

Mr. E. Thomas Boulette, Ph.D  
Senior Vice President - Nuclear  
Boston Edison Company  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

November 13, 1996 (reissued with date)

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF SPENT FUEL STORAGE POOL SAFETY ISSUES: ISSUANCE OF  
FINAL REPORT, PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION (TAC NO. M88094)

Dear Boulette:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff recently completed a detailed review of spent fuel storage pool safety issues. The results of the staff's review are documented in a report to the Commission which is enclosed for your information. In the report, the staff concludes that existing structures, systems, and components related to the storage of irradiated fuel provide adequate protection of public health and safety.

Notwithstanding this finding, the staff has also identified certain design features that reduce the reliability of spent fuel pool decay heat removal, increase the potential for loss of spent fuel coolant inventory, or increase the potential for consequential loss of essential safety functions at an operating reactor. The staff intends to conduct plant-specific regulatory analyses to evaluate potential safety enhancement backfits pursuant to 10 CFR 50.109(a)(3) at a number of operating plants that possess one or more of these design features.

Although Pilgrim is not identified for a plant-specific safety enhancement backfit analysis by the staff, it is requested that you review the enclosed report for applicability to your facility and consider actions, as appropriate, related to the design of spent fuel pool decay heat removal systems at your facility. This letter does not require any response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Alan B. Wang at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

original signed by A.Dromerick for

S. Singh Bajwa, Project Director  
Project Directorate I-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: Memo to the Commission, from  
J. Taylor, "Resolution of Spent Fuel  
Storage Pool Action Plan Issues,"  
dated July 26, 1996

cc w/encl: See next page

**NRC FILE CENTER COPY**

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\PILGRIM\sfp.mem

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without  
attachment/enclosure "E" = Copy with attachment/enclosure "N" = No copy

OFFICE	PH: PDI-1	E	LA: PDI-1	E	D: PDI-1	C			
NAME	Alwang:mr		Slittle		SBa				
DATE	10/17/96		10/17/96		10/17/96		10/ /96		10/ /96

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

961118000B 961113  
PDR ADOCK 05000293  
P PDR



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 13, 1996 (reissued with date)

Mr. E. Thomas Boulette, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President - Nuclear  
Boston Edison Company  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF SPENT FUEL STORAGE POOL SAFETY ISSUES: ISSUANCE OF  
FINAL REPORT, PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION (TAC NO. M88094)

Dear Boulette:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff recently completed a detailed review of spent fuel storage pool safety issues. The results of the staff's review are documented in a report to the Commission which is enclosed for your information. In the report, the staff concludes that existing structures, systems, and components related to the storage of irradiated fuel provide adequate protection of public health and safety.

Notwithstanding this finding, the staff has also identified certain design features that reduce the reliability of spent fuel pool decay heat removal, increase the potential for loss of spent fuel coolant inventory, or increase the potential for consequential loss of essential safety functions at an operating reactor. The staff intends to conduct plant-specific regulatory analyses to evaluate potential safety enhancement backfits pursuant to 10 CFR 50.109(a)(3) at a number of operating plants that possess one or more of these design features.

Although Pilgrim is not identified for a plant-specific safety enhancement backfit analysis by the staff, it is requested that you review the enclosed report for applicability to your facility and consider actions, as appropriate, related to the design of spent fuel pool decay heat removal systems at your facility. This letter does not require any response.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Alan B. Wang at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

*Alleyade W. Bismuth*  
S. Singh Bajwa, Acting Project Director  
Project Directorate I-1  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: Memo to the Commission, from  
J. Taylor, "Resolution of Spent Fuel  
Storage Pool Action Plan Issues,"  
dated July 26, 1996

cc w/encl: See next page

E. Thomas Boulette

cc:

Mr. Leon J. Olivier  
Vice President of Nuclear  
Operations & Station Director  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. Robert M. Hallisey, Director  
Radiation Control Program  
Massachusetts Department of  
Public Health  
305 South Street  
Boston, MA 02130

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

Ms. Jane Fleming  
8 Oceanwood Drive  
Duxbury, MA 02332

Mrs. Nancy Desmond  
Manager, Reg. Affairs Dept.  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

Mr. David F. Tarantino  
Nuclear Information Manager  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1, Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Ms. Kathleen M. O'Toole  
Secretary of Public Safety  
Executive Office of Public Safety  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Mr. David Rodham, Director  
Massachusetts Emergency Management  
Agency  
400 Worcester Road  
P.O. Box 1496  
Framingham, MA 01701-0317  
Attn: James Muckerheide

Chairmen, Citizens Urging  
Responsible Energy  
P. O. Box 2621  
Duxbury, MA 02331

Citizens at Risk  
P. O. Box 3803  
Plymouth, MA 02361

W. S. Stowe, Esquire  
Boston Edison Company  
800 Boylston St., 36th Floor  
Boston, MA 02199

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

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

Mr. Jeffrey Keene  
Regulatory Affairs Department  
Manager  
Boston Edison Company  
600 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360-5599

DISTRIBUTION:

Docket File

PUBLIC

PDI-1 R/F

S. Varga

J. Zwolinski

S. Bajwa

S. Little

A. Wang

OGC

ACRS

R. Cooper, RI

w/o enclosure:

JShea

150073