



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

December 17, 2018

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

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED
LICENSING ACTION RE: POST-SHUTDOWN DECOMMISSIONING
ACTIVITIES REPORT (EPID NO. L-2018-LLL-0031)

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

By letter dated November 16, 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18320A034), Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy), on behalf of itself and Entergy Nuclear Generation Company submitted a Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) for Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim). By letter dated November 10, 2015 (ADAMS Accession No. ML15328A053), Entergy notified the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of its intent to permanently cease power operations at Pilgrim no later than June 1, 2019. Entergy intends to permanently remove the fuel from the reactor vessel approximately 30 days after ceasing permanent power operations. Entergy submitted the PSDAR pursuant to Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR), Section 50.82(a)(4). Entergy developed the Pilgrim PSDAR using the Regulatory Guide 1.185, Revision 1, "Standard Format and Content for Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report" (ADAMS Accession No. ML13140A038). In accordance with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(5), "Licensees shall not perform any major decommissioning activities, as defined in § 50.2, until 90 days after the NRC has received the licensee's PSDAR submittal and until certifications of permanent cessation of operations and permanent removal of fuel from the reactor vessel, as required under § 50.82(a)(1), have been submitted."

The purpose of this letter is to provide the results of the NRC staff's acceptance review of this request. The acceptance review was performed to determine if there is sufficient technical information in scope and depth to allow the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review. The acceptance review is also intended to identify whether the application has any readily apparent information insufficiencies in its characterization of the regulatory requirements or the licensing basis of the plant.

Consistent with 10 CFR 50.82(a)(4)(i), the PSDAR must contain a description of the planned decommissioning activities along with a schedule for their accomplishment, a discussion that provides the reasons for concluding that the environmental impacts associated with site-specific decommissioning activities will be bounded by appropriate previously issued environmental impact statements, and a site-specific decommissioning cost estimate, including the projected cost of managing irradiated fuel.

The NRC staff has reviewed your application and concluded that it does provide technical information in sufficient detail to enable the NRC staff to complete its detailed technical review and make an independent assessment regarding the acceptability of the proposed PSDAR in terms of regulatory requirements and the protection of public health and safety and the environment. Given the lesser scope and depth of the acceptance review as compared to the detailed technical review, there may be instances in which issues that impact the NRC staff's ability to complete the detailed technical review are identified despite completion of an adequate acceptance review. You will be advised of any further information needed to support the NRC staff's detailed technical review by separate correspondence.

In NUREG-1100, Volume 34, Revision 1, "Congressional Budget Justification Fiscal Year 2019," dated February 28, 2018 (ADAMS Accession No. ML18023B460), the target percentage of licensing actions completed in 1 year or less is 95 percent, and the target percentage of licensing actions completed in 2 years or less is 100 percent.

Based on the information provided in your submittal, the NRC staff has estimated that this licensing request will take approximately 575 hours to complete. The NRC staff expects to complete this review in approximately 12 months, which is December 2019. If there are emergent complexities or challenges in our review that would cause changes to the initial forecasted completion date or significant changes in the forecasted hours, the reasons for the changes, along with the new estimates, will be communicated during the routine interactions with the assigned project manager.

These estimates are based on the NRC staff's initial review of the application and they could change, due to several factors including requests for additional information, and unanticipated addition of scope to the review.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-3100 or via e-mail at John.Lamb@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



John G. Lamb, Senior Project Manager
Special Projects and Process Branch
Division of Operating Reactor Licensing
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

cc: Listserv

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION – ACCEPTANCE OF REQUESTED LICENSING ACTION RE: POST-SHUTDOWN DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT (EPID L-2018-LLL-0031) DATED DECEMBER 17, 2018

DISTRIBUTION:

PUBLIC

PM File Copy

RidsACRS_MailCTR Resource

RidsNrrDorLspB Resource

RidsNrrDlpPfpB Resource

RidsNrrPMPilgrim Resource

RidsNrrLAIBetts Resource

RidsNrrLAJBurkhardt Resource

RidsRgn1MailCenter Resource

ADAMS Accession No.: ML18333A167

***via email**

OFFICE	NRR/DORL/LSPB/PM	NRR/DORL/LSPB/LA	NMSS/DUWP/RDB/BC*
NAME	JLamb	JBurkhardt	BWatson
DATE	11/30/18	11/29/18	12/7/18
OFFICE	NRR/DORL/LSPB/BC	NRR/DORL/LSPB/PM	
NAME	DBroaddus	JLamb	
DATE	12/12/18	12/17/18	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY