I question would be, is there a mechanism, is there
9 a precedent, is there a way to keep Entergy
10 potentially liable or the investors in Entergy
11 potentially liable if the funds are insufficient?

12 Because our concern is it goes to that
13 entity, and, of course, the well is dry. And by the
14 way, that is by design. That is by corporate design
15 as far as how this is being constructed.

16 Thank you very much.

17 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again.

18 MR. WATSON: To the best of knowledge,
19 we don't have any precedent. We have had some sites
20 go bankrupt, and we've worked with the trustee of the
21 Trust Fund to complete the decommissioning. So,
22 there's no -- once we complete our review, and if we
23 were to transfer the license, there would be no going
24 back to Entergy for the funds. So, it's either
25 they're going to be qualified to do that and accept

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1 that responsibility or not.

2 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
3 4.

4 MS. TURCO: Diane Turco with Cape
5 Downwinders.

6 Being a good neighbor means taking care
7 of each other and making decisions for the common
8 good. Entergy has advertised itself as a corporation
9 that is a good neighbor -- as long as there is money
10 to be made. Now the plug will be pulled in June and
11 the coffers will dry up. Entergy is running for the
12 exit door and leaving their legacy mess behind.

13 Entergy's PDS[A]R calls for SAFSTOR,
14 making Pilgrim a radioactive holding tank for 60
15 years. Holtec for DECON, prompt decommissioning
16 using the Decommissioning Trust Fund with exemptions.
17 What is best for the community should be the priority
18 of both their plans, but it is not.

19 We all agree that prompt decommissioning
20 is the best, but it must be done responsibly and
21 safely. The following are our standards to meet the
22 good neighbor requirements:

23 With the ISFSI holding tons of
24 radioactive waste, there's still a potential for
25 offsite release. The PSD[A]R must include emergency

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1 plans based on low-probability, high-consequence
2 incidents, such as terrorists attacks, and be
3 included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

4 Location of the ISFSI pad must consider
5 a technically-defensible onsite storage location.
6 That's not what we have now.

7 Dry cask must be improved with quality
8 and be able to be inspected, monitored, repaired, and
9 are retrievable.

10 Procedures must be in place for transfer
11 of waste from any cracked or damaged canisters or
12 casks which may mean keeping the pool.

13 Procedures and training for fuel transfer
14 with certification of completion by the NRC prior to
15 moving any fuel from the pool.

16 Residual radiation levels must match
17 [Environmental Protection Agency] EPA standards and
18 inclusion of independent oversight.

19 Finally, we ask for an [Attorney General
20 Office] AGO inspection into Holtec and its
21 subsidiaries before any license transfer. As
22 [Limited Liability Corporations] LLCs, this looks
23 like a house of cards with no guarantee that available
24 funds will be available to complete the job.

25 The citizens of Massachusetts must have

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1 clear assurance that the taxpayers will not be left
2 paying off the mess Entergy has left behind.

3 Looking at Holtec's record from recent
4 events at San Onofre near San Diego, confidence in
5 their ability to make decisions based on protection
6 of the public is questionable. An NRC special
7 inspection report of a near drop of a full canister
8 cited poor training, not following procedures,
9 equipment problems, and mismanagement. Sound
10 familiar? Poor management, poor training, poor
11 procedures, et cetera, has kept Entergy's operation
12 at Pilgrim as the least safe in the U.S. still. This
13 is like going from the frying pan into the fire. We
14 don't need another corporation here with a poor safety
15 culture that puts profit over public safety.

16 We are concerned neighbors and will
17 support a responsible and safe decommissioning plan
18 that protects our communities. If Holtec is setting
19 the standard at SONGS, Cape Downwinders cannot
20 support the transfer of license from Entergy at this
21 time.

22 You need to go back to the drawing board
23 and do better for our communities.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

25 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.

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1 9.

2 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Good evening. Richard
3 Rothstein, Town of Plymouth resident and a new member
4 of the State Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens
5 Advisory Panel.

6 I asked the question during last week's
7 webinar regarding Entergy's PSDAR for SAFSTOR about
8 the anticipated timeline for when the NRC would allow
9 the onsite meteorological towers to get dismantled
10 during the decommissioning process under SAFSTOR.
11 The NRC couldn't answer that question, only because
12 it's a little bit too early in the process. So, I
13 just wanted to rephrase my question.

14 Why is it important to have the onsite
15 meteorological towers? They're important because of
16 emergency planning purposes. In the event of a
17 radiological emergency with the plant still operating
18 or once the plant is permanently shut down, but spent
19 fuel in the pool, before it gets transferred, and
20 even with the dry casks onsite, if there were a
21 radiological emergency, a release, emergency
22 responders would need to have that information to be
23 able to make determinations of shelter in place versus
24 emergency evacuation determinations there. This need
25 doesn't disappear simply just because the plant is

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1 permanently shutting down.

2 So, to rephrase my question from last
3 week, I'd be interested in learning about other plants
4 that have decommissioned or are in the process of
5 decommissioning, most using SAFSTOR, but some are
6 probably going to use DECON, and when the NRC allowed
7 a licensee to dismantle the onsite meteorological
8 towers. I don't expect you would have an answer
9 tonight, but certainly in the next few weeks I'd be
10 very interested in learning more about that history,
11 so we can see what circumstances did NRC require those
12 towers to stay up longer or other circumstances where
13 they allowed a licensee to dismantle them sooner than
14 later.

15 Thank you.

16 MS. JANDA: All right. Thank you.

17 The next speaker will be No. 10.

18 MR. WALLEN: Hello. My name is Stan
19 Wallen, a resident of the Town of Plymouth. And I'll
20 disclose that I'm a retiree of Pilgrim Nuclear Power
21 Station.

22 I have one simple question for Holtec.
23 Based on the numbers you put up on the board, where
24 are you going to make \$89 million in five years? You
25 need 1.54 billion to decommission in your timeline.

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1 You have 105 now. If you're in the business to make
2 money, where are you going to get an additional almost
3 90 million?

4 MR. KLUKAN: One moment.

5 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis.

6 And the cash flow analysis that are
7 included in both the license transfer application as
8 well as the PSDAR for DECON demonstrate that the costs
9 will be distributed over time, and it does accurately
10 reflect the regulations regarding the Trust Fund
11 increases over time.

12 MR. WALLEN: I see. So, I'll just quote
13 a former presidential candidate, that we're working
14 with, "voodoo economics".

15 Secondly, this whole situation here
16 almost looks like it's down pat that Holtec will get
17 a license transfer. What is the consequence of the
18 NRC not approving a license transfer? We're going
19 to have Entergy try to decommission and take 60 years.
20 Is there a method or order or compulsion that can
21 happen to have Entergy accelerate the process? Are
22 we stuck with that if the license transfer is not
23 approved? An NRC question.

24 MR. WATSON: Okay. Yes, first of all,
25 we are in the process of reviewing the Holtec

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1 application and the associated financial and
2 technical information that has been provided. So,
3 there's been no conclusion on that.

4 Should we deny the application and not
5 allow the transfer to take place, yes, Entergy would
6 remain the licensee and be responsible for
7 maintaining the plant in a safe condition. So, we
8 would continue to inspect as we will if the license
9 were transferred the facility to ensure it's
10 maintained safely, and regardless of the DECON option
11 or SAFSTOR option they choose. But the bottom line
12 here is the licensee would be, continue to be Entergy,
13 and their requirement is that they have to complete
14 the decommissioning in 60 years.

15 MR. WALLEN: Thank you.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

17 Would it be beneficial to people if we
18 put back up the slide with one of the numbers instead
19 of just looking at "Thank you," which I'm sure is
20 very useful to all of you? Maybe either the Pilgrim
21 numbers, or the Entergy numbers or the Holtec number,
22 one of the two? Okay. Thanks for doing that.

23 MS. JANDA: Okay. The next speaker will
24 be No. 14.

25 MS. CONSETINO: Good evening, everybody.

1 I'm Henrietta Consetino, resident of Plymouth and,
2 also, Chair of the League of Women Voters Nuclear
3 Committee.

4 And I thank you for coming tonight. We
5 appreciate it. It's very important.

6 I also want to say I appreciate greatly
7 the speakers who came from the offices of our elected
8 officials. It was very helpful to have their
9 comments.

10 I have a question, but I'll save it for
11 last. My first is just a comment in total laymen
12 terms. We have two possibilities right now. On the
13 one hand, we have Holtec proposing to decommission in
14 a very short amount of time, and for cheap, and
15 phenomenally. It just sounds too good to be true,
16 particularly if you start to pay attention to the
17 nature of the dry casks that are being proposed and
18 the fact that these very same dry casks have been
19 tremendously troublesome at San Onofre and probably
20 in other places, too, all of them scratched, being
21 subject to erosion from saltwater, being stored on
22 the beach.

23 At least in San Onofre, the plan was it's
24 now suspended for a time, but the plan was to put
25 these faulty casks in a vaulted system. Here in

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1 Plymouth, there is no proposal for any kind of
2 vaulting, any kind of hard cover for these very
3 vulnerable casks that could be subject to terrorism.

