

February 12, 1986

Docket No. 50-293

Mr. William D. Harrington  
Senior Vice President, Nuclear  
Boston Edison Company  
800 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02199

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Dear Mr. Harrington:

SUBJECT: PARTIAL RELIEF FROM VISUAL EXAMINATION GUIDANCE IN GENERIC  
LETTER 84-11

Re: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

Our letter to you dated December 4, 1984, included a statement that the guidance in Attachment 1 to Generic Letter 84-11 (GL 84-11) should be followed at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station until the plant technical specifications were changed relative to the reactor coolant system leak detection and leakage limits.

Pending completion of our review of the proposed technical specification changes, the Boston Edison Company requested, in a letter dated November 25, 1985, relief from Section E of GL 84-11 which states, in part, that "a visual examination shall be performed during each plant outage in which the containment is de-inerted." In lieu of this, you proposed that "a visual examination for leakage of the reactor coolant piping be performed during each plant outage in which the containment is de-inerted, unless such an inspection has been performed during the previous 92 days." Your letter indicates the reason for requesting this change is that personnel radiation exposures to perform these examinations have become a matter of concern because the Pilgrim Station has been shutting down more frequently than anticipated.

We have considered your request and we have concluded that visual inspection at intervals less than 92 days of operation should not be required. Therefore, the relief you requested is hereby granted. My decision is based on the staff review described in the enclosed Safety Evaluation.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by  
H. R. Denton

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PDR ADOCK 05000293  
P PDR

Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:  
As stated

DBL:PD#1  
CJamerson  
1/24/86

DBL:PD#1  
PLeech:jg  
01/24/86

OELD  
M. Korman  
1/29/86

DBL:PD#1  
JZwolinski  
2/6/86

DBL:PD#1  
RWHouston  
2/7/86

DBL:DIR  
RBernero  
2/8/86

NRR:DD  
DEisenhut  
2/6/86

NRR:DIR  
HDenton  
2/11/86

Mr. William D. Harrington  
Boston Edison Company

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

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