



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

February 7, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: File

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Lamb", written over the typed name in the "FROM" field.

SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT FOR PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2019,  
IN PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS REGARDING SEABROOK  
NUCLEAR POWER STATION POST-SHUTDOWN  
DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT AND LICENSE  
TRANSFER APPLICATION (EPID L-2018-LLL-0031)

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide, and make available to the public, a corrected transcript associated with the public meeting held on January 15, 2019, in Plymouth, Massachusetts regarding the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim) Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report (PSDAR) and license transfer application (LTA). The original transcript is contained in Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML19029A025.

The enclosure contains the corrected transcript from the public Pilgrim PSDAR and LTA meeting. The transcript has been corrected based on review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff. Areas where corrections were made to the original transcript are marked in square brackets and highlighted, with errors marked with strikethrough.

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure:  
Transcript of Public Meeting regarding  
Pilgrim PSDAR and LTA

**Official Transcript of Proceedings**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

**Title:** Public Meeting on Pilgrim Post-Shutdown  
Decommissioning Activities Report

**Docket Number:** (n/a) [50-293]

**Location:** Plymouth, Massachusetts

**Date:** Tuesday, January 15, 2019

**Work Order No.:** NRC-0051

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

+ + + + +

PUBLIC MEETING ON PILGRIM POST-SHUTDOWN  
DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT

+ + + + +

TUESDAY,

JANUARY 15, 2019

+ + + + +

PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

+ + + + +

The meeting was convened in Room A, Hotel  
1620, 18 Water Street, Plymouth, MA, at 6:00 p.m.,  
Bruce Watson, chairman, presiding.

NRC STAFF:

DONNA JANDA, Facilitator

BRETT KLUKAN, Facilitator

JOHN LAMB, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

BRUCE WATSON, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and  
Safeguards

ALSO PRESENT:

~~ANNETTE VIETTI COOK, Secretary of the Commission~~

~~MARIAN ZOBLER, General Counsel~~

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

6:02 p.m.

1  
2  
3 MR. WATSON: Good evening. I'm Bruce  
4 Watson, Chief of the Reactor Decommissioning Branch  
5 in the Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,  
6 and Waste Programs, and will be chairing tonight's  
7 session.

8 Our purpose is to obtain your comments on  
9 the Entergy Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities  
10 Report [PSDAR] and the Holtec license application and  
11 the related Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Report  
12 associated with it.

13 I would like to highlight [U.S. Nuclear  
14 Regulatory Commission] NRC's mission to protect  
15 public health and safety, promote the common defense  
16 and security, and protect the environment, and our  
17 current work related to the regulatory requirements  
18 during the decommissioning of power plants.

19 I would like to introduce a few of the  
20 NRC staff who will be here to listen to your comments.  
21 And hopefully, we, the staff, can collectively answer  
22 questions on the decommissioning process. If we  
23 can't, we'll do our best to get back to you.

24 So, you've met Brett, our Region I  
25 Counselor, who will be facilitating tonight's

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1 meeting, along with Donna Janda, also from Region I.  
2 Also in attendance is John Lamb, the current Project  
3 Manager for Pilgrim. Amy Snyder is here, who will  
4 be the Decommissioning Project Manager when the plant  
5 shuts down and is transferred over to our  
6 organization.

7 Also in attendance is Mike Dusaniwsky,  
8 our Senior Economist; Jason Plotter, Senior Engineer  
9 in our Spent Fuel Management Group; Jessie Quintero,  
10 our Environmental Review Specialist, and Ray Powell,  
11 our Region I Branch Chief that will be inspecting the  
12 plant during the decommissioning process. We also  
13 have some additional folks in the audience that, if  
14 we need to, we can call on them to help us with  
15 comments or questions.

16 Next slide, please.

17 This is an NRC Category 3 public meeting  
18 to obtain comments on the Entergy PSD[A]R and the  
19 Holtec application and their supplemental PSD[A]R  
20 that's with it. These documents were made publicly  
21 available for comment.

22 The meeting is being transcribed and will  
23 be made available for the public to review. There  
24 will also be a meeting summary published for the  
25 meeting.