4 We appreciate the moving of the ISFSI,
5 and that was important to us, but there is much more
6 that needs to be done if Holtec is to have the
7 license. It's also very disturbing that Holtec is
8 requesting waivers for a certain amount of
9 regulations, just as Entergy has been granted waivers
10 for the computer security that was required for all
11 of their plants in the wake of Fukushima, waiver from
12 the kind of hard valves that would make it safer.
13 So, this is disturbing.

14 On the other hand, if we go with so-
15 called, grotesquely-called SAFSTOR, 60 years of
16 decommissioning, this is surreal. We will all be
17 gone 60 years from now, every single one of us in
18 this room, unless there is a very young person. And
19 many of our children will be gone, too. And I wonder
20 who exactly is going to be in charge, what they will
21 have been told, and so forth.

22 Have I reached my limit? Okay. I stop
23 there then.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

25 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.

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1 8.

2 MR. GARLEY: Hi. I'm John Garley. I'm
3 from Hingham.
4 I have an NRC Information Notice 2012-20 [Potential
5 Chloride-Induced Stress Corrosion Cracking of
6 Austenitic Stainless Steel and Maintenance of Dry
7 Cask Storage System Canisters, dated November 14,
8 2012 (ML12319A440)] that says that chloride-induced
9 stress corrosion cracking of austenitic -- right?
10 You got the right word? -- stainless steel in dry
11 cask storage systems. And there's a couple of times
12 that it happened in San Onofre, St. Lucie Nuclear
13 Power Plant, Turkey Point, and through the wall at
14 Koeberg Nuclear Power Station. Are these casks made
15 out of this austenitic steel? That's a question for
16 Holtec. Austenitic. Are you going to answer the
17 question or?

18 PARTICIPANT: Austenitic.

19 MR. GARLEY: Austenitic? Thank you.
20 Are these casks made out of that? Because this
21 document says that they're cracked from being near
22 saltwater.

23 Do you need to hit a button or something
24 (referring to microphone)?

25 MR. KLUKAN: I'm just going to phrase it.
26 Would someone from either Entergy or Holtec like to
27 answer that question?

1 MR. GARLEY: Well, my concern is that the
2 [Chief Executive Officer] CEO says that, if there is
3 a crack, you couldn't fix it, right? And you might
4 not be able to find it. But if there's no fuel pool,
5 what do you do with that cask? So, that's a question
6 for Holtec. Do we have a solution if there's a cask
7 leak, and what are you going to do with it?

8 MS. J. RUSSELL: My name is Joy Russell.
9 I think that Andrea did introduce me at the very
10 beginning.

11 First, I would like to say that your
12 information about canisters is incorrect. There are
13 no leaking canisters in the United States. Holtec's
14 canisters do not leak. There has been no --

15 MR. GARLEY: The steel has corroded.

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: That is incorrect, sir.
17 I have --

18 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Well, that's an NRC
19 information docket number. So, you might want to
20 check with them. I'm just going by what they have.

21 MS. J. RUSSELL: Okay. Holtec's
22 canisters have no evidence of stress corrosion
23 cracking.

24 MR. GARLEY: Really? All right. Well,
25 you might want to talk to them because they're putting

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1 stuff online that says they do. All right?

2 And then, the Sierra Club put a letter to
3 the NRC as well -- it's Event No. 51134 [event date
4 June 6, 2015 - [https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150610en.html)
5 [collections/event-](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150610en.html)
6 [status/event/2015/20150610en.html](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150610en.html)] -- that Holtec

7 filled the Diablo Canyon canisters incorrectly in
8 half of them. Is that incorrect as well? Because
9 there's stuff online you might want to cancel.

10 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, I beg to differ
11 with you; that is also incorrect.

12 MR. GARLEY: Again? Okay.

13 MS. J. RUSSELL: The Diablo Canyon
14 canisters, which were loaded by Holtec on behalf of
15 Pacific Gas and Electric, were all loaded correctly
16 in accordance with our Certificate of Compliance.

17 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Well, somebody's got
18 some bad -- and the last thing is with NRC. Are you
19 considering deep isolation technology as well,
20 besides just Holtec's stuff? Because, I mean, we're
21 getting one option here or two that sound pretty bad
22 to me.

23 MR. WATSON: Well, let me just state that
24 there is --

25 MR. GARLEY: It just stopped my number

1 (referring to the tickets for order of speakers).

2 MR. WATSON: There is a need in the
3 country for permanent repository of the spent fuel.

4 MR. GARLEY: Uh-hum.

5 MR. WATSON: The Department of Energy is
6 responsible for developing and finding that site and
7 using the proper technology. So, it's really up to
8 our policymakers in Washington to fund those
9 activities and to allow them to do their work in
10 identifying and developing a site and what
11 technologies will be used with that.

12 I think everybody is aware that there was
13 some work-in-progress at the Yucca Mountain site in
14 Nevada. And so, that came to a halt. And so now,
15 it's up to the policymakers to reinstate the need or
16 the promise they made for disposing of this material.

17 MR. GARLEY: Okay. And my last question
18 for Holtec is that you have sent an application to
19 the NRC for interim storage in Lea County, New Mexico.
20 Does that mean you want to move this waste to New
21 Mexico? Is that on your plan?

22 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, you're correct,
23 Holtec has submitted a license application to the
24 Nuclear Regulatory Commission to license a
25 consolidated interim storage facility in southeast

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1 New Mexico. And if the facility is constructed, it
2 is the possibility of moving the fuel from here to
3 that facility in New Mexico. That is correct.

4 MR. GARLEY: All right. So, the DOE says
5 there's 5,000 train car incidents a year. Do you
6 think that could be dangerous with stuff that's
7 corroded from the ocean?

8 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, if I understand
9 your question correctly, you're asking for my
10 opinion --

11 MR. GARLEY: Yes.

12 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- if I think
13 transportation of spent nuclear fuel is safe. Yes,
14 I do. The industry does it on a regular basis. We
15 have transported more than 1380 shipments by rail,
16 all safely, without any release of radioactive
17 material.

18 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Thank you.

19 MS. JANDA: Thank you.

20 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

21 Before we move, since we do have some
22 time, we kind of left that hanging there, that
23 question. So, just to clarify, so the members of the
24 public don't go away potentially confused on this.

25 Are the casks made out of this kind of

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1 steel, or if they're not, could we just state that
2 for the record? Because we kind of moved on to the
3 second question without answering the first. I just
4 want to make sure, because it seemed like there was
5 some confusion about that amongst the crowd.

6 MS. J. RUSSELL: Yes, the canisters are
7 made out of austenitic stainless steel.

8 MR. KLUKAN: All right. Thank you. I
9 appreciate that.

10 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
11 11.

12 MS. MILLER: Hello. My name is Claire
13 Miller. I'm the lead organizer with Toxics Action
14 Center. We're a public health and environmental
15 nonprofit founded in 1987.

16 And while I don't consider myself to be
17 an extremely young person, it is conceivable that I
18 could live to 93.

19 And I'm a community organizer, but I also
20 happened to grow up -- I was born and raised in
21 Duxbury, Massachusetts. And so, I want to speak a
22 little bit more from the heart tonight.

23 At Toxics Action Center we've really seen
24 over our history that corporations go to very great
25 lengths to avoid cleaning up their messes. And as a

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1 teenager, I have a lot of memories hearing about
2 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant. It's not every
3 childhood that you learn your home could be in a
4 nuclear meltdown.

5 My father is a curious man. He took
6 tours of the nuclear power plant before they stopped
7 doing that after 9/11. He told me stories about how
8 the folks would say, "Oh, don't stand there. That
9 spot's hot."

10 We also had a family friend who worked at
11 like a landscaping company. And I remember my father
12 and them joking about, you know, how the site
13 was -- there are hidden mysteries. And my distinct
14 impression was that they weren't kidding, even though
15 they were talking in a funny manner.

16 So, it really disturbs me that this isn't
17 proceeding with extreme care to the data. And I want
18 to say that it's extremely important to me that
19 there's a comprehensive environmental analysis done
20 on the entire site. We have to know really what's
21 there.

22 The second piece here is that, as corny
23 as it may sound, we're in Hotel 1620. I am actually
24 descended from a pilgrim, and that's 15 generations
25 of my family. And I have an intention to do well by

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1 this place. You know, my descendants haven't always
2 done well by this land, and I'd like to see 15 more
3 generations. But that's only possible if we do an
4 extremely good job. So, it's very important to me
5 that we honor the Commonwealth's desire for a cleanup
6 standard of no less than 10.

7 And the third thing that I am really
8 sitting on as we're here is really around drinking
9 water. It's so precious. And once it's
10 contaminated, it's extremely difficult to fix.

11 Toxics Action Center is working with
12 countless communities across the region who don't
13 have access to clean drinking water. And so, as this
14 continues, as the NRC oversees the future of the site,
15 we have to ensure that there's clean drinking water
16 and we must meet the EPA's own standard of no less
17 than 4 for the drinking water.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

20 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
21 7.

