

October 11, 1996

E. Thomas Boulette, PhD
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Boston Edison Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360-5599

SUBJECT: INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-293/96-09

Dear Mr. Boulette:

This letter refers to the NRC's safety issues program inspection of your Access Authorization Program conducted by Messrs. G. C. Smith and E. B. King of this office at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station on September 16-20, 1996. Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the enclosed report. The inspection consisted of interviews and examination of selected procedures and representative records. Our findings were discussed with Mr. J.F. Alexander and other members of your staff by Mr. King at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspectors determined that, in general, you had an effective program in place that provides assurance that individuals granted unescorted access are trustworthy and reliable, and do not constitute an unreasonable risk to the health and safety to the public, including a potential to commit radiological sabotage.

However, based on the results of this inspection, two of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). You are required to respond to that Notice and, in doing so, should follow the instructions therein. Particular attention should be paid to actions to prevent recurrence. The violations, which were not consistent with the requirements of the NRC-approved Physical Security Plan, involved failures to perform audits of your access authorization program within 12 months of its effective date of implementation and at least every 24 months thereafter, and failure to properly adhere to the audit requirements for the contractor/vendor access authorization programs accepted by you. In your response to the Notice, please address your planned corrective actions to preclude recurrence.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

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Mr. E. Thomas Boulette

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Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Richard R. Keimig, Chief
Emergency Preparedness and
Safeguards Branch
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-293/96-09

cc w/encl:

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N. Desmond, Regulatory Relations
D. Tarantino, Nuclear Information Manager
R. Hallisey, Department of Public Health, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Honorable Therese Murray
The Honorable Linda Teagan
B. Abbanat, Department of Public Utilities
Chairman, Plymouth Board of Selectmen
Chairman, Duxbury Board of Selectmen
Chairman, Nuclear Matters Committee
Plymouth Civil Defense Director
P. Gromer, Massachusetts Secretary of Energy Resources
J. Shaer, Legislative Assistant
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Regional Administrator, FEMA
Office of the Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality
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Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
T. Rapone, Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts, SLO Designee

Mr. E. Thomas Boulette

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