1                   We have a planned short presentation by  
2 John Lamb, who will discuss the PSD[A]R process and  
3 the license review process. Then, Entergy and Holtec  
4 will be giving short presentations. Speaking for  
5 Entergy tonight is Mandy Halter -- she is the Director  
6 of Nuclear Licensing -- and Andrea Sterdis from  
7 Holtec, who from also the Comprehensive  
8 Decommissioning International, who is a Vice  
9 President of Regulatory Programs, Environment and  
10 Safety.

11                   After those presentations, we will turn  
12 the meeting over to Brett and Donna, who will begin  
13 the process to allow speakers to provide comments.  
14 It is my full intention, if we can, to end this  
15 meeting at 9:00 p.m.

16                   I also want to emphasize that this  
17 meeting is to discuss the upcoming permanent shutdown  
18 of the Pilgrim Plant and the decommissioning process  
19 associated with it.

20                   Next slide, please.

21                   Now I want to just discuss a little bit  
22 of our decommissioning experience. We have many  
23 years of decommissioning experience. We have over  
24 21 years' experience with our current decommissioning  
25 regulations and have completed over 80 complex

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1 material decommissionings and terminated those  
2 licenses. They have all been released for  
3 unrestricted use by the owner. So, they can be used  
4 for any future purpose. And included in that 80 is  
5 10 nuclear power plants.

6 Next slide, please.

7 On this slide is a picture of Yankee  
8 Rowe. It's located here in Rowe, Massachusetts.  
9 It's one of the 10 plants that was decommissioned.  
10 We terminated the license in 2007. Pictured on the  
11 left is the plant when it was in operation. Pictured  
12 on the right is where the plant was greenfielded by  
13 the utility associated with the requirements set up  
14 with the State. The NRC does not require site  
15 restoration as part of our process.

16 One of the things that I want to point  
17 out to you is that, on the picture on the right there  
18 is a hydroelectric dam that's been there for over 100  
19 years. As you note, the nuclear plant operated, was  
20 decommissioned, and is gone. However, on the hill  
21 in the center there is a picture of the dry fuel  
22 storage facility that is still located on their site  
23 and under license, and will continue to be inspected  
24 by our inspectors. Of course, the spent fuel is  
25 there awaiting the final disposition of the high-

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1 level waste disposal, either interim or final  
2 repository, here in the U.S.

3 Next slide, please.

4 I wanted to just briefly discuss the two  
5 decommissioning options discussed in the November  
6 200[1]8 submittals. Regardless of the option chosen,  
7 preparation of the decommissioning takes about one to  
8 two years to remove the radioactive waste stored  
9 onsite, remove filters, resins; drain systems to  
10 allow the dismantling to begin and be done safely or  
11 placed in storage. After the decommissioning  
12 preparation period, the licensee can go into either  
13 DECON or SAFSTOR.

14 DECON, or a prompt decommissioning, the  
15 licensee begins the decommissioning activities and  
16 usually transfer the spent fuel to dry storage. Past  
17 experience has shown that decommissioning typically  
18 takes seven to ten years to complete.

19 With SAFSTOR, the plant is placed in  
20 storage -- we like to call it, it's cold and  
21 dark -- until the licensee decides to dismantle and  
22 decommission the plant. In SAFSTOR, the NRC will  
23 continue to inspect the plants at least annually and  
24 more frequently when decommissioning activities are  
25 performed.

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1                   Regardless of the decommissioning option  
2 chosen, the NRC regulations require that the  
3 decommissioning be completed in 60 years.

4                   Next slide, please.

5                   A few reminders. We are here to listen  
6 to your comments on the Pilgrim decommissioning.  
7 This is part of the process we've set up and it's  
8 intended to hear your comments, so we can consider  
9 those in our review of both the PSD[A]R from Entergy  
10 and, also, the license application and the PSD[A]R  
11 that supplements it from Holtec.

12                   The meeting, again, is being transcribed,  
13 and the transcript will be publicly available. A  
14 meeting summary will be published and would be  
15 publicly available.

16                   And we will do our best to answer your  
17 questions, where we can. There's going to be  
18 possibly some that we can't answer, but we do our  
19 best to get back to you.