22 MS. CORRIGAN: Hi. Joanne Corrigan. I
23 live in Plymouth. I can ride my bike to the power
24 plant.

25 I've got a couple of questions. First

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1 of all, that beautiful slide they showed of Yankee
2 Rowe, how pastoral it looked after the
3 decommissioning, where are the spent fuel casks? Is
4 that airbrushed or Photoshopped?

5 (Laughter.)

6 MR. WATSON: No, that's an actual
7 picture. The dry fuel storage facility is located
8 above the river there on the hill.

9 MS. CORRIGAN: Because Plymouth will
10 never look like that. First of all, we have that
11 nasty jetty that's ripped the sand off Priscilla
12 Beach. And apparently, that's staying there, even
13 though the slides are saying how it goes back to the
14 natural state in the environment. Is that right?
15 Isn't Holtec going to leave the jetty there? After
16 the reactor cools, I know --

17 MR. WATSON: I guess Holtec can maybe
18 answer.

19 MS. STERDIS: It is our plan to leave the
20 jetty there.

21 MS. CORRIGAN: Okay. My other
22 question -- and I agree 100 percent with Mary Lampert
23 that you're moving the casks now. Finally you
24 figured out it's too close to the ocean. You didn't
25 need a study. Just come down to Priscilla Beach

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1 during a full moon when there's a nor'easter, and
2 you'll see the waves come crashing onto the street.
3 Why they put those first ones so close is beyond me.

4 Now where they're going to move them,
5 they're right out in the open of Rocky Hill Road.
6 And what's to prevent, say, a dump truck with about
7 10 terrorists with RPGs or AR-15s with armor-piercing
8 bullets from stopping there, jumping up, and not
9 shooting at 100 casks, shooting at one cask? What's
10 the chance of that being compromised and breached and
11 releasing radiation?

12 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, Joy Russell.

13 In November, we presented at the Citizens
14 Advisory Panel
15 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OWW70ZbX1Q] a very
16 lengthy discussion -- I personally did that with one
17 of my colleagues -- about the safety and security
18 that's offered by the Holtec HI-STORM 100 System
19 that's in use at Pilgrim. In that discussion, which
20 you can go back and I believe see it online, I
21 presented a long discussion about the casks' ability
22 to withstand even an aircraft crash
23 [https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/12/10/Hol
24 tec%20Cask%20Design%20NDCAP%20Nov%2028th.pdf]. So,
25 the system is very robust and it can withstand what

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1 you have just described as beyond-design-basis
2 scenarios.

3 MS. CORRIGAN: I see. Well, my third
4 comment is, when Pilgrim was up and running and
5 actually made money, Entergy still couldn't get them
6 out of the column 4 degraded column, didn't want to
7 spend the money, didn't have the expertise, didn't
8 have the enthusiasm, all of the above.

9 What makes you think we are going to
10 believe, after the NRC gives them a pass on the
11 cybersecurity, the everything, that now, all of a
12 sudden, they're offline, they're not making money,
13 and they're going to put in the resource of the money
14 to keep us safe? I don't believe that for a minute.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

17 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
18 5.

19 MS. CONSETINO: Now I'll finish my
20 comment, but I'll make it very quick.

21 I wanted to follow up on the
22 comments -- I'm sorry. Henrietta Consetino.

23 MS. JANDA: Thank you.

24 MS. CONSETINO: Plymouth resident,
25 League of Women Voters.

1 I wanted to follow up on the many
2 questions about finances, and go back to Jim Lampert's
3 question. Where is the regulation that actually
4 holds the licensee responsible, should the fund, the
5 Decommissioning Trust Fund, be inadequate? And along
6 the way, what happens if the stock market crashes,
7 and 1.05 billion turns into 900 million, or something
8 of that sort? What happens then? What is the state
9 of the Trust Fund right now?

10 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

11 MR. TWOMEY: Mike Twomey, on behalf of
12 Entergy.

13 We provide a periodic update on the value
14 of the Trust Fund, and we do not have an up-to-date
15 number available this evening.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Just to follow up, so we
17 don't leave it like that, when do you provide these?
18 So, October was the last one. When would you provide
19 the next one?

20 MR. TWOMEY: Well, we at least provide a
21 number in March of every year as part of our annual
22 disclosure to the NRC. I don't know if we will be
23 providing one before March. And it's actually a
24 March number. I think it actually comes out in April.

25 MR. KLUKAN: Okay. Thank you.

1 MS. CONSETINO: It's worrisome because
2 we've had some very serious major plunges in the
3 market since October.

4 But I want to go back to the first
5 question and make sure you don't forget that Jim
6 originally asked, is there a regulation that holds
7 the licensee to its financial responsibilities? And
8 if so, what is that regulation?

9 MR. KLUKAN: Again, thank you.

10 MR. WATSON: Let me respond. I'm sorry.
11 The regulations for the decommissioning funding are
12 spelled out in 50.82. The actual requirement, if
13 you're going to accept or apply for a license with
14 the NRC, means that the licensee will be responsible
15 for providing the decommissioning funds to restore
16 the site and have the license terminated. Those are
17 in, I think it's 50.2. When a licensee applies for
18 a license, there's something called the Common
19 Defense Clause, which means you are accepting that
20 responsibility when you apply for a license, and that
21 you will be radiologically and environmentally
22 responsible for cleaning up the site when you've
23 completed the work.

24 PARTICIPANT: What if they go bankrupt?

25 MR. WATSON: They're still responsible

1 for providing the funding, and that would be part of
2 the process we would go through for getting the assets
3 of the company and continuing the completion of the
4 decommissioning.

5 MR. WATSON [KLUKAN]: We have two more,
6 and then, we can potentially do a second round. But
7 the question that was posed on the floor, to which
8 Bruce responded, was, what happens if they go
9 bankrupt? I just wanted to make sure we capture that
10 for the transcript.

11 So, next up will be No. 13.

12 MR. GUSTAFSON: Good evening. My name's
13 Scott Gustafson. I'm a Plymouth resident.

14 I'm happy to hear tonight that Holtec is
15 planning on going with the DECON process and the
16 expedited process. I'm here to support the license
17 transfer to Holtec because of their technical
18 expertise.

19 As a representative of the Laborers'
20 International Union of North America, our union has
21 worked extensively with Holtec and their subsidiaries
22 around the country, successfully, safely,
23 efficiently.

24 I don't know if some of the references to
25 Holtec tonight are accurate, because we've always

1 worked closely with them. It's always been safe.
2 It's always been very efficient.

3 I have a brother and sister who are
4 working down at Pilgrim now, or have worked on the
5 last two projects with Holtec down there. I don't
6 hear anything about unsafe conditions. I hear that
7 the job is going great; they're moving the fuel
8 correctly, and they're very comfortable, and they're
9 making a great living while they're doing it. The
10 plant has always been an economic benefit to our town,
11 and decommissioning this way will also be a strong
12 economic benefit.

13 I also want to say that Holtec works
14 extensively with our International Union and has
15 helped us develop a state-of-the-art rad worker
16 training program, and we train workers in our state-
17 of-the-art facilities here in New England, in
18 Hopkinton, in Pomfret, Connecticut. And over the
19 years, our members have decommissioned Maine Yankee,
20 Connecticut Yankee, and the Yankee Rowe Plant, which
21 I actually go rafting up there, tubing up there in
22 that river. It's a beautiful site. I go up there
23 every year. It doesn't bother me at all.

24 I'm happy that it's going to be the
25 expedited decommissioning and return that site back

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1 to its beauty that it once was for the Town of
2 Plymouth.

3 So, thank you very much.

4 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

5 MS. JANDA: And the last speaker on the
6 list will be No. 6.

7 MS. CARPENTER: My name is Susan
8 Carpenter with the Cape Downwinders, and I live in
9 South Dennis on the Cape.

10 I have a comment, and then, I have two
11 questions. At one of the Nuclear Decommissioning
12 Citizens Advisory Panel meetings, Holtec spoke and
13 said that they have an impeccable safety record. On
14 the other hand, the fact that that near-drop on the
15 West Coast occurred kind of defies their claim that
16 they have an impeccable record. And not only that,
17 but it was a whistleblower that brought this to public
18 attention.

19 My questions are: is it a conflict of
20 interest for Holtec to buy Holtec casks to store the
21 nuclear waste?

22 MR. WATSON: I guess that's a commercial
23 thing that the NRC would not get into, but I don't
24 see any real issue with it. It is what their product
25 line is and what they're offering. And I assume that

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1 they will use that, do the work safely and compliantly
2 with the license requirements for the Certificate of
3 Compliance. And we'll be there to inspect to make
4 sure that they are.

5 MS. CARPENTER: Okay. And my other
6 question was: how many sites has Holtec
7 decommissioned? And by that, I don't mean as a
8 contractor. Excluding that, how many sites has
9 Holtec decommissioned?

10 MS. J. RUSSELL: Holtec International has
11 not decommissioned any sites. However, that said,
12 we have hired Comprehensive Decommissioning
13 International, CDI, which is a company that includes
14 SNC-Lavalin, and they have a rich history of
15 decommissioning nuclear plants and other nuclear
16 facilities.

