

September 24, 1999

Mr. Theodore A. Sullivan
Vice President Nuclear and Station Director
Entergy Nuclear Generation Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

SUBJECT: CORRECTION TO AMENDMENT NO. 182 (TAC NO. MA4928)

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

By letter dated July 15, 1999, the Commission issued Amendment No. 182 to facility Operating License No. DPR-35 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim). By letter dated August 2, 1999, Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (Entergy) informed the staff that Entergy has adopted all pending requests previously made by Boston Edison Company when it was the licensee for Pilgrim. In addition, Entergy noted that since the conforming amendments to reflect the sale and transfer of Pilgrim from Boston Edison Company to Entergy were issued July 13, 1999, Amendment No. 182 needed to be corrected to reflect the new licensee, Entergy. The staff agrees that Entergy should have been stated as the licensee for Amendment No. 182 and has re-issued the amendment page and page 1 of the Safety Evaluation to Amendment No. 182 to reflect the new licensee. Enclosed are the corrected pages of Amendment No. 182.

We also acknowledge that Entergy has adopted all outstanding requests previously made by Boston Edison Company for Pilgrim. If you have any other questions regarding these issues please call me at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,
Original signed by:
Alan B. Wang, Project Manager, Section 2
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: As stated

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Wang".

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

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

ENTERGY NUCLEAR GENERATION COMPANY

DOCKET NO. 50-293

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

AMENDMENT TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE

Amendment No. 182

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 Boston Edison Company dated March 3, 1999, adopted by Entergy Nuclear Generation Company (the licensee), 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. 182, are hereby incorporated in the license. The licensee shall operate the facility in accordance with the Technical Specifications.

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

SAFETY EVALUATION BY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION
RELATED TO AMENDMENT NO. 182 TO FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE NO. DPR-35

ENERGY NUCLEAR GENERATION COMPANY

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-293

1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 3, 1999 [1], Boston Edison Company (BECo), then the licensee for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, requested that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) review and approve its proposed Technical Specification (TS) change to modify its reactor pressure vessel (RPV) surveillance capsule withdrawal schedule. The proposed change would change the date of withdrawal of the next surveillance capsule in TS Table 4.6-3 from 15 effective full-power years (EFPY) of operation to 18 EFPY. BECo's submittal was made in accordance with the provision of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, (10 CFR), Section 50.90, which specifies that when license holders desire to amend their license, an amendment application must be filed with the Commission, as specified in 10 CFR 50.4. This provision is invoked since the facility TSs are incorporated directly as part of the facility's license. Entergy Nuclear Generation Company, which became the licensee for Pilgrim on July 13, 1999, adopted all pending amendment requests previously filed by BECo.

2.0 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AND STAFF POSITIONS

Nuclear power plant licensees are required by 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix H, to implement RPV surveillance programs to "monitor changes in the fracture toughness properties of ferritic materials in the reactor vessel beltline region...which result from exposure of these materials to neutron irradiation and the thermal environment." Regarding RPV surveillance program design and specimen testing, 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix H, incorporates by reference the editions of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard Practice E 185, "Conducting Surveillance Tests for Light-Water Cooled Nuclear Power Reactor Vessels," through the 1982 edition. Under 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix H, the licensee's RPV surveillance program design and withdrawal schedule is required to meet the requirements of the edition of ASTM E 185 that is current on the issue date of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code to which the RPV was purchased, although later editions may be used, up to and including the 1982 edition. The test procedures and reporting requirements must however meet the requirements of the 1982 edition of ASTM E185, to the extent practical for the configuration of the specimens in the capsules.

As referenced in Pilgrim TS 4.6.A., the edition of ASTM E 185 to which the Pilgrim RPV surveillance program was designed was the 1966 edition (ASTM E 185-66). Paragraph 4.6 of the ASTM E 185-66 addresses the withdrawal schedule as follows, "[i]t is recommended that sets of specimens be withdrawn at three or more separate times. One of the data points obtained shall correspond to the neutron exposure of the component near the end of its design

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