20                   I'm going to introduce John. John Lamb  
21 is going to sit down and speak.

22                   MR. LAMB: Yes.

23                   MR. WATSON: Okay. Thank you.

24                   MR. LAMB: Hi. Good evening. My name  
25 is John Lamb. I am the Project Manager for Pilgrim

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1 at NRC Headquarters in Rockville. I've been working  
2 for the NRC for 19 years, and prior to that, I worked  
3 15 years in the power plant.

4 Next slide, please.

5 In accordance with the NRC regulations,  
6 a Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, or  
7 PSDAR, must be submitted to the NRC, and a copy to  
8 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, prior to or within  
9 two years following the permanent cessation of  
10 operations of Pilgrim. Entergy submitted the Pilgrim  
11 PSDAR on November 16th, 2018.

12 A PSDAR must contain a description of the  
13 planned decommissioning activities, along with a  
14 schedule for their accomplishment and a site-specific  
15 decommissioning cost estimate, including the  
16 projected cost of managing irradiated fuel.

17 The NRC staff uses a Regulatory Guide  
18 that provides guidance on the content and format of  
19 PSDARs. The Regulatory Guide is available to the  
20 public as noted on this slide.

21 Decommissioning activities must not  
22 endanger the public health and safety or result in  
23 significant environmental impacts not previously  
24 reviewed.

25 Next slide.

1           A PSDAR must contain a discussion that  
2 provides the reasons for concluding that the  
3 environmental impacts associated with site-specific  
4 decommissioning activities will be bounded by  
5 appropriate previously-issued Environmental Impact  
6 Statements. Therefore, during the environmental  
7 review of a PSDAR, the NRC uses various previous staff  
8 reports to determine whether the environmental  
9 impacts from decommissioning are bounded by these  
10 reports. For instance, for Pilgrim, the NRC staff  
11 will use a generic Environmental Impact Statement  
12 regarding decommissioning and will also look at  
13 previous Environmental Impact Statements developed  
14 specifically for Pilgrim, such as the Environmental  
15 Impact Statement developed for the renewal of the  
16 Pilgrim operating license. The NRC staff will also  
17 rely on findings from its inspection program.

18           Next slide, please.

19           The request for comment and meeting  
20 notice for the Pilgrim PSDAR was published in The  
21 Federal Register on December 21st, 2018. The 90-day  
22 comment period ends on March 21st, 2019.

23           The NRC staff will notify the licensee if  
24 the staff needs additional information to support its  
25 review of the PSDAR. The NRC staff will document its

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1 PSDAR review in a letter to the licensee and will  
2 address the comments received during the comment  
3 period.

4 After the submission of the Pilgrim  
5 PSDAR, the NRC regulations require that Entergy shall  
6 notify the NRC in writing and send a copy to the  
7 Commonwealth of Massachusetts before performing any  
8 decommissioning activity inconsistent with or making  
9 a significant schedule change from those actions and  
10 schedules described in the PSDAR.

11 Next slide, please.

12 By letter dated November 16[t]h, 2018,  
13 Entergy and Holtec submitted a license transfer  
14 application requesting that the license for Pilgrim  
15 be transferred from Entergy to Holtec. Before this  
16 transfer may be completed, the NRC must determine  
17 that Holtec is qualified to be the holder of the  
18 Pilgrim license.

19 In order to make this determination, the  
20 NRC staff reviews the following five areas:  
21 financial qualifications; decommissioning funding  
22 assurance; foreign ownership, control, and  
23 domination; technical qualifications, and insurance  
24 and indemnity. If the NRC finds that Holtec is  
25 qualified in these areas, then it would approve the

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1 license transfer by an order and issue a conforming  
2 license amendment.

3 Next slide, please.

4 License transfer applications are  
5 noticed in The Federal Register, and the public can  
6 request a hearing and/or provide comments on the  
7 application. The ~~program~~ [Pilgrim] license transfer  
8 application is ready for publication in The Federal  
9 Register. However, The Federal Register is currently  
10 impacted by the partial federal government shutdown.  
11 Therefore, the Pilgrim license transfer federal  
12 registration notification will not be published until  
13 after the partial federal government shutdown ends.  
14 Once this Federal Register notice is published, there  
15 will be a 20-day hearing period, and then, a 30-day  
16 comment period.