17 MS. CARPENTER: Thank you.

18 MR. KLUKAN: Again, that was Joy Russell
19 of Holtec, just for the purposes of the transcript.

20 All right. We've now exhausted, as you
21 can see -- this is really good handwriting for me.
22 I'm going to pat myself on the back for this. We've
23 now opened it up -- whatever, I'll take what I can
24 get -- to people who have not yet spoken this
25 evening.

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1 So, we don't have an established order,
2 but I think Pine raised her hand first. And then,
3 we'll just go around. Okay?

4 So, again, we'll do three minutes apiece,
5 and then, if we have enough time left over, people
6 may get to do a second round. But let's go first
7 with people who have not yet had an opportunity to
8 speak.

9 So, I turn it over to you.

10 MS. DUBOIS: Thank you, and thank you all
11 for being here.

12 I want to state clearly that I hope Holtec
13 succeeds. I hope Entergy is happy, and I hope the
14 NRC finally wraps its head around sea-level rise,
15 which you are not doing, and that is pretty plain
16 with your reliance on the SIEC [SEIS] and the GEIR
17 [GEIS].

18 There is no basis at all for you to accept
19 Entergy's proposal to wait 60 years to clean up the
20 site. That's plainly a fraud.

21 Take a look at the Fourth National
22 Climate Assessment that was released in late October-
23 November. You will be chapter 18 in the Northeast.
24 You will see that our worst-case scenario is, by 2100,
25 we have sea-level rise of 11.5 feet

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1 [<https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/downloads/>].

2 That's the new estimate, but daily things are changing
3 so fast and the scientists are learning so much, that
4 that adjustment continues.

5 It is important to the public trust that
6 you regulators and you contractors and Entergy -- oh,
7 Lord -- takes care of us and looks at that. Cleaning
8 up the site does not mean letting it wash into Cape
9 Cod Bay, and in 60 years that's what's going to
10 happen.

11 Even if there's not inundation on the
12 site, the groundwater level will be so high that you
13 will not be able to safely and effectively get the
14 contamination out of the ground. If it goes into the
15 environment, the NRC is failing in its mission to
16 protect the environment and the people. So is
17 Holtec, as a reputable company, I will say. So, is
18 Entergy, as a reputable company. You need to address
19 this. The PSDAR for Entergy does not. The Holtec
20 PSDAR does not. And if they run out of money and the
21 cleanup is delayed, we're all in a stew.

22 So, please, NRC, take another look at
23 your regulations. Give it a try at updating that.
24 Call in those scientists that work for the government
25 that wrote that report, and get on the reality page.

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1 We've living with it here. Stick around on Sunday.
2 Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, stay here. Go down to the
3 plant then and see what happens.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

6 Again, that was Pine duBois.

7 Just please state your name for the
8 record before you begin.

9 MS. DUBOIS: Pine duBois with
10 [Commonwealth of Massachusetts Nuclear
11 Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel] NDCAP.

12 MR. KLUKAN: So, Pine duBois with NDCAP.
13 Thank you.

14 MR. E. RUSSELL: I'm Ed Russell, an
15 elected town meeting member in Plymouth.

16 When businesses as well as governmental
17 agencies engage in big contracts, they usually see to
18 it that there's a bond produced that will guarantee
19 the performance of the contract. And so, I'd like
20 to know why that isn't possible here.

21 MR. WATSON: Performance bonds are used
22 frequently. If we deem that there's sufficient funds
23 to do the decommissioning, we have no need to require
24 them. I think in the recent [Vermont Yankee] VY
25 transfer, Vermont Yankee sale, asset sale and license

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1 transfer, one of the conditions we put on -- or the
2 agreement that we got from NorthStar was to provide
3 additional financial assurance. I think it was along
4 the lines of \$30 million to make sure there was
5 sufficient funds. If it's not required, then they're
6 not required. So, it's up to the agreement between
7 the sales, also, to come up with the proper financial
8 information and guarantees.

9 MR. E. RUSSELL: That's your version of
10 risk assessment, but we citizens here have a different
11 assessment of the risk. And when you do have a
12 contract that's just barely enough to cover, and could
13 well exceed the funds available, I would say a prudent
14 entity would look for a bond. And if there is, as
15 you say, a low risk, then the bond should not be that
16 expensive. So, I'd like to see that happen.

17 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

18 MR. KELLERMAN: So, my name is Bruce
19 Kellerman.

20 I have a question. What happens to the
21 1200-acre site? Who owns it and are there plans for
22 development? And if so, where can we find those and
23 what are their elaborate schemes?

24 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on
25 behalf of Entergy.

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1 When you say the 1200 acres, I assume you
2 mean the 1200 acres of undeveloped property across
3 Rocky Hill Road, correct?

4 MR. KELLERMAN: Yes.

5 MR. TWOMEY: That property currently is
6 owned by Entergy. It is included in the sale to
7 Holtec. And if the license transfer application is
8 approved and the transaction closes, Holtec will
9 become the owner of the 1200 acres. And I have not
10 heard about any specific plans for development of
11 that site at this time, but they would be the owner
12 of the land after the transaction closes, if it
13 closes.

14 MR. KELLERMAN: Does Holtec have plans
15 for the development of the site? It will be
16 paying -- I assume it will be paying property taxes
17 going forward.

18 MS. STERDIS: No specific plans for that
19 property have been defined at this time. And, yes,
20 we will be paying the appropriate property taxes on
21 that site.

22 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you for your
23 questions.

24 MR. DELAFIELD: Yes, I'm Lawrence
25 Delafield. I'm a resident of the Town of Plymouth,

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1 a town meeting member, and the President of the Six
2 Ponds Association, which is a local organization very
3 close to the site.

4 And of course, my concern is this: we
5 live in an area that will be in danger until this
6 material is totally removed from the site. Why do
7 we have to wait that long? How can we possibly get
8 that moved up, so that it's removed quicker, or at
9 least provide a major incentive to remove all items
10 from the site? Because we will not be safe until
11 that happens.

12 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

13 Okay. Is there anyone else who has not
14 yet spoken who would like to speak this evening?

15 (No response.)

16 Going once, going twice. All right.

17 Is there anyone who has spoken this
18 evening who would like to speak again?

19 MR. LAMPERT: Jim Lampert, resident of
20 Duxbury.

21 I'd just like to spend a moment on
22 comments, and if I'm wrong, I would ask that the NRC,
23 Entergy, and Holtec correct me. My understanding of
24 the transaction, as described in the license transfer
25 application, is that Holtec-Pilgrim will be the owner

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1 of the site and will be the one who owns the
2 Decommissioning Trust Fund.

3 In Holtec's license transfer and PSDAR
4 applications, it says that, quote, "The existing
5 Decommissioning Trust Funds provide the appropriate
6 basis for the financial qualifications of Holtec-
7 Pilgrim." It also says that Holtec, quote, "Holtec-
8 Pilgrim will be required to pay for HDI's cost of
9 post-shutdown operations, including all
10 decommissioning costs at Pilgrim." Close quote.

11 It seemed very clear from that that the
12 only potential financial responsibility of Holtec-
13 Pilgrim -- and that is the only one we need to focus
14 on because they are the only licensee -- depends
15 entirely on the Decommissioning Trust Fund.

16 It also seems clear, listening to Mr.
17 Watson, that a statement in a regulation that a
18 licensee that, frankly, has no money and is bankrupt
19 is, quote, "responsible," close quote, provides
20 absolutely no assurance that that licensee will pay.
21 It, frankly, doesn't have any money. And that,
22 unless I missed something that Mr. Watson has
23 said -- and I asked the question earlier -- there is
24 absolutely nothing in NRC rules, regulations, or
25 pertinent law that would permit the NRC to enforce

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1 the licensees' and their parents' responsibility to
2 pay for what they caused. Am I correct?

3 MR. WATSON: I will try and respond a
4 little bit here. We owe you a response to your
5 question on the ownership. The only comment I can
6 really make at this point, we will be responsible
7 with the responsible regulations. I have to go to
8 our Office of General Counsel for that.

9 MR. LAMPERT: No, no, I would appreciate
10 your doing that, though.

11 MR. WATSON: Yes. No, we have to do
12 that.

13 The other issue is that we are currently
14 reviewing the license application or plan to start on
15 that very soon. So, we really can't pass any judgment
16 other than the general process we're using and the
17 general requirements for the decommissioning funding
18 and how they would apply to the license transfer.
19 It's we're still doing our review. So, we haven't
20 concluded anything. And so, your comments are valid
21 to that review. And so, I'm sure the staff will take
22 that into account.

23 MR. LAMPERT: Yes, and I would ask that,
24 if in the review or in further conversations with
25 Holtec, the NRC or its staff discovers any way in

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1 which there, in fact, is an enforceable commitment or
2 an agreement, that people who have the money will set
3 that money up to pay for the shortfall. I would like
4 to hear about it, and it's quite clear that the
5 Massachusetts Attorney General would also like to
6 hear about it.

