

October 20, 2016

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

I am responding to your letter of September 21, 2016, in which you urge the Commission to reject a request from Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. for an extension of time to comply with NRC order EA-13-109 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. EA-13-109 relates to the installation of reliable hardened containment vents.

The Commission also recently received a request from Pilgrim Watch, on behalf of itself and a number of other groups, asking that the Commission hold a hearing on Entergy's extension request. The agency has not yet resolved Entergy's extension request or Pilgrim Watch's request to hold a hearing. For these reasons, we cannot fully respond to your letter at this time. We will keep you apprised of any significant agency actions on these matters.

Please feel free to contact me or Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Stephen G. Burns

**Identical letter sent to:**

The Honorable Edward J. Markey  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable William R. Keating  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Niki Tsongas  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James P. McGovern  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael E. Capuano  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard E. Neal  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Katherine Clark  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Seth Moulton  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515