17 License transfer applications typically  
18 contain proprietary information. A redacted,  
19 nonproprietary version of the Pilgrim license  
20 transfer application is available to the public and  
21 can be found online through the NRC's electronic  
22 library called ADAMS. The proprietary version can  
23 be requested using a process that will be described  
24 in The Federal Register notice.

25 Next slide, please.

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1                   By letter dated November 16th, 2018,  
2 Holtec submitted a proposed revised PSDAR for  
3 Pilgrim. The Holtec PSDAR is a supplement to the  
4 license transfer application, and therefore, is part  
5 of the license transfer application action, and not  
6 part of the Entergy PSDAR action. The Holtec PSDAR  
7 is contingent upon the approval of the licensed  
8 transfer application and the equity sale closure.  
9 For purposes of this public meeting, the NRC will be  
10 accepting comments on both the Entergy PSDAR action  
11 and the license transfer application, which includes  
12 the proposed Holtec PSDAR.

13                   Next slide, please.

14                   Holtec also submitted a request for an  
15 exemption from the NRC's Decommissioning Trust Fund  
16 requirements in an enclosure to the license transfer  
17 application. If this request were to be granted,  
18 then Holtec would be allowed to use the Pilgrim  
19 Decommissioning Trust Fund not only for radiological  
20 decommissioning expenses, but also for expenses  
21 related to spent fuel management activities and site  
22 restoration activities. Like the Holtec PSDAR, this  
23 exemption request is contingent upon the approval of  
24 the license transfer application and the equity sale  
25 closure.

1 Next slide, please.

2 Comments regarding the Entergy PSDAR can  
3 be submitted on regulations.gov website under Docket  
4 ID NRC-2018-0286 until March 21st, 2019. Comments  
5 regarding the license transfer application can be  
6 submitted during tonight's public meeting. Once the  
7 license transfer application is noticed in The  
8 Federal Register, then comments can be submitted on  
9 the regulations.gov website under Docket ID  
10 NRC-2018-0279 for a period of 30 days for comments,  
11 and a hearing can be requested for a period of 20  
12 days.

13 Next slide, please.

14 This slide shows where to mail comments  
15 regarding Entergy PSDAR or the license transfer  
16 application. Please remember to use the Docket ID  
17 associated with each application.

18 That concludes my presentation. I'll  
19 turn it back over to Bruce.

20 MR. WATSON: Okay. Our next speaker is  
21 Mandy Halter from Entergy.

22 MS. HALTER: Good evening. My name is  
23 Mandy Halter, and I'm the Director of Nuclear  
24 Licensing for Entergy Nuclear. With me tonight is  
25 Mike Twomey, the Vice President of External Affairs

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1 for Entergy Wholesale Commodities. I appreciate the  
2 opportunity to be here tonight to provide you  
3 information on Entergy's plans to decommission the  
4 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

5 2019 is a significant year for Entergy,  
6 for Pilgrim, and for this area. On May 31st of this  
7 year, Pilgrim will permanently cease power  
8 operations. In June, we will certify to the NRC that  
9 the reactor is permanently shut down and defueled.  
10 Also in June, Pilgrim will complete its first  
11 staffing reduction, as we transition the  
12 organizational structure to support Pilgrim's SAFSTOR  
13 decommissioning plan. Throughout the final months  
14 of plant operation, and as we transition to  
15 decommissioning, we remain committed to safety,  
16 health, and security of the plant, its employees, and  
17 you, the public.

18 Next slide. Next slide, please. Thank  
19 you.

20 The Entergy Post-Shutdown  
21 Decommissioning Activities Report, or PSDAR, was  
22 submitted to the NRC on November 16th, 2018, and  
23 outlines our plan to use the SAFSTOR decommissioning  
24 strategy. Our PSDAR was prepared by a team of  
25 experts, in accordance with regulations, NRC

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1 guidance, and a thorough review of PSDARs submitted  
2 to the NRC by plants in decommissioning.

3 The Pilgrim PSDAR contains a description  
4 of our planned decommissioning activities as well as  
5 a schedule for their completion, an estimate of the  
6 cost, and a discussion of the environmental impacts  
7 of these activities. And I will provide more  
8 information in the following slides.

9 Next slide, please.

10 The majority of the dormancy period of  
11 our SAFSTOR plan will involve all spent fuel in dry  
12 fuel storage. This slide shows our plan to achieve  
13 the dry fuel storage [dormancy] ~~stem and sea~~ state  
14 by the end of 2022. Along the way, Pilgrim will make  
15 adjustments to its staffing levels and the emergency  
16 plan, in accordance with appropriate regulatory  
17 approvals, based on the status of the fuel and the  
18 corresponding decreasing risk of offsite radiological  
19 consequences from an accident.

20 Next slide, please.

21 Under the SAFSTOR methodology, we will  
22 maintain and monitor Pilgrim in a dormancy period to  
23 allow for the radioactive decay of the plant,  
24 followed by the dismantlement and decontamination to  
25 permit NRC license termination within 60 years, as

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1 required by regulations. Under Entergy's plan,  
2 radiological decontamination and dismantlement will  
3 occur safely by the year 2079. We plan to restore  
4 the site following license termination.

5 Next slide, please.

6 In accordance with regulations, we  
7 developed a site-specific estimate of the costs for  
8 the planned SAFSTOR decommissioning activities at  
9 Pilgrim. This cost estimate was developed by a  
10 leading expert using up-to-date and best available  
11 data. In addition to estimating the costs associated  
12 with license termination, we also estimated the cost  
13 associated with spent fuel management and site  
14 restoration. Our SAFSTOR decommissioning cost  
15 estimate for Pilgrim is included as an attachment to  
16 the Entergy PSDAR.

17 Next slide, please.

18 The site-specific decommissioning cost  
19 estimate submitted to the NRC in November 2018 was  
20 reported using 2018 dollars and up-to-date 2018  
21 pricing information. The total estimated cost  
22 associated with license termination as well as spent  
23 fuel management and site restoration for Pilgrim is  
24 \$1.66 billion. We will periodically update the  
25 decommissioning cost estimate throughout the SAFSTOR

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1 period, in accordance with regulations.

2           It is very important to note that we are  
3 required by regulation, as the owner of the plant, to  
4 demonstrate reasonable assurance that there are  
5 adequate funds available to cover the cost of license  
6 termination. We provide this funding for Pilgrim  
7 through a Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund, which,  
8 as reported to the NRC and the PSDAR, was funded at  
9 \$1.05 billion at the end of October 2018. Accounting  
10 for the growth of these funds over time, as permitted  
11 by NRC methodology, the Pilgrim nuclear  
12 decommissioning trust balance does not provide  
13 financial assurance for the decommissioning costs of  
14 our SAFSTOR plan.

15           Next slide, please.

16           We have concluded that the environmental  
17 impacts associated with planned SAFSTOR  
18 decommissioning activities at Pilgrim are less than,  
19 and are bounded by, impacts addressed in previously-  
20 issued Environmental Impact Statements. A more  
21 detailed discussion of the reasons for our conclusion  
22 is included in the PSDAR.

23           Next slide, please.

24           In November 2018, we filed an updated  
25 Pilgrim Spent Fuel Management Plan with the NRC which

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1 outlines our intent to store all spent fuel on a new,  
2 larger, independent spent fuel storage installation  
3 pad which will be located at a higher elevation on  
4 the program site. This pad, which we plan to  
5 construct by the end of 2020, will store a total of  
6 61 casks, including the 17 casks that are on the  
7 current pad, as well as 44 additional casks which are  
8 needed to store the fuel that is currently in the  
9 reactor vessel and the spent fuel pool.

10 Next slide, please.

11 In November 2018, Entergy and Holtec  
12 submitted a request to the NRC to transfer the control  
13 of Pilgrim's plant and [Independent Spent Fuel  
14 Storage Installation] ISFSI licenses from Entergy to  
15 Holtec. If approved by the NRC, the license transfer  
16 will allow for prompt decommissioning under Holtec's  
17 plan, which is different than Entergy's plan.  
18 Specifically, Holtec plans to decommission Pilgrim  
19 using a DECON or immediate dismantlement strategy by  
20 approximately 2024. Additionally, Holtec intends to  
21 move all spent fuel to dry fuel storage on the new  
22 pad by the end of 2021. Following this presentation,  
23 Andrea Sterdis will provide more information on  
24 Holtec's decommissioning plans for Pilgrim.

