



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

September 1, 2009

Mr. Kevin Bronson
Site Vice President
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc.
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
600 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, MA 02360-5508

**SUBJECT: MID-CYCLE PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND INSPECTION PLAN -
PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION**

Dear Mr. Bronson:

On August 11, 2009, the NRC staff completed its performance review of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. Our technical staff reviewed performance indicators (PIs) for the most recent quarter and inspection results for the period from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our assessment of your safety performance during this period and our plans for future inspections at your facility.

This performance review and enclosed inspection plan do not include security information. A separate letter designated and marked as "Official Use Only – Security Information" will include the security cornerstone review and resultant inspection plan.

Plant performance for the most recent quarter at Pilgrim was within the Licensee Response column of the NRC's Action Matrix, based on all inspection findings being classified as having very low safety significance (Green) and all PIs indicating performance at a level requiring no additional NRC oversight (Green). Therefore, we plan to conduct reactor oversight process (ROP) baseline inspections at your facility.

In our annual assessment letter dated March 4, 2009 [ML090630507]¹, we informed you of an existing cross-cutting theme in the aspect of document and procedure adequacy (H.2(c))². During the past six months, the NRC staff reviewed your apparent cause evaluation and corrective actions for this cross-cutting theme. To date, these actions appear to be adequate and effective given there have been no new findings with cross-cutting aspects in H.2(c) in the last two quarters. There is currently one inspection finding for the current twelve month assessment period with a cross-cutting aspect in H.2(c), so the cross-cutting theme no longer exists.

¹ Designation in parentheses refers to an ADAMS accession number. Documents referenced in this letter are publicly available using the accession number in ADAMS.

² This is a descriptor which correlates to the cross cutting aspect in Inspection Manual Chapter 0305, "Operating Reactor Assessment Program."

The enclosed inspection plan details the inspections, less those related to physical protection, scheduled through December 31, 2010. The inspection plan is provided to allow for the resolution of any scheduling conflicts and personnel availability issues well in advance of inspector arrival onsite. Routine resident inspections are not listed due to their ongoing and continuous nature. The inspections in the last nine months of the inspection plan are tentative and may be revised at the end-of-cycle review.

In accordance with 10 CFR Part 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

As you may know, the NRC is currently evaluating the scope and frequency of all the baseline inspection procedures as part of our biennial review of the ROP. If the results of the evaluation, or any other circumstances, cause us to change the inspection plan, we will contact you to discuss the change as soon as possible. Please contact me at (610) 337-5306 with any questions you may have regarding this letter or the inspection plan.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Donald E. Jackson, Chief
Projects Branch 5
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket Nos. 50-293
License No. DPR-35

Enclosure: Pilgrim Inspection/Activity Plan

cc w/encl:

Vice President, Operations, Entergy Nuclear Operations

Vice President, Oversight, Entergy Nuclear Operations

Senior Manager, Nuclear Safety & Licensing, Entergy Nuclear Operations

Senior Vice President and COO, Entergy Nuclear Operations

Assistant General Counsel, Entergy Nuclear Operations

R. Walker, Director, Radiation Control Program, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

W. Irwin, Chief, CHP, Radiological Health, Vermont Department of Health

The Honorable Therese Murray

The Honorable Vincent deMacedo

Chairman, Plymouth Board of Selectmen

Chairman, Duxbury Board of Selectmen

Chairman, Nuclear Matters Committee

Plymouth Civil Defense Director

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D. Katz, Citizens Awareness Network

W. Meinert, Nuclear Engineer

J. Giarrusso, MEMA, SLO

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Secretary of Public Safety

Institute of Nuclear Power Operations (INPO)

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Enclosure: Pilgrim Inspection/Activity Plan

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DATE	0825/09	08/25/09	08/31/09

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Pilgrim
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2009 - 12/31/2010

