

JOHN KERRY  
MASSACHUSETTS

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

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October 19, 1998

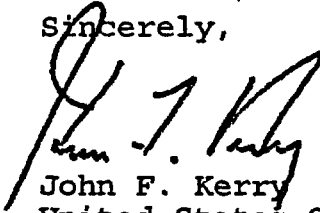
Mr. Dennis K. Rathbun  
Director  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Congressional Affairs  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Rathbun:

I am forwarding to you a copy of a letter that I received from the Massachusetts Citizens for Safe Energy expressing the organization's concern about the sale of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The organization hopes to ensure that a complete and accurate record is kept of the transfer, so that radioactive waste disposal can be effectively monitored in the future. I invite your fullest consideration of this request, and would appreciate any information that you could provide to address this organization's concerns.

If you have any questions regarding this inquiry please do not hesitate to contact Betsy McEvoy of my Boston office at (617) 565-8519. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Sincerely,

  
John F. Kerry  
United States Senator

JFK/bm

## **Massachusetts Citizens for Safe Energy**

29 Temple Place, Boston MA 02111

[617] 292-4821 phone \* [617] 292-8057 fax \* e-mail mwillson@toxicsaction.org

148 Washington Street, Duxbury MA 02332

[781] 934-0389 phone \* [781] 934-5579 fax \* e-mail jlampert@ldt.net

October 5, 1998

Gerald Rainey  
President & Chief Nuclear Officer  
PECO Nuclear Headquarters  
965 Chesterbrook Blvd.,  
Wayne, PA 19087-5691

RE: Pilgrim NPS

Dear Mr. Rainey:

As you know, NRC regulations have permitted Boston Edison Company (BECO) to bury some radioactive waste on site. Those of us in this region have serious concerns about the health and other risks presented by this buried waste. We also question whether BECO has accurately reported either the locations of every site in which waste has been buried or the amount and type of waste buried in each site.

As part of the sale of Pilgrim Station to you, we are asking that the Commonwealth and the NRC require a complete and accurate reporting (written and inclusive of site map) by BECO of all radioactive waste buried or otherwise disposed of by it within the site or elsewhere; and that the reports be made available to the Commonwealth, NRC and be part of the public record.

We are also asking that the Commonwealth and the NRC insure that you and BECO are held responsible for any liabilities that might arise in the future as a result of any radioactive waste disposal efforts, and that both you and BECO be especially responsible for anything that either of you has failed to report.

Thanking you for your attention and timely response, I am sincerely,



Mary Elizabeth Lampert  
Massachusetts Citizens for Safe Energy

cc. Senators Kennedy & Kerry; Congressman William Delahunt; Congressman Edward Markey; NRC Chairman Shirley Jackson; Acting Governor Paul Cellucci; Attorney General Scott Harshbarger; MA DTE Chair, Gail Besser; Senators Hedlund and Murray; Representatives Tom O'Brien, Ruth Provost; Frank Hynes; Fran Marini; Joseph Gallitano; Boards of Selectmen, Towns of Plymouth, Carver, Duxbury, Kingston, Marshfield.

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October 6, 1998

Senator John Kerry  
1 Bowdoin Square  
Boston MA 02114  
Fax 617- 248-3870

**RE: Pilgrim NPS: Preserving Written Record Of  
Contamination Prior To Transfer Ownership BECO To PECO**

Dear Senator Kerry:

We are told that Boston Edison will soon officially announce the sale of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, Plymouth MA, to PECO - no doubt technically to AmerGen, a joint venture of PECO and British Energy of Edinburgh, UK. This presents many issues/problems, not the least of which, preserving the record of waste disposal so that it does not become "lost" in the transfer.

Pilgrim is, for all practical purposes, a radioactive waste dump located on an eroding coastline overlooking Massachusetts Bay. It is important that, when the time comes, it is properly & thoroughly cleaned up. This requires, among many things, the preservation of precise contamination records - important records can get "lost" in the transfer of ownership.

Pilgrim was allowed to bury low-level radioactive waste (defined as waste other than spent fuel rods) and mixed radioactive waste on-site from 1972 until the mid-1980's. We know that they buried waste through 1986. *It is important that a written record, inclusive of site map, of burial sites be turned over to the Commonwealth & federal regulators as part of the "paper work" in the sale of Pilgrim to PECO.* We hope that you will reinforce our request that this happens.

Pilgrim was the site of the second worst releases in US history, 1982. For example, in June of 1982, they blew their filters resulting in significant on & off site

contamination of radioactive resin. Soil samples were taken by federal & state authorities. *Original maps and detailed reports taken at that time should also be on file with the Commonwealth & federal regulators.* We hope that you will help us with assuring that this happens, too.

It is clear that the liability issues between BECO and PECO be settled before all aspects of the sale are finalized; so that public health and safety doesn't suffer while each party plays the "he did it" game when it comes time to actually clean up.

Enclosed, you will find our letter on the subject to Gerald Rainey, President & Chief Nuclear Officer, PECO.

We thank you for any help that you can give us on this important issue and please keep us "in-the-loop" of any actions/correspondence that may occur between you and pertinent parties on this issue.

Sincerely,



Mary Elizabeth Lampert  
Massachusetts Citizens for Safe Energy  
Duxbury Nuclear Advisory Committee