25 A major benefit of decommissioning under

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1 Holtec's plan is that it will allow for earlier  
2 release of portions of the Pilgrim site for reuse.  
3 We have requested that the NRC review and approve the  
4 license transfer application by May 31st of this  
5 year. We know that this is an aggressive review  
6 schedule for the staff and we are certain that the  
7 NRC will conduct a very diligent review, and we expect  
8 nothing less. The intent behind this requested  
9 timeline is to provide certainty to the plant  
10 employees and to the citizens of Plymouth and the  
11 surrounding areas on plant ownership as well as the  
12 decommissioning plan and timeline following plant  
13 shutdown.

14 Next slide, please.

15 More information about Pilgrim's plans  
16 for decommissioning as well as our related submittals  
17 that we have provided to the NRC are publicly  
18 available on our website, [www.pilgrimpower.com](http://www.pilgrimpower.com).

19 I thank you for your time. And a number  
20 of us are here from Entergy, and we look forward to  
21 answering your questions later in the evening. Thank  
22 you.

23 MR. WATSON: Thank you for your  
24 presentation.

25 Our next presentation is by Andrea

1 Sterdis from Holtec International and CDI, I believe  
2 it's called.

3 MS. STERDIS: Thank you, Bruce.

4 Good evening. I really appreciate the  
5 opportunity to provide you all with a brief overview  
6 of the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities  
7 Report that has been prepared to show the Holtec plan  
8 for initiating plant decommissioning following NRC  
9 approval of the license transfer application,  
10 execution of the license transfers, and completion of  
11 the sale closure.

12 Next slide, please.

13 On this slide, you can see that I am up  
14 here providing the presentation. I'm Andrea Sterdis.  
15 I'm the Vice President for Regulatory Programs,  
16 Environment and Safety for Comprehensive  
17 [De]Commissioning International. I am joined  
18 tonight by Joy Russell, Senior Vice President for  
19 Holtec International.

20 Next slide.

21 On November 16th, 2018, Holtec submitted  
22 a revised Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities  
23 Report, or PSDAR, based on their plan to initiate  
24 prompt DECON. Our PSDAR for DECON includes a  
25 description of the planned activities, specifically

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1 the activities that are required to initiate that  
2 prompt DECON and complete it. It also includes a  
3 planned DECON decommissioning schedule and a cost  
4 estimate reflecting that schedule and the DECON plan.  
5 Lastly, it includes a discussion of the environmental  
6 impacts for the specific activities that will be  
7 performed during the execution of the dismantlement  
8 and the waste removal from the site to complete the  
9 radiological decommissioning.

10 The PSDAR was prepared in accordance with  
11 NRC regulations and addresses NRC guidance. It was  
12 prepared by a team that is experienced in planning,  
13 estimating, and executing nuclear power plant  
14 decommissioning. It was also informed by a review  
15 of previously-submitted PSDARs, as well as  
16 particularly a review and an alignment with the  
17 assumptions that were provided and used in the  
18 Entergy SAFSTOR PSDAR. The DECON PSDAR is contingent  
19 upon NRC approval of the license transfer, execution  
20 of the transfers of the license, and completion of  
21 the sale.

22 Next slide, please.

23 The DECON PSDAR reflects Holtec's plan to  
24 promptly start decommissioning activities following  
25 the license transfer and sales closure. The schedule

1 reflects the project goal to achieve partial site  
2 release within eight years.

3 The decommissioning cost estimate  
4 reflects DECON activities and schedule for completing  
5 radiological decommissioning, managing the spent  
6 fuel, and completing site restoration activities.

7 The environmental evaluation considers  
8 the DECON activities and provides evidence that those  
9 activities are bounded by the existing Environmental  
10 Impact Statements that are applicable to the Pilgrim  
11 site, including the NRC generic Environmental Impact  
12 Statement for Decommissioning as well as the Pilgrim  
13 Site License Renewal Environmental Impact Statement.