7 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again.

8 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, if I may briefly, Mr.
9 Lampert introduced his remarks by saying that, if we
10 didn't say anything, it meant that we agreed with
11 him. And I can't agree to that, just at least on
12 behalf of Entergy. On behalf of Entergy.

13 MR. KLUKAN: Okay.

14 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Richard Rothstein.

15 Two questions. One for ~~Dr.~~ [Mr.] Watson
16 and one for our Holtec representative, Joy.

17 ~~Dr.~~ [Mr.] Watson, can you qualitatively
18 explain or define, for purposes of releasing the site
19 license, site restoration, what basically is
20 included; what would not be included in the case of
21 the Entergy site? So that people don't get false
22 expectations one way or the other.

23 MR. WATSON: Yes. The Decommissioning
24 Fund requirements from the NRC are for the
25 radiological decommissioning. So, once we would

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1 terminate the license after verifying the
2 radiological conditions of the site -- we have an
3 independent contractor we use in many cases to help
4 us with the surveys and verify the radiological
5 residual radioactive levels at the site -- we would
6 terminate the license. If the site restoration is
7 not in the requirements by NRC, because there's a
8 number of approaches you can take to
9 decommissioning -- many of them take into account
10 removing the buildings and turning it back into
11 greenfield. If they submit that to us in their
12 license termination plan, then that's the plan they
13 follow because it's a license amendment.

14 If they choose to do things which some of
15 the other power plants have done, such as Trojan or
16 Rancho Seco, where they actually terminate the
17 license, but leave buildings and stuff still
18 remaining on the site, that's their choice. And
19 after that, it's up to the owner of the facility or
20 the licensee -- and at that point they're no longer
21 the licensee, but the owner of the property -- and
22 the state, to determine when and where they should do
23 the final decommissioning and site -- I should say
24 final site restoration and what those requirements
25 are.

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1 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Okay. Thank you.

2 I had the pleasure of sitting in the
3 Holtec predecisional enforcement conference last
4 Wednesday, I believe it was, the four-hour -- and
5 more nuts and bolts were discussed than I could fit
6 in my car.

7 But I wanted to commend Holtec on its dry
8 cask presentation to the NDCAP last fall. I thought
9 it was very informative, and I believe it's on the
10 NDCAP website.

11 Just expanding upon Ms. Lampert's comment
12 earlier about cracks not being able to be fixed in
13 the multipurpose canister at this day and age, one
14 thing I was envisioning, given that premise, has
15 Holtec, for purposes of future design considerations
16 to remedy that kind of unsolvable problem at the
17 moment, considered constructing a larger multipurpose
18 cask there to go over the cracked cask? And then,
19 of course, that slightly larger cask could be filled
20 with helium gas as a coolant and sealed. And then,
21 that larger cask would then -- or that larger
22 multipurpose cask with the cracked inside of the other
23 cask, multipurpose cask, getting to a larger
24 overpack, if it need be, with the air vents, too.
25 So, is that a possible design solution that may be on

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1 the drawing board from Holtec?

2 MS. J. RUSSELL: That's a very
3 explanation. It's very close to what we've actually
4 designed for recovery of a canister in the event the
5 inspections were to show that there has been a
6 degradation. So, indeed, that is the approach, is
7 to put it into another overpack, but an overpack, not
8 necessarily the canister as you've described. So,
9 you're on the right track, sir. It is definitely an
10 additional overpack that we are going to use.

11 MR. ROTHSTEIN: I'm glad to hear that.
12 Can you tell me who I write to at Holtec to get some
13 royalties?

14 (Laughter.)

15 MS. J. RUSSELL: Right. Royalties and
16 to get on the patent.

17 MS. M. LAMPERT: Can a canister be
18 shipped under current regulations?

19 MR. KLUKAN: Ma'am, are you asking, just
20 so we get it on the transcript, are you asking whether
21 the current canister or the overpack can be shipped?

22 MS. M. LAMPERT: (Off microphone.)

23 MR. KLUKAN: Okay. I just have just
24 given you the microphone.

25 So, essentially, can a cylinder which has

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1 been or a canister which has been compromised or
2 degraded, do the regulations allow it to be shipped,
3 is the question that was posed by Ms. Lampert.

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: The regulation question
5 I defer to the NRC.

6 MR. WATSON: I ask Jason Piotter, who is
7 our Senior Engineer for Spent Fuel Safety, to come up
8 and give you an answer for that.

9 MR. PIOTTER: The regulations are
10 performance-based. And so, if you had a canister
11 that had a demonstrated flaw like you're talking
12 about, there would have to be an engineering analysis
13 that was done to determine what the best way to
14 mitigate that particular flaw would be. I can't
15 answer the question right now whether or not it would
16 be allowed to be shipped because we don't have any
17 scenarios where there are flaws such as you describe.
18 So, it's a case-by-case basis, depending upon what
19 the situation is for the canister that you're talking
20 about. But it would have to be evaluated prior to
21 transport. I couldn't just be put into a transport
22 overpack and sent. So, it would have to be an
23 engineering analysis prior to that activity.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

25 MS. TURCO: I just want to go back to the

1 Holtec in San Onofre because it could be our future.

2 Diane Turco with Cape Downwinders.

3 At San Onofre, they've been loading,
4 Holtec has been loading canisters in underground
5 vaults on the beach. The sea-level rise is
6 eventually going to leak into the bottom of those
7 vaults. They have been loading them and scratching
8 them. And there was a special inspection by the
9 Nuclear Regulatory Commission
10 [https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-
11 experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-
12 misalignment.html]and it sounded almost like
13 Entergy's special inspection report, pretty much the
14 same.

15 So, I want to know. And the people in
16 California have said, "Let them know the public in
17 Southern California is asking the Holtec System to be
18 recalled." It's a lemon, and Holtec is making
19 loading errors due to mismanagement and bad
20 engineering design that the NRC admits it cannot fix.
21 So, that's what's happening out in California.

22 So, I have two questions. No. 1, how can
23 you come to the NDCAP meeting and say that Holtec has
24 an impeccable safety record when this was all exposed
25 by a whistleblower?

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1 And No. 2, would you conduct an
2 environmental impact study, including sea-level rise
3 and acts of malfeasance on the spent fuel pad?

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: Can you repeat the first
5 question again?

6 MS. TURCO: Let me try it this way: how
7 could you with a straight face tell the NDCAP that
8 Holtec has an impeccable safety record when we know
9 what's going on at San Onofre?

10 MS. J. RUSSELL: I appreciate the
11 question. I understand your concern.

12 Let me just state, Holtec does have an
13 impeccable safety record. And the issue that
14 happened at San Onofre, which was reported by the
15 licensee who is the Southern California Edison
16 Nuclear Plant, they went through their process. So,
17 Holtec does have an impeccable safety record. I
18 absolutely can emphatically say that.

19 MS. TURCO: Did Southern Edison report
20 this incident when it happened to the NRC?

21 MS. J. RUSSELL: Those questions are
22 best --

23 MS. TURCO: Okay. No, they did not.

24 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- to the Southern
25 California --

1 MS. TURCO: And you can look up on the
2 record they did not. No. Actually, the NRC
3 initiated the special inspection, right, Mr. Watson?

4 MR. WATSON: From what I understand, the
5 licensee was a little late in responding to --

6 MS. TURCO: Yes.

7 MR. WATSON: -- the requirements. And
8 so, based on that, we escalated our inspections to --

9 MS. TURCO: Thank you.

10 MR. WATSON: -- evaluate the situation.

11 MS. TURCO: Thank you. It was a
12 whistleblower.

13 MR. WATSON: But it was not a
14 whistleblower that submitted the complaint.

15 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on
16 behalf of Entergy.

17 One thing, I think, just to clear up any
18 confusion for those who don't know as much about the
19 issues as some of the recent speakers. One thing
20 that's important to note here is that, if Entergy
21 remains the owner of the facility, we will be using
22 the Holtec dry fuel storage system. If Holtec
23 becomes the owner, they will be using the Holtec dry
24 fuel storage system. So, the license transfer will
25 have no impact on what system is used at Pilgrim for

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1 storing spent nuclear fuel. It will be the Holtec
2 dry fuel storage system that we use or they use.

3 And I don't know how that relates to the
4 scope of this particular proceeding, but I do want to
5 make sure that people understand that it's not an
6 "either/or". It's not like, if Holtec becomes the
7 owner, that's the only circumstance under which the
8 Holtec system will be used. That very same system
9 will be used if we remain the owner.

10 I just wanted to clear that up for
11 anybody who may not understand that.

12 MS. TURCO: Right. Yes. Thank you.
13 Right. Because the point is it's both mismanagement,
14 poor equipment, ongoing problems.

15 But the second question was, would an
16 environmental impact study include sea-level rise and
17 acts of malfeasance on the ISFSI pad?

18 MS. J. RUSSELL: First, I want to
19 emphatically state that the system that's in use at
20 San Onofre is markedly different than the one that's
21 in use at Pilgrim. You're comparing apples to
22 oranges. It is correct. It's an above-ground system
23 versus an underground system.

24 MS. TURCO: Oh, no, no. That's not my
25 question.

1 MS. J. RUSSELL: And not the dry storage
2 system.

3 MS. TURCO: That's not my question.

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: And therefore --

5 MS. TURCO: That's not my question.

6 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- there isn't a
7 probability of an issue as you have at San Onofre
8 with water collection in the bottom of the system.

9 MS. TURCO: Okay.

10 MS. J. RUSSELL: It can't happen because
11 they are two different systems.

12 MS. TURCO: Right. But what I'm asking
13 is, would you include sea-level rise for the property,
14 as Pine spoke about, and storm surges, and acts of
15 malfeasance? That's my question.

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: So, the dry storage
17 systems are licensed under Part 72, and they're
18 deployed under Part 72 currently. And they're
19 already being deployed in accordance with the
20 regulatory requirements. There's no additional
21 investigation or analyses that need to be performed
22 for the dry storage systems.

23 MR. KLUKAN: I gave the women a back-and-
24 forth. But, if you know you're going to keep talking,
25 just, for the sake of our poor transcriptionist -- he

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1 is not the object of your concern. So, let's make
2 his life easier. So, just speak into the microphone
3 when you're asking questions. Okay?

4 And the question there was, would you
5 include sea-level risk and acts of malfeasance in an
6 environmental assessment or impact statement?

7 MS. J. RUSSELL: We'll meet the
8 regulations. The dry spent fuel storage system is
9 already deployed and it will continue to be deployed,
10 no matter whether this license transfer application
11 occurs or not. I don't understand the question of
12 the need for additional environmental studies related
13 to dry storage.

14 MS. TURCO: You're building a new storage
15 facility there, a brand-new storage facility. Right
16 now, you can drive onto the property, pass the "no
17 trespassing" signs, and eyeball the dry casks. Now
18 you're moving them closer to Rocky Hill Road. We
19 need to be assured that there's going to be some
20 increased security there. So, that's just a
21 question. Are you going to be looking at acts of
22 malfeasance when you do the new pad?

23 MS. J. RUSSELL: The security that's
24 already at the nuclear plant, I allow Entergy to talk
25 to. The security of the dry storage system, under

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1 the license under Part 72, has already been
2 established. There's no additional requirements that
3 need to be addressed.

4 MS. HALTER: This is Mandy Halter, on
5 behalf of Entergy.

6 The independent spent fuel storage
7 installation facilities are required to be secure.
8 And with the newly-located pad, there will continue
9 to be a physical barrier behind an intrusion detection
10 system, and monitored 24/7 by armed security.

11 And that's correct; that's all I can talk
12 about, due to safeguards.

13 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Sheila Lynch
14 Benttinin, Duxbury.

15 I have a question about regional public
16 safety. In the last 40-plus years, Entergy was
17 required to do a regional public safety plan, and
18 they've applied with their PSDAR to abandon that
19 regional planning. And we are concerned about Holtec
20 taking over. What is your plans for notifying
21 regional safety folks, like firemen, et cetera, on
22 safety, particularly with the expedited four-year
23 plan that you presented tonight?

24 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis.

25 We will continue to comply with all NRC

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1 regulation. And I want to emphasize that it is
2 Holtec's top priority to maintain the health and
3 safety of the public.

4 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: But what I'm
5 asking, in particular, is, what is your plan to reach
6 out to regional safety folks, like firemen and
7 regional coordinators, as your expedited four-year
8 plan is ongoing?

9 MS. STERDIS: And again, I will emphasize
10 that we will maintain the health and safety of the
11 public, and we will be complying with all regulations.

12 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: And my second
13 question is, can NRC add to their PSDAR another level
14 of regional safety outreach to public safety
15 officials?

16 MR. WATSON: If I understand your
17 question correctly, there's no need to add anything.
18 Because the site is still going to maintain an
19 emergency plan and emergency response capabilities,
20 along with security response plans, which have those
21 communication tools in them that they're required to
22 have. So, they're going to continue those things
23 until the decommissioning is complete. So, there's
24 really no need to change those plans.

25 Now I can't specifically talk to the

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1 regional plan. I'm not familiar with it. It was not
2 an NRC requirement that I know of. But there are
3 requirements for notification and security/police
4 support; also, fire protection and fire response,
5 medical emergencies and medical responses to the
6 site. And so, those things all stay in place.

7 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: But Entergy has
8 requested that they be discontinued in the regional
9 capacity.

10 MR. WATSON: All I know is they have to
11 meet the minimum requirements for the NRC, which means
12 they will maintain the ability to talk with, get
13 notification of the response capabilities from local
14 and state law enforcement. They will continue to
15 deal with, communicate with the local fire
16 departments and rescue squads.

17 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Would they be
18 required to coordinate --

19 MR. WATSON: The regional, there's no NRC
20 requirement for a regional response plan.

21 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Okay.

22 MR. WATSON: There is one for the
23 immediate location around the plant.

24 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Thank you.

25 MS. MILLER: Claire Miller from Toxics

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1 Action Center.

2 I'm getting really agitated because this
3 really matters a lot to me. And if I understand what
4 Diane is bringing up correctly, and your response,
5 Ms. Russell -- it's kind of hard to read your name
6 tag from here; sorry if I got that wrong -- it's that
7 we have rapidly upchanging data on climate change,
8 the impacts of sea-level rise that are getting worse
9 every time they're updated. We have someone in the
10 White House who's changing world politics and
11 dynamics rapidly, and we are living in an age in which
12 terrorism is ever present. And we want to know, are
13 you willing to go above and beyond, if necessary, or
14 are you only willing to do as much as -- like the
15 floor of what's required?

16 Because what I hear Diane asking is, are
17 you willing to go above and beyond to protect our
18 health, our community? And what I hear you saying
19 back is, "We're doing with it what's written. We're
20 just going to do what's necessary, what the law is."
21 Am I understanding correctly? You're committing to
22 the floor?

23 MR. WATSON: I just want to respond to
24 that, and that the NRC regulations fully provide for
25 safety for the people working at the plant, the

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1 public, and the environment. And so, complying with
2 those is one demonstration that the plant is
3 maintained safe, and we'll continue to inspect that
4 plant against those requirements.

5 MS. MILLER: I have no doubt that the NRC
6 is doing the best that it can to protect the health
7 and safety of my community. I also know that we're
8 in a rapidly-changing world. And I am interested to
9 know if Holtec is committing to the floor of what the
10 NRC -- like where we're at the last time those laws
11 were passed, those statutes, those regulatory
12 processes we went through, those elaborate commenting
13 periods, or if they're committing to respond to an
14 ever-present, fast-changing world of climate change
15 and terrorism.

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: I think what you're
17 asking me is, am I confident that our dry spent fuel
18 storage system is safe.

19 MS. MILLER: No, that's not what I'm
20 asking you at all. It's not what I'm asking you at
21 all.

22 MS. J. RUSSELL: I am personally
23 convinced -- I am a nuclear engineer. I am part of
24 the design team that designed this dry storage system.
25 And I am confident in its robustness. I'm confident

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1 that we have gone above and beyond to ensure that we
2 selected materials --

3 MS. MILLER: I am --

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- that we've selected
5 the methodologies, and we have done the absolute
6 utmost we can to ensure the health and safety.

7 MS. MILLER: I have no doubt that you're
8 sincere --

9 MS. J. RUSSELL: May I please finish?

10 I live by these nuclear plants as well,
11 and I am confident that, when I go to visit these
12 plants -- I live by these plants; I live by where our
13 dry storage systems are deployed -- I am personally
14 confident that my company has done everything it can
15 to go above and beyond. And therefore, I have
16 answered your question.

17 MS. MILLER: That wasn't my question in
18 the slightest. I do believe you're 100 percent
19 sincere when you say that. I also believe that the
20 engineers who worked on Chernobyl, Three Mile Island,
21 and Fukushima were also really sincere in believing
22 that their plants were safe as well.

23 I just want to say for the record you
24 didn't answer my question.

25 MR. KELLERMAN: So, Bruce Kellerman

1 again.

2 My question is to Holtec. As I
3 understand the fund, it can go up and down. It's
4 like a 401(k), right? It's an investment vehicle.
5 What happens if it goes down? And also, could you,
6 would you sue the Department of Energy, as others
7 have done, for failing to take the waste offsite?
8 Would you plan to do that? Are you?

9 MR. WATSON: Well, let me respond to the
10 first part. Yes, there are market changes. The
11 Trust Fund is in an independent trust with an
12 independent trustee. Most of them are with Mellon
13 Bank of New York. So, the trustee has certain
14 requirements on them to make conservative investments
15 to protect the fund.

16 Secondly, all the licensees that are
17 storing fuel -- I'll say broadly "everyone" -- has
18 the ability to request or sue, if they have to, the
19 Department of Energy to get the cost back for the
20 storage of the nuclear fuel. So, I'm sure Entergy
21 has done that in the past for their plants. I'm sure
22 Holtec will do the same to recoup the costs. Those
23 costs are, then, available for doing other activities
24 at the sites. And so, that's part of the agreement
25 with the federal government.

