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Emergency Planning Exemption Requests for Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants; Extension of Comment Period

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Submitter Information

Name: janet azarovitz

Address:

PO Box 58

West Falmouth, MA, 02574

Email: jazarovitz@comcast.net

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General Comment

I live in West Falmouth on Cape Cod. I am within 28 miles of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant which is 42 years old, relicensed without regard for the residents who have only two bridges off this virtual island. Population is over 200, 000 and that number grows to more than double in the summer tourist months. My daughter and son-in-law and my two beloved grandsons live even closer. The Cape Cod National Seashore is responsible for millions of visitors and has asked that the plant be closed.

On October 3, 2012, the head of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, Director Kurt Schwartz, came to a meeting of the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee and told those assembled that there is no evacuation plan for Cape Cod. For years, activists, I among them, have known there is no plan BUT MEMA never told those directly responsible for resident's health and safety that there was no plan. We were called LIARS in the press, and by spokesperson for Entergy, the corporation that owns Pilgrim, Peter Judge. We are a population at risk said Schwartz; we will be held from the bridges for a period of time so that those in the Inhalation Zone of the EPZ to be evacuated. We will be relocated. One Emergency Director, a man of outstanding character and who takes his job very seriously, has said he has rejected the plan for his community, Duxbury.....Duxbury isoff Cape but who has been instructed to send the residents south towards the bridges, towards Cape Cod, where the residents and tourists will be barred from leaving and where I'm sure pure chaos will reign.

The NRC has steadfastly approved this "plan" though the NRC mandate clearly states we will be assured safety. It has approved MEMA's "plan" and Entergy has financed our emergency management. What a farce. Not only are we in imminent danger from this aging plant which has more shutdowns than any other plant in the country

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but now, faced probably with increased financial burden and probably bankruptcy, the Nuclear Industry (Entergy) is brokering a deal with the NRC. The NRC is looking to make this corporation which is running the plant for as much money as can be gained until it closes or is decommissioned, so that they will not be liable for our safety afterwards. The site of PNPS is now a waste dumpsite and Entergy is parsing the assemblies to a proposed dry cask storage site in numbers just to allow them to fill those fuel pools in order to keep making money.

Where is the justice? Where is it ethical and moral to put the profit of a corporation and its handmaiden, the NRC, over the lives and the safety of men, women, their children and grandchildren for generations to come? Where is it right to slowly poison our environment, kill our fish, kill our future fisheries, kill our diminishing protected species.....mammals, et al.....for the sake of the profit of the corporation Entergy only to be protected by the NRC and a campaign to save the accumulated wealth of that corporation?

We are an expendable population on the Cape. We need continued protection and the conclusions reached by the Interim Staff Guidance regarding circumstances that licensees undergoing decommission can be exempted from offsite emergency planning is WRONG and it is immoral.

Pilgrim is under increased scrutiny by the NRC. The dangers posed by spent pool fuel fires, vulnerability to hostile attack by aircraft (as stated by the Pentagon), the geological fact that it is on an earthquake fault (second in the country as far as that risk is concerned) and I might add further endangered by "landslides" directly off the coast on the Shelf, it's vulnerability to water attack, it's disregard (NRC) to climate change and increased tides in the waters in the northeast, it's repeated loss of offsite power makes this decision of a criminal nature. Please, do what is right for United States citizens, where more than 50 % of population lives within miles of a nuclear plant and specifically those of us who will be trapped on Cape Cod because of the negligence of the NRC in not following it's mandate to regulate, to protect to assure our health and safety.