

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 07/30/12

EDO CONTROL: G20120528  
DOC DT: 05/04/12  
FINAL REPLY:

Therese Murray  
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

TO:

Chairman Jaczko

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* GRN \*\*

CRC NO: 12-0216

Chairman Macfarlane

DESC:

Concerns Over the Relicensing of the Pilgrim  
Nuclear Power Station (EDATS: SECY-2012-0376)

ROUTING:

Borchardt  
Weber  
Johnson  
Ash  
Mamish  
OGC/GC  
Harrison, OEDO

DATE: 07/23/12

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

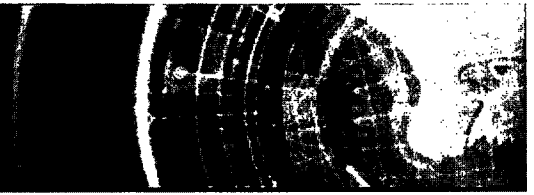
NRR

Leeds

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

# EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System



**EDATS Number:** SECY-2012-0376

**Source:** SECY

## General Information

**Assigned To:** NRR

**OEDO Due Date:** 7/30/2012 11:00 PM

**Other Assignees:**

**SECY Due Date:** NONE

**Subject:** Concerns Over the Relicensing of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

**Description:**

**CC Routing:** NONE

**ADAMS Accession Numbers - Incoming:** NONE

**Response/Package:** NONE

## Other Information

**Cross Reference Number:** G20120528, LTR-12-0216

**Staff Initiated:** NO

**Related Task:**

**Recurring Item:** NO

**File Routing:** EDATS

**Agency Lesson Learned:** NO

**OEDO Monthly Report Item:** NO

## Process Information

**Action Type:** Letter

**Priority:** Medium

**Signature Level:** Chairman Jaczko

**Sensitivity:** None

**Urgency:** NO

**Approval Level:** No Approval Required

**OEDO Concurrence:** YES

**OCM Concurrence:** NO

**OCA Concurrence:** NO

**Special Instructions:**

## Document Information

**Originator Name:** Therese Murray

**Date of Incoming:** 5/4/2012

**Originating Organization:** The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Document Received by SECY Date:** 5/18/2012

**Addressee:** Chairman Jaczko

**Date Response Requested by Originator:** NONE

**Incoming Task Received:** Letter

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: May 18, 2012 08:57

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**PAPER NUMBER:** LTR-12-0216 **LOGGING DATE:** 05/15/2012  
**ACTION OFFICE:** EDO

**AUTHOR:** Therese Murray  
**AFFILIATION:** MA-SH  
**ADDRESSEE:** CHRM Gregory Jaczko  
**SUBJECT:** Concerns over the relicensing of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

**ACTION:** Signature of Chairman  
**DISTRIBUTION:** RF, SECY to Ack.

**LETTER DATE:** 05/04/2012

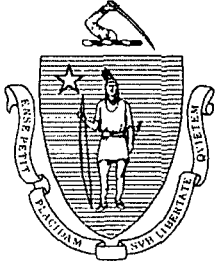
**ACKNOWLEDGED:** No  
**SPECIAL HANDLING:** Commission Correspondence

**NOTES:**

**FILE LOCATION:** ADAMS

**DATE DUE:** 06/08/2012 **DATE SIGNED:**

EDO --G20120528



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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May 4, 2012

Chairman Gregory B. Jaczko  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

We write to you again to express our concerns over the relicensing of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

The report of the "Near-Term Task Force," commissioned by the NRC after the catastrophe at the Fukushima Dai-Ichi nuclear power plant in Japan, called attention to several key findings and recommendations needed to ensure the full operability and safety of Pilgrim.

Among these recommendations, the Task Force discussed various issues which we believe should be addressed prior to the relicensing of Pilgrim. Those recommendations include increasing the "minimum coping time" to eight hours at each unit. In other words, the systems that would take over would have to be able to sustain their operations for at least eight hours, in a manner that requires minimal operator action. The Task Force also recommended an "extended coping capability" of 72 hours, during which time operators could either restore power or deploy portable equipment that could sustainably cool the nuclear core, and the spent fuel pools. The Task Force additionally recommended requiring the "coping systems and equipment" to be stored fifteen to twenty feet above the flooding level of the plant.

With regard to spent fuel pools, as the promise of a nuclear waste depository may never be fulfilled, we not only support, but also expect the transfer of the spent fuel rods currently sitting at Pilgrim into dry cask storage. For several years now we have asked for this important public safety initiative to be done and for equally as many years, our pleas have fallen on deaf ears. This is a primary concern of several elected officials in the Commonwealth, including the Governor and the Attorney General.

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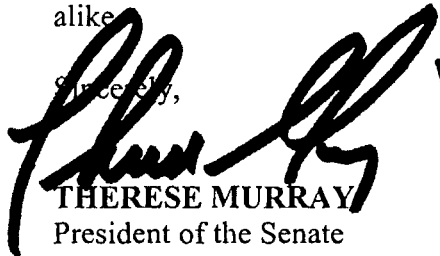
However, until those spent fuel rods can be safely transferred to dry cask storage, the Task Force recommended requiring improved instrumentation that would allow operators to monitor the condition of the spent fuel pools from the control room. They also recommended requiring seismically-triggered sprinkler systems, supplied by independent pumping capabilities.

Finally, the Task Force considered, and offered recommendations for improvements of, the use of reliable hardened vents that could be used to relieve built-up air pressure.

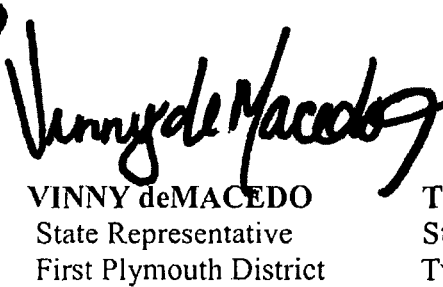
With these recommendations in mind, we respectfully request that the NRC require, as a condition of relicensing, the completion of these Task Force recommendations by the owners of the Pilgrim plant to ensure a safer community for all residents of and visitors to the Plymouth area and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We also hope that, should the NRC move forward with the relicensing, that serious consideration be given to shortening the period of the license down from the current 20 years. With increased inspections, the NRC will ensure the continued integrity of the existing infrastructure while alleviating the concerns of residents and elected officials alike.

Sincerely,



**THERESE MURRAY**  
President of the Senate



**VINNY deMACEDO**  
State Representative  
First Plymouth District



**THOMAS J CALTER**  
State Representative  
Twelfth Plymouth District