

April 9, 2001

Mr. Mike Bellamy
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Generation Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION - ISSUANCE OF AMENDMENT RE:
RADIATION MONITOR SURVEILLANCE INTERVAL (TAC NO. MB1207)

Dear Mr. Bellamy:

The Commission has issued the enclosed Amendment No. 189 to Facility Operating License No. DPR-35 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. This amendment is in response to your application dated February 16, 2001.

This amendment would substitute the surveillance interval of "Once/Operating Cycle" for the current surveillance interval of "Each Refueling Outage," for the following process monitors in Technical Specification Table 4.2.F: Containment High Radiation Monitor, Reactor Building Vent Radiation Monitor, Main Stack Vent Radiation Monitor, and Turbine Building Vent Radiation Monitor.

A copy of the related Safety Evaluation is also enclosed. Notice of Issuance will be included in the Commission's biweekly Federal Register Notice.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Alan B. Wang, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosures: 1. Amendment No. 189 to
License No. DPR-35
2. Safety Evaluation

cc w/encls: See next page

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Accession Number: ML010610155

*See previous concurrence

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DATE	3/27/01	3/27/01	3/7/01	3/28/01	3/29/01

Official Record Copy

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

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ENTERGY NUCLEAR GENERATION COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-293

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 189
License No. DPR-35

1. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or the NRC) has found that:
 - A. The application for amendment filed by the Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (the licensee) dated February 16, 2001, complies with the standards and requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), and the Commission's rules and regulations;
 - B. The facility will operate in conformity with the application, the provisions of the Act, and the rules and regulations of the Commission;
 - C. There is reasonable assurance: (i) that the activities authorized by this amendment can be conducted without endangering the health and safety of the public, and (ii) that such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations;
 - D. The issuance of this amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public; and
 - E. The issuance of this amendment is in accordance with 10 CFR Part 51 of the Commission's regulations and all applicable requirements have been satisfied.

2. Accordingly, the license is amended by changes to the Technical Specifications as indicated in the attachment to this license amendment, and paragraph 3.B of Facility Operating License No. DPR-35 is hereby amended to read as follows:

B. Technical Specifications

The Technical Specifications contained in Appendix A, as revised through Amendment No. 189 , are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

3. This license amendment is effective as of the date of issuance and shall be implemented within 30 days.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

/RA/

James W. Clifford, Chief, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Attachment: Changes to the Technical
Specifications

Date of Issuance: April 9, 2001

ATTACHMENT TO LICENSE AMENDMENT NO. 189

FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-35

DOCKET NO. 50-293

Replace the following page of the Appendix A Technical Specifications with the attached revised page. The revised page is identified by amendment number and contains marginal lines indicating the areas of change.

Remove
3/4 2-38

Insert
3/4 2-38

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 189 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-35
ENTERGY NUCLEAR GENERATION COMPANY
PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION
DOCKET NO. 50-293

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated February 16, 2001, the Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (the licensee) submitted a request for changes to the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station Technical Specifications (TSs). The requested changes would substitute the surveillance interval of "Once/Operating Cycle" for the current surveillance interval of "Each Refueling Outage," for the following process monitors: Containment High Radiation Monitor, Reactor Building Vent Radiation Monitor, Main Stack Vent Radiation Monitor, and Turbine Building Vent Radiation Monitor.

2.0 EVALUATION

The proposed change revises the surveillance interval for the following process monitors in Table 4.2.F: Containment High Radiation Monitor; Reactor Building Vent Radiation Monitor; Main Stack Vent Radiation Monitor; and Turbine Building Vent Radiation Monitor. This proposed change substitutes a surveillance interval of "Once/Operating Cycle" for the current "Each Refueling Outage." The nominal surveillance interval of 24 months is not changed because, in the Pilgrim TS definition of "Surveillance Interval," both operating cycle and refueling interval are defined as 24 months plus 25%. In fact, the new requirement could be more restrictive if the plant were to have an extended outage.

The current Table 4.2.F wording restricts performing this calibration to refueling outages. The proposed change would potentially shorten refueling outages by allowing the calibration to be performed in periods other than refuelings, while retaining the same nominal calibration interval of 24 months. In addition, these calibrations require a radioactive source. Refueling outages involve large increases in the number of personnel working in areas impacted by the calibration source. To control such exposure, personnel not involved in the calibration are removed from the area affected. Such personnel removal adversely impacts other refueling work, thereby potentially lengthening the refueling outage. Therefore, this change could reduce personnel exposure and refueling outage length without impacting the length of the surveillance/calibration interval.

This proposed change does not modify any equipment or system configuration at Pilgrim. It does not alter the conduct of operation at Pilgrim. It does not change the nominal calibration interval for the affected instruments because the wording change does not impact the actual

length of the interval. The proposed change does allow calibration at different and less prescriptive times than the current wording, and has the potential to reduce personnel radiation dose. In addition, these process monitors are not safety-related and provide no safety function. Therefore, the staff has concluded that this change does not alter the nominal calibration period of 24 months, but does provide a less prescriptive surveillance interval that does not have an adverse impact on plant or public safety. Thus, the change is acceptable.

3.0 STATE CONSULTATION

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the Massachusetts State Official was notified of the proposed issuance of the amendment. The State official had no comments.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATION

The amendment changes a requirement with respect to installation or use of a facility component located within the restricted area as defined in 10 CFR Part 20 and changes surveillance requirements. The NRC staff has determined that the amendment involves no significant increase in the amounts, and no significant change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. The Commission has previously issued a proposed finding that the amendment involves no significant hazards consideration, and there has been no public comment on such finding (66 FR 13802). Accordingly, the amendment meets the eligibility criteria for categorical exclusion set forth in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(9). Pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b) no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with the issuance of the amendment.

5.0 CONCLUSION

The Commission has concluded, based on the considerations discussed above, that: (1) there is reasonable assurance that the health and safety of the public will not be endangered by operation in the proposed manner, (2) such activities will be conducted in compliance with the Commission's regulations, and (3) the issuance of the amendment will not be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

Principal Contributor: A. Wang

Date: April 9, 2001