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NRC TO MEET WITH ENTERGY ON JULY 19th TO DISCUSS PILGRIM LICENSE RENEWAL AUDIT FINDINGS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with Entergy representatives on Wednesday, July 19, to discuss the findings of a team audit associated with the license renewal application for the Pilgrim nuclear power plant. Entergy submitted the application to the NRC in late January. It seeks an additional 20 years of operation for the plant, which is located in Plymouth, Mass. The current operating license for the facility is set to expire on June 8, 2012.

The NRC performs audits early in the license renewal review process to evaluate whether the application is consistent with established guidance and NRC staff positions. Additional technical reviews, including inspections, of the application will take place over the next 12 months. The conclusions from the audits, technical reviews and inspections will be incorporated into a safety evaluation report, which is expected to be issued next July.

The meeting is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. until noon at the Radisson Plymouth Harbor Hotel, 180 Water St. in Plymouth. It will be open to public observation. Following the business portion of the meeting, the NRC staff will be available to answer questions from the public.

Under NRC regulations, the original operating license for a nuclear power plant has a duration of up to 40 years. The license may be renewed for up to an additional 20 years if NRC requirements are met. Information on the license renewal process is posted on the NRC's web page at <http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal.html>. Information specific to Pilgrim's application is posted at:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/pilgrim.html>

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