



Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

Brian R. Sullivan
Site Vice President

5.19.010

August 23, 2019

Ms. Samantha Phillips, Director
Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road
Framingham, MA 01702-5399

SUBJECT: Termination of Emergency Response Data System Transmission for Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

On June 10, 2019, Entergy submitted certifications to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), pursuant to 10 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 50.82(a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii), of the permanent cessation of power operations, the permanent removal of fuel from the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (PNPS) reactor vessel, and the placement of the fuel in the spent fuel pool (ADAMS Accession No. ML19161A033). Upon docketing of these certifications, the 10 CFR Part 50 license for PNPS no longer authorizes operation of the reactor or emplacement or retention of fuel into the reactor vessel, as specified in 10 CFR 50.82(a)(2).

Once PNPS was permanently defueled, numerous systems that had been operational or in standby during plant operation were secured as they were no longer required to maintain the plant in a safe condition. Based on the permanently defueled condition of the facility, PNPS personnel have reviewed the data transmitted by the Emergency Response Data System (ERDS) and concluded that the information is no longer useful in assessing the status of the plant in the current condition based on the parameters being transmitted (i.e., those that were important for an operating nuclear power plant). As such, we plan to terminate the ERDS transmission to the NRC Operations Center as allowed by NRC regulations.

In particular, Section VI of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 establishes the requirement of a direct near real-time electronic data link between a nuclear power facility licensee's onsite computer system and the NRC Operations Center that provides for the automated transmission of a limited data set of selected parameters. Section VI.2 of Appendix E to 10 CFR Part 50 specifically exempts from this requirement those nuclear power facilities that are shut down permanently or indefinitely.

The termination of the ERDS link for PNPS does not impact the licensee's responsibility to provide State and local authorities with recommendations and advice on off-site action that they may consider to protect their citizenry. Also, Entergy is still required to provide notification to off-site authorities for an emergency declaration and provide information on facility status to support the assessment of a potential radiological release at the facility.

As we discussed with Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency staff, we will provide appropriate log data daily in place of ERDs to satisfy the needs of the agency until the reduction in emergency planning criteria in 2020. The data will be transmitted to Katharine.Cederberg@Mass.gov, Kenyi.Suarez@Mass.gov, and John.L.Viveiros@Mass.gov.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Mr. Peter J. Miner at 508-830-7127.

Respectfully,



Brian R. Sullivan

BRS/rjm

cc: NRC Regional Administrator, Region I
NRC Project Manager - Pilgrim
NRC Senior Resident Inspector - Pilgrim