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1 MR. KELLERMAN: Thank you.

2 MS. LAMPERT: Two points. NRC is giving
3 exemptions. So, the DTF can be used for spent fuel
4 management costs. Now go back. The Decommissioning
5 Trust Fund was established when we were a utility
6 structure -- Boston Edison was the owner -- by
7 ratepayers. Since that time, it's grown from
8 investments. Entergy didn't put a dime in it.
9 Holtec won't put a dime in it. Okay?

10 Then, they will sue DOE to recoup what
11 they've spent on spent fuel management costs, okay,
12 what they've spent by taking it out of the
13 Decommissioning Trust Fund. But, then, when they get
14 the money out of DOE, there's no requirement to put
15 it back. If there is, please correct me and give me
16 the regulation. Instead, they put it in their
17 pocket. And that's, you know, if I were Holtec, I'd
18 say, "I'm going to make a pile of money doing this."
19 And that's part of the incentive to take over the
20 license.

21 It would seem to me that the NRC would
22 get on the stick and make some sort of
23 requirement/regulation that it goes back into the
24 Decommissioning Trust Fund to refurbish what they
25 have taken out. Because there's no requirement?

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1 Correct that.

2 And then, I just want to sum up by saying,
3 the points brought forward on sea-level rise, the
4 points brought forward on the increased risk of
5 terrorism, of cyberattack -- now that's a big one
6 when you think of the spent fuel pool. All these new
7 and significant information that you should be
8 responsible, NRC require that they do a NEPA review,
9 and then, not say what is blatant foolish. It's a
10 lie to say the 2002 Generic Environmental Impact
11 Statement and the 2006 Impact Statement done during
12 relicensing bound environmental impact, so we can all
13 skip along and say it's a clean site; we've done our
14 job. So, they really don't have to spend a dime, and
15 all the stuff can go in Cape Cod Bay. Dilution is
16 the solution.

17 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

18 MR. WATSON: I just want to make one
19 comment, that the Decommissioning Funds that are -- or
20 excuse me -- the spent fuel funds that are recuperated
21 from the Department of Energy, I think it's 50.82,
22 Mike, in the regulations, the fund. The money goes
23 back into the fund. No? It doesn't? Okay.

24 PARTICIPANT: It goes to the company.

25 MS. LAMPERT: No, it's a good thing for

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1 them to make money.

2 MR. WATSON: Okay. Well, I'm sorry. I
3 appreciate the comment then. We have to look at
4 that.

5 MR. KLUKAN: Before you begin, is there
6 anyone else in the audience who has not yet had an
7 opportunity to speak who would like to do so?

8 (No response.)

9 Okay, please. Would you mind letting her
10 go first? Okay. Thank you, sir.

11 Your name for the record, please.

12 MS. GARRY: Joanne Garry. I live a mile
13 from the plant. I've been here since I was 16. So,
14 I saw it built by people that shouldn't be building
15 it. But that's not my question.

16 My question is twofold. First of all,
17 Entergy owns it, correct? Got the license. Owns all
18 the property. How much is it worth? What's the
19 property worth? What did Entergy get or might get
20 from Holtec, the cost, the dollars? Are you selling
21 it for money? So, there's no money exchange?
22 Entergy walks away. Holtec, if it gets the license,
23 walks in, correct?

24 So, why does Holtec want this? Well,
25 that's my question. Why does Holtec want this really

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1 horrible thing to fix? We've got thousands of people
2 on the line. So, what's the deal? Why are you doing
3 this? No answer?

4 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis, and
5 I will make this a personal response.

6 As a mother of two children and a
7 grandmother of four children, I am committed to us
8 doing in this industry what is right. And that is
9 to take care of our plants when they're past their
10 operational life expectancy and to turn that property
11 back into a useful piece of property in the community.
12 So, that is my personal reason for being involved in
13 this project.

14 MS. GARRY: But it's in it for the money.
15 So, the money, you're going to own 12,000 acres.
16 Twelve hundred acres. You've got a big hill there
17 that hasn't been developed. Why not move all this
18 terrible spent fuel to the top of the hill? If you're
19 going to move it; move it, move it away from the ocean
20 or bury it in the hill -- I don't know -- a better
21 solution than moving it next to Rocky Hill Road, which
22 I go by every day. So, I mean, it just seems simple
23 solution. If you can't move it away, move in a safer
24 area.

25 But, again, you're going to be making big

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1 bucks here. So, we want to be safe.

2 That's all I have to say.

3 MR. KLUKAN: Before we begin, because we
4 do have -- I'm sorry for interrupting you again, sir.
5 Just because we do have extra time -- I don't usually
6 intervene like this, but I think there's some
7 confusion out there regarding what's the financial
8 arrangement between -- and I'm not asking in specific
9 terms -- but what's the financial relationship
10 between Holtec and Entergy?

11 And I think the question was asked like,
12 how would Holtec benefit from this transaction? And
13 I think if we could answer that, that would go a long
14 way to clearing up some of the confusion in the
15 audience.

16 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey for
17 Entergy. I'll address the specific question of the
18 way the transaction is structured.

19 Entergy is receiving only nominal
20 consideration. And I have to say I don't have the
21 number in front of me. We just recently closed the
22 Vermont Yankee transaction, and the nominal
23 consideration there was a thousand dollars.

24 And we receive nominal consideration.
25 Holtec receives title to the plant or they're actually

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1 buying Entergy Nuclear Generation Company through an
2 equity sale. They get that company which owns the
3 plant, has the Decommissioning Trust Fund and the
4 liability for the decommissioning.

5 So, what Entergy gets out of the
6 transaction is a thousand dollars. And we are no
7 longer involved in the decommissioning of the plant,
8 in the same way that Boston Edison is not involved in
9 the decommissioning of the plant. All right. We're
10 going to transfer that responsibility to Holtec, and
11 Holtec will receive the project, the plant, the
12 Decommissioning Trust Fund, and the work associated
13 with it.

14 And I'll let Holtec describe why they
15 would be willing to take this work on, as other
16 companies have taken it on in other parts of the
17 country.

18 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, this is Joy
19 Russell from Holtec.

20 Holtec is, and has been for 30 years, an
21 industry leader in safe and secure storage of spent
22 nuclear fuel. We also have other business endeavors
23 such as designing a small modular reactor. And as
24 we've pointed out this evening, we also have submitted
25 an application to establish a consolidated interim

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1 storage facility in southeast New Mexico.

2 Holtec is committed to the nuclear
3 industry. And unfortunately, part of that also
4 includes the safe decommissioning of nuclear power
5 plants.

6 We recently built our third manufacturing
7 facility here in the United States. We now have 1.4
8 million square feet of manufacturing here in the
9 United States. We're the largest exporter of nuclear
10 products. And again, that's a demonstration of our
11 commitment to the nuclear industry.

12 So, that is Holtec's reason for taking
13 the next step and to acquire shuttered nuclear plants
14 and to safely decommission those; and to take the
15 ownership of the spent nuclear fuel, which is also
16 our core expertise, and to manage that as it remains
17 either onsite or is moved to New Mexico.

18 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

19 And thank you, sir, for indulging me for
20 that minute.

21 MR. ROTHSTEIN: I've got all the time in
22 the world.

23 A final question for ~~Dr.~~ [Mr.] Watson. I
24 was hoping that NRC's proposed revised
25 decommissioning regulations were going to come out

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1 last November, as originally envisioned, and that
2 final promulgation would have taken place sometime in
3 the first half of this year. Notwithstanding the
4 current government shutdown, what is NRC's [estimated
5 time of arrival] ETA for when it was envisioning
6 getting these proposed and final regulations out?

7 And a second question is, licensees who
8 have submitted their PSDARs, even if they're in the
9 process of being evaluated, or the NRC said, okay,
10 they're good enough, so you can start the
11 decommissioning process once the plant is permanently
12 shut down, would existing licensees in those
13 circumstances get grandfathered separate from the new
14 regulations for decommissioning? Or would it be
15 like, for example, a post-Fukushima, where the NRC
16 says, okay, we've come up with this and the new
17 regulations; therefore, all licensees must do blank,
18 blank, blank for decommissioning, regardless of what
19 was in your PSDAR?

20 MR. WATSON: Let me respond to the
21 rulemaking schedule. The proposed decommissioning
22 rulemaking that's been in progress over the last few
23 years, the staff made its scheduled requirement to
24 submit to the Commission the proposed rules and the
25 basis for those proposed rules back in May. As many

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1 of you may know, we also had two new Commissioners
2 appointed by the Administration. And based on that,
3 they've been taking care of the backlog of information
4 or voting issues that they have on their plate.