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
			7112202 - PUB RAD SAFETY - RADWASTE		1
1	07/20/2009	07/24/2009	IP 7112202	Radioactive Material Processing and Transportation	
			7111111B - BIENNIAL REQUAL INSP WITH P/F RESULTS		3
1	10/12/2009	10/23/2009	IP 7111111B	Licensed Operator Requalification Program	
			71121 - OCC RAD SAFETY		1
1	08/31/2009	09/04/2009	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	
1	08/31/2009	09/04/2009	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	08/31/2009	09/04/2009	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment	
1	08/31/2009	09/04/2009	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			7112203 - PUB RAD SAFETY - REMP		1
1	09/07/2009	09/11/2009	IP 7112203	Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP) And Radioactive Material Control Program	
1	09/07/2009	09/11/2009	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			TRI FIRE - TRIENNIAL FIRE PROTECTION INSPECTION		3
1	09/14/2009	09/18/2009	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
1	09/28/2009	10/02/2009	IP 7111105T	Fire Protection [Triennial]	
			EP PROGR - EP PROGRAM INSPECTION		2
1	11/30/2009	12/05/2009	IP 7111402	Alert and Notification System Testing	
1	11/30/2009	12/05/2009	IP 7111403	Emergency Response Organization Augmentation Testing	
1	11/30/2009	12/05/2009	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	11/30/2009	12/05/2009	IP 7111405	Correction of Emergency Preparedness Weaknesses and Deficiencies	
1	11/30/2009	12/05/2009	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
			7112103 - RAD MONITORING INSTRUMENTS		1
1	02/15/2010	02/19/2010	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment	
			7111107T - TRIENNIAL HEAT SINK		1
1	04/19/2010	04/23/2010	IP 7111107T	Heat Sink Performance	
			71121 - OCC RADIATION SAFETY		1
1	05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	
1	05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	05/17/2010	05/21/2010	IP 7112103	Radiation Monitoring Instrumentation and Protective Equipment	
			TI-177 - MANAGING GAS ACCUMULATION IN ECCS		3
1	06/21/2010	06/25/2010	IP 2515/177	Managing Gas Accumulation In Emergency Core Cooling, Decay Heat Removal & Containment Spray System	
			2515/173 - INDUSTRY GROUND WATER INITIATIVE		1
1	07/12/2010	07/16/2010	IP 2515/173	Review of the Implementation of the Industry Ground Water Protection Voluntary Initiative	
			71122.01 - PUB RAD SAFETY - EFFLUENTS		1
1	08/23/2010	08/27/2010	IP 7112201	Radioactive Gaseous and Liquid Effluent Treatment and Monitoring Systems	

This report does not include INPO and OUTAGE activities.
This report shows only on-site and announced inspection procedures.

Pilgrim
Inspection / Activity Plan
07/01/2009 - 12/31/2010

Unit Number	Planned Dates		Inspection Activity	Title	No. of Staff on Site
	Start	End			
MODS - PERMANENT PLANT MODIFICATIONS					5
1	09/13/2010	09/17/2010	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
1	09/27/2010	10/01/2010	IP 7111117T	Evaluations of Changes, Tests, or Experiments and Permanent Plant Modifications	
71121 - OCC RAD SAFETY - ACCESS/ALARA					1
1	10/18/2010	10/22/2010	IP 7112101	Access Control to Radiologically Significant Areas	
1	10/18/2010	10/22/2010	IP 7112102	ALARA Planning and Controls	
1	10/18/2010	10/22/2010	IP 71151	Performance Indicator Verification	
EP EX - EP EXERCISE EVALUATION					4
1	11/15/2010	11/19/2010	IP 7111401	Exercise Evaluation	
1	11/15/2010	11/19/2010	IP 7111404	Emergency Action Level and Emergency Plan Changes	
1	11/15/2010	11/19/2010	IP 71151-EP01	Drill/Exercise Performance	
1	11/15/2010	11/19/2010	IP 71151-EP02	ERO Drill Participation	
1	11/15/2010	11/19/2010	IP 71151-EP03	Alert & Notification System	