

May 11, 2006

Ms. Brona Simon
Acting Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd
Boston, MA 02125

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION
REVIEW (SHPO NO. RC 36661)

Dear Ms. Simon:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff is reviewing a license renewal application (LRA) submitted by Entergy Operations, Inc. (Entergy or the applicant) dated January 25, 2006, for the renewal of the operating license for Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim), pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 54 (10 CFR Part 54). Pilgrim is located on the western shore of Cape Cod Bay in the Town of Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. It is 38 miles southeast of Boston, Massachusetts, and 44 miles east of Providence, Rhode Island. The NRC has established that, as part of the staff review of any nuclear power plant license renewal action, a site-specific Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to its "Generic Environmental Impact Statement for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants," NUREG-1437, will be prepared under the provisions of 10 CFR Part 51, the NRC regulation that implements the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). In accordance with 36 CFR 800.8, the SEIS will include analyses of potential impacts to historic and cultural resources.

In the context of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the NRC staff has determined that the area of potential effect (APE) for a license renewal action is the area at the power plant site and its immediate environs that may be impacted by post-license renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities associated with the proposed action. The APE may extend beyond the immediate environs in those instances where post-license renewal land-disturbing operations or projected refurbishment activities specifically related to license renewal, may potentially have an effect on known or proposed historic sites. This determination is made irrespective of ownership or control of the lands of interest.

While preparing its application, Entergy contacted your office by letter dated February 17, 2005. In the letter, Entergy stated that there are no plans to alter operations over the license renewal period. Entergy further stated that no major expansion of existing facilities is planned, and no major structural modifications have been identified for the purposes of supporting license renewal. In addition, Entergy stated that no additional land disturbance is anticipated. Your office responded to Entergy's letter on March 14, 2005.

B. Simon

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The NRC staff plans to hold two public NEPA scoping meetings on May 17, 2006, at the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor Ballroom, 180 Water Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts. You and your staff are invited to attend the public meetings. Your office will also receive a copy of the draft SEIS along with a request for comments. The anticipated publication date for the draft SEIS is December 2006.

If you have any questions, regarding the NRC staff review of this LRA, please contact Ms. Alicia Williamson, the Environmental Project Manager, at 301-415-1878 or by email at arw1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani Franovich, Branch Chief
Environmental Branch B
Division of License Renewal
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

cc: See next page

B. Simon

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Rani Franovich, Branch Chief
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Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

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Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

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