

February 22, 2002

Ms. Mary Lampert
Duxbury Nuclear Advisory Committee, Chair
Massachusetts Citizens for Safe Energy
Nuclear Program Director
148 Washington Street
Duxbury, MA 02332

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION, FORMAL CITIZEN COMPLAINT
AGAINST ENTERGY EMPLOYEES' BEHAVIOR (TAC NO. MB3792)

Dear Ms. Lampert:

I am responding on behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to your letter dated November 30, 2001. You had two complaints.

Entergy employees at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station have been busy denouncing those who speak of the terrorist threat to Pilgrim's nuclear fuel and reactor, and

Entergy is also busy arranging virtually closed meetings with emergency planners, school officials and selected citizens to assure that only their half-truths and misrepresentations of fact are heard.

We understand that you are concerned about public comments, made by Entergy employees, directed at you and others who are concerned about the potential terrorist threat to the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim Station). However, in expressing that concern, your letter did not identify any specific concerns, which we could address, affecting the health and safety of the public or the safe operation of Pilgrim Station. In giving examples of public comments directed at you by Entergy employees, you mentioned two events associated with plant security. The NRC is aware of those events and we have determined that the licensee responded appropriately to both events. Additionally, the NRC continues to monitor the security at all nuclear facilities in the United States, and has issued advisories to licensees to ensure that they take appropriate security measures.

Regarding your complaint concerning Entergy's participation in "virtually closed meetings," you mentioned the November 28, 2001, Pembroke Emergency Planning Meeting and implied that the meeting was organized by the Town of Pembroke, Massachusetts. Meeting arrangements made by a local municipality are outside the NRC's authority. We appreciate the fact that you desire to actively participate in such meetings and, as such, we would suggest that your concerns regarding meeting arrangements and agenda be addressed to the organization which arranged the meeting.

Regarding your complaint concerning "half-truths and misrepresentations of fact" by Entergy employees, we noted that the statements, attributed to Entergy employees during the Pembroke Emergency Planning Meeting, involved opinions or comments made concerning matters outside the NRC's authority. We recognize that licensees can influence public

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confidence by statements made in settings normally outside the NRC's authority and would hope that statements made in such settings would be accurate and factual. We appreciate your concern in this area. However, the NRC does not have jurisdiction over such matters. We would suggest that your concerns, related to specific statements made by Entergy employees, be discussed with the individuals or organizations involved.

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your letter. Please do not hesitate to contact the NRC if you have further concerns.

Sincerely,

/RA TMarsh for/

Elinor G. Adensam, Director
Project Directorate I
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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