

April 24, 2006

Mr. Michael R. Kansler
President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
440 Hamilton Avenue
White Plains, NY 10601

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION REGARDING UNRESOLVED INSPECTION ITEM
05000293/2005003-01 FROM THE NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT
05000293/2005003 (TAC NO. MD0178)

Dear Mr. Kansler:

On June 30, 2005, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an inspection at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim). The inspectors determined that the overlap testing conducted under an approved change to Procedure No. 8.M.3-1, by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee), does not actually verify the load sequencing as prescribed by Pilgrim Technical Specifications (TSs) 4.9.A.1.b and 4.9.A.1.c. The licensee justified the change based, in part, on the Pilgrim TSs basis wording and existing load sequence overlap testing.

The NRC staff has been reviewing the unresolved inspection item and has determined that additional information is needed to complete its review. The specific questions are found in the enclosed request for additional information (RAI). A response to this RAI is requested to be provided within 45 days.

Sincerely,

/RA/

James J. Shea, Project Manager
Plant Licensing Branch I-1
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: As stated

cc w/encl: See next page

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REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (RAI)

UNRESOLVED INSPECTION ITEM 05000293/2005003-01

FROM THE NRC INTEGRATED INSPECTION REPORT 05000293/2005003

ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.

PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

DOCKET NO. 50-293

On June 30, 2005, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) completed an inspection at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim). The inspectors determined that the overlap testing conducted under an approved change to Procedure No. 8.M.3-1, by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (the licensee), does not actually verify the load sequencing as prescribed by Pilgrim Technical Specifications (TSs) 4.9.A.1.b and 4.9.A.1.c. The licensee justified the change based, in part, on the Pilgrim TSs basis wording and existing load sequence overlap testing.

The NRC staff has been reviewing the unresolved inspection item and has determined that additional information is needed to complete its review.

- 1) The Pilgrim Final Safety Analysis Report Section 8.5.5 states that "Readiness can best be demonstrated by periodic testing, which insofar as practical, simulates actual emergency conditions." What was your basis for determining that it was not practical to sequence load one Reactor Building Closed Cooling Water (RBCCW) Pump and one Salt Service Water (SSW) Pump on the Emergency Diesel Generator (EDG) during surveillance testing (TS Surveillance Requirements 4.9.A.1.b and 4.9.A.1.c)? Also, explain why equivalent loads in lieu of RBCCW and SSW pumps were not added in order to have required DG loading.
- 2) Explain why starting the last sequenced load(s) RBCCW and SSW will not adversely affect the performance of the EDG. Specifically address Kilowatt (KW) and Kilovar (KVAR) requirements and available DG margin in KW and KVAR.
- 3) What does Entergy consider a "small" EDG load? Would this include the RBCCW and SSW pumps? Explain why these loads would not impact EDG performance when taken in total during the sequence load of the emergency diesel.
- 4) Please provide a copy for review of Entergy Procedure No. 8.M.3-1.

Enclosure

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

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Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

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