

Rulemaking1CEm Resource

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Subject: Comment on ANPR-26, 50, 52, 73, and 140 - Regulatory Improvements for Decommissioning
Attachments: NRC-2015-0070-DRAFT-0054.pdf

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Regulatory Improvements for Power Reactors Transitioning to Decommissioning

Comment On: NRC-2015-0070-0007

Regulatory Improvements for Decommissioning Power Reactors; Extension of Comment Period

Document: NRC-2015-0070-DRAFT-0054

Comment on FR Doc # 2015-32599

Submitter Information

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Organization: Plymouth Area League of Women Voters (Massachusetts)

General Comment

The Plymouth Area League of Women Voters (PALWV) wishes to address the rule making process for decommissioning power reactors. We have long held positions both at the MA state level (LWVMA) and the local level PALWV. Plymouth is a host community to Pilgrim.

State Position: The LWVMA consensus position states that reliance on nuclear energy should not be increased. Special attention must be given to solving waste disposal and other health and safety problems associated with this energy source. The League supports legislation regulating radioactive waste storage, nuclear plant safety and emergency planning.

PALWV position: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER PLANT: adopted 1991 and reaffirmed annually.

A. Decommissioning: Urging the town of Plymouth to devote resources to the ACTIVE planning for decommissioning of Pilgrim and play an educational role regarding this issue.

B. Emergency Response: Urging more actual simulations to better prepare citizens and test the adequacy of the plan. The plan would more likely be successful with practice in the areas of communication, sheltering, and transportation. The Plymouth Area LWV should pursue an educational role with regards to the emergency response plan.

C. Waste Storage: Work to educate the community about the problems regarding radioactive waste and urge local, state, and federal legislators to move toward the resolution of the waste disposal issue.

D. Cancer/Leukemia Study: Encourage ongoing and additional health studies by local, state and national agencies. Continue investigation of the impact of Pilgrim on the people in the Plymouth area.

We believe the Town of Plymouth should have an active role in the decommissioning and closure process.

We believe there should be no diminution of emergency planning procedures until all spent fuel has been removed from the pool. Additionally, there should be no delay in removing the spent rods from the pool and all insurance must remain in place until the pool is safely emptied.

If the Town of Plymouth is to be a Nuclear Waste Storage Site, we believe that the NRC should support our efforts to have the Federal Government take responsibility for solving this issue and assuring the taxpayers of Plymouth that they will not be financially responsible for security of the site.

Decommissioning funds should not be used for resolving the storage issue until all decommissioning is complete.

We seek the most stringent rules be demanded as we continue to see not only reports of problems with aging mechanical parts and systems at Pilgrim, but also the effects of climate change as our sea levels rise and our storms become more violent.