5 So, the staff is waiting for the
6 Commission to do their job. So, it's the
7 Commission's priority to address their work at their
8 own schedule. So, the staff is waiting for the
9 Commission to vote on it. We have not received a
10 schedule of when that vote is to take place. And so,
11 we are basically at the mercy of the Commission for
12 meeting the time limit requirements they had
13 originally placed on us to have these rules in place
14 by the end of 2019 [[https://www.nrc.gov/reading-](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-ruleforum/active/RuleDetails.html?id=49)
15 [rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-ruleforum/active/RuleDetails.html?id=49)
16 [ruleforum/active/RuleDetails.html?id=49](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-ruleforum/active/RuleDetails.html?id=49)].

17 So, we will, hopefully, resolve the issue
18 with a Commission vote. That will give us the
19 direction on how we are to proceed with the proposed
20 rules.

21 One of the proposed evaluations was
22 looking at the PSDARs. If there is a change in the
23 regulations that the Commission wants concerning the
24 PSDARs, then we will issue the regulations and the
25 guidance with that. And anybody that would come out

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1 in the future would have to comply with the new
2 regulations. Since the plants that are already in
3 decommission have submitted their PSDAR, if they were
4 to revise that, we would believe they would have to,
5 at least I would believe that they would have to
6 comply with the new requirements.

7 So, I think I answered both questions.
8 But we're at the mercy of the Commission and their
9 vote scheduling. And apparently, they have more
10 pressing issues than the decommissioning rulemaking.

11 MR. LAMPERT: Jim Lampert, Duxbury.

12 I've spent a lot of time thinking and
13 trying to figure out the answer to the question why
14 would Holtec get into this. And in addition to the
15 fact that it's your business, I think the obvious
16 answer is they expect to make a profit.

17 And if you ask yourself on what basis do
18 they expect to make this profit, a number of things
19 that I think are fairly clear, if you look at the
20 whole picture, come to mind. And to the extent
21 anybody, Holtec disagrees with me, and you think you
22 can, consistent with the limitations of what you can
23 say, correct me; please do so.

24 The first is they obviously think they're
25 a great deal more efficient at doing this type of

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1 thing than Entergy ever will be.

2 The second is they want to get the
3 decommissioning done early to avoid the risk of
4 drastically-increasing costs that could
5 be -- "destructive" is a nice word -- if they waited
6 the period of that Entergy was planning to wait.

7 The third is that I was told by a Holtec
8 representative that their profit is included in the
9 costs you see in their PSDAR.

10 And last, just talking to various people
11 in the industry, my understanding is that, before
12 someone will get into something like this, they really
13 need a fairly clear path to what they see as a 25- to
14 35-percent profit.

15 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

16 MS. CARPENTER: Susan Carpenter with Cape
17 Downwinders.

18 This has nothing to do with money, but it
19 has to do with ethics. Recently, I know that Holtec
20 changed the design of its casks for San Onofre and
21 did not notify anyone, and that it really took
22 Southern California Edison and Entergy by surprise.
23 And I'm wondering if Holtec, having basically gotten
24 away with it because it was eventually approved, if
25 they feel that they can do that here or if there's a

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1 likelihood they'll do that in the future, and we'll
2 end up with something different than what we've
3 negotiated for.

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: The statements that you
5 just made I need to disagree with. They're
6 incorrect. I'll correct them.

7 The design of the system was not changed
8 for San Onofre
9 [[https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-
experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-
misalignment.html](https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-
10 experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-
11 misalignment.html)].

12 Actually, the amount of time it would
13 take me to actually correct all of your statements is
14 going to exceed the time we have, and I would hate to
15 do that, so that other speakers to have an opportunity
16 to speak.

17 I'd recommend that you go and listen to
18 the NRC's [pre-decisional enforcement conference] PEC
19 Conference that was held last Wednesday, the 9th of
20 January. It explains the entire process. But you've
21 incorrectly characterized that.

22 MS. CARPENTER: May I send you the
23 article where I got the information?

24 MS. J. RUSSELL: I didn't hear what she
25 said.

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1 MR. KLUKAN: May she send you the article
2 where she learned of this information?

3 MS. J. RUSSELL: Absolutely.

4 MS. JANDA: Just to clarify for the
5 transcript, the PEC video -- I hope I'm not restating
6 this -- is available on the NRC website. I think
7 it's video.nrc.gov, will be the quickest way of
8 getting there [<https://video.nrc.gov/>].

9 MS. CARPENTER: This is the Orange County
10 Register. The title is, "NRC and Holtec to Face Off
11 Publicly Over Redesign of Spent Fuel Canisters at San
12 Onofre Plant".

13 I wonder if, are they wrong in their
14 headline?

15 MS. J. RUSSELL: I'm sorry, re-read the
16 headline again?

17 MS. CARPENTER: "NRC and Holtec to Face
18 Off Publicly Over Redesign of Spent Fuel Canisters at
19 San Onofre Plant"

20 [[https://www.ocregister.com/2019/01/02/nrc-and-
21 holtec-to-face-off-publicly-over-redesign-of-spent-
22 fuel-canisters-at-san-onofre-plant/](https://www.ocregister.com/2019/01/02/nrc-and-holtec-to-face-off-publicly-over-redesign-of-spent-fuel-canisters-at-san-onofre-plant/)].

23 MS. J. RUSSELL: The headline is
24 misleading. We didn't redesign the canister for San
25 Onofre. And again, it's a lengthy discussion, and

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1 it's all captured in a video from the PEC Conference
2 on January 9th, where Holtec had a meeting at the NRC
3 Headquarters.

4 MS. CARPENTER: From what I understood,
5 they have a difference in the canisters. But it was
6 aware of, down at the bottom there were bolts added,
7 and that design was only discovered when one of the
8 bolts was loose in the canister.

9 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, you're making
10 misstatements, and we could go back and forth all
11 evening on this. I recommend that you get your facts
12 from this PEC video from the January 9th meeting.

13 MS. CARPENTER: Okay. And I will recheck
14 with the newspaper as well.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

17 MR. DELAFIELD: This is Lawrence
18 Delafield again.

19 I didn't really get an answer to my
20 question. So, I'd like to restate it in a slightly
21 different way.

22 The question -- and it was a
23 question -- is there any way at this point in this
24 process that we could require that the material be
25 removed and put in a secure facility someplace else,

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1 such as you're talking about doing in New Mexico, and
2 get it away from the community? Because we will not
3 be safe until that happens. Or, if that's not the
4 case, is there any way to give an incentive so that
5 it gets removed faster and moved to another location?
6 I did not receive an answer to that. So, I'd
7 appreciate getting an answer.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on
10 behalf of Entergy. I'll answer that because we're
11 the current owner of the facility.

12 I believe what your question is when you
13 talk about the material, you're referring to the spent
14 nuclear fuel. And the answer to that is, the United
15 States Federal Government is responsible for removing
16 the spent nuclear fuels from the Pilgrim site and
17 every other nuclear site in the country. And the
18 federal government has repeatedly breached its
19 obligation to do so. And many of us have been
20 required, not personally, but Entergy has been
21 required to sue the federal government for failing to
22 fulfill its obligation.

23 So, the only answer I can give you is
24 that -- I know there were some representatives of
25 some federal Congressmen here tonight -- it is to

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1 talk to them about when the federal government is
2 going to fulfill its obligation to remove spent
3 nuclear fuel from the Pilgrim site as well as the
4 other sites in the U.S.

5 MR. KLUKAN: All right. So, it's 8:47.
6 We're scheduled to go to 9:00 p.m.

7 Is there anyone who would like, who has
8 not yet spoken who would like to make any additional
9 comments before we close this out?

10 (No response.)

11 Going once, going twice. All right.

12 Before I turn it over to Bruce to close
13 out the meeting, I would just like to thank all of
14 you for attending, personally from the facilitators,
15 and to say, out on the registration table there are
16 feedback forms. Donna and I would greatly appreciate
17 you filling those out. We use your feedback in trying
18 to make these meetings better in terms of public
19 process. So, please take a couple of minutes to do
20 so.

21 And with that, I'll turn it over to Bruce.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. WATSON: Well, the first thing I want
24 to thank you for is coming out tonight. I know this
25 is an important issue to many of you.

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1 Your comments will inform the staff on
2 the NRC's review of the PSDAR. I heard some very
3 good comments for our consideration. And then, when
4 we look at the license transfer request and the
5 application and its PSDAR, those comments can also be
6 taken into account there.

7 As a reminder, you could provide written
8 comments, I believe it's through March 21st. We will
9 be publishing The Federal Register notice on the
10 license transfer when the rest of the federal
11 government goes back to work. The comment period,
12 again, is going to be 30 days for that and 20 days
13 for hearings. So, you're hearing about it early
14 before the notice is published. So, we look forward
15 to your comments.

16 Again, I want to thank you for your
17 comments and questions. We will be, at least I will
18 be, and a couple of the other NRC will be, at the
19 Massachusetts Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens
20 Advisory Panel tomorrow evening. So, I'm sure we'll
21 be having some more discussions on the topic.

22 So, with that, I would thank our
23 panelists and our presenters for their presentations
24 and in answering questions where we could.

25 With that, I would adjourn the meeting.

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1 Thank you very much.

2 (Whereupon, at 8:49 p.m., the meeting was
3 adjourned.)