14 If you look at the SAFSTOR PSDAR and  
15 compare the decommissioning cost estimate with that  
16 provided in our PSDAR for DECON, you will see some  
17 differences. Those differences are primarily driven  
18 by two reasons. First, the core business for Entergy  
19 in the current time is to provide and generate  
20 power/electricity. The core business for Holtec,  
21 including CDI, is managing spent fuel and executing  
22 decommissioning projects. And therefore, the Holtec  
23 team has the latest technology, the engineering  
24 expertise, and the project management expertise to  
25 apply cost- and time-effective methods for

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1 decommissioning, resulting in a difference in the  
2 decommissioning cost.

3           In addition, the DECON plan eliminates  
4 the transition to the dormant state, maintaining that  
5 plant dormant state for almost 40 years, and the  
6 transition to reactivate the plant and complete the  
7 dismantlement and waste removal activities about 40  
8 years down the road.

9           It's important to note that the SAFSTOR  
10 dismantlement and waste removal schedule and the  
11 DECON dismantlement and waste removal schedule are  
12 similar in duration. The difference is the prompt  
13 DECON one modeled in our PSDAR is initiated  
14 immediately after license transfer in 2019 and  
15 completes in approximately five years.

16           On the next slide, please.

17           The schedule provided in the DECON PSDAR  
18 assumes that the NRC will approve the license  
19 transfer application in time to support a July 31st  
20 transfer of the licenses and sale closure. This  
21 slide provides some key assumptions that drove the  
22 schedule that's included in that PSDAR, starting with  
23 the fact that we've assumed an initiation of  
24 decontamination and dismantlement activities in 2019  
25 following the license transfer. It also assumes that

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1 the newest ISFSI pad construction is completed and  
2 the pad is available for use in 2020. It assumes  
3 that the offloading of the spent fuel transitioning  
4 the site from a combined wet and dry spent fuel  
5 storage site to a dry fuel storage site only occurs  
6 by the fourth quarter of 2021.

7           Similar to the SAFSTOR PSDAR schedule  
8 submitted by Entergy, our DECON PSDAR schedule  
9 assumes that the [Department of Energy] DOE completes  
10 the spent fuel removal from the site in the 2062 time  
11 period. The DECON PSDAR schedule shows radiological  
12 decommission, except for the independent spent fuel  
13 storage installation, ISFSI, is accomplished within  
14 approximately five years following the license  
15 transfer and sale closure. It also assumes that site  
16 restoration activities, which are not required for  
17 the partial site release approval by the NRC, are  
18 continuing beyond that approximately one year.

19           Next slide, please.

20           The Holtec DCE, or decommissioning cost  
21 estimate, that's included in the DECON PSDAR results  
22 in approximately \$1.134 billion cost in 2018 dollars.  
23 The Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund for Pilgrim is  
24 currently valued at \$1.05 billion as of October 31st,  
25 2018. The cash flow analyses that were submitted as

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1 part of the license transfer application as well as  
2 the DECON PSDAR and decommissioning cost estimate  
3 demonstrate that the Pilgrim Nuclear Decommissioning  
4 Trust Fund contains sufficient funds to cover our  
5 plan for radiological decommissioning, spent fuel  
6 management, and site restoration.

7           It's important to note that, pursuant to  
8 NRC regulations, we will be required, as the  
9 licensee, to prepare and submit an annual report that  
10 provides the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust [NDT] Fund  
11 status, including expenses and activities executed in  
12 the previous year, the remaining NDT balance, and  
13 showing financial assurance that the balance can  
14 address and cover the remaining costs of all the  
15 activities required to complete the license  
16 termination. This is a public report and is made  
17 available each year by the NRC.

18           With that, I'd like to thank you for your  
19 time, and I'd like to thank the NRC for this meeting.  
20 Thank you.

21           MR. WATSON: Thank you, Andrea.

22           Before I turn the meeting over to Brett  
23 and Donna to facilitate the comment session, I would  
24 like to invite any elected officials or their  
25 representatives or any Native American tribe

1 representations to make statements if you're  
2 available now. So, if you would, those that are  
3 interested, please come up to the microphone and  
4 state your name for the record.

5 MR. KLUKAN: So, we actually have a  
6 couple who have preregistered with us, and we are  
7 going to go down through that list. And then, we'll  
8 open it up to those who did not preregister.

9 So, first up, we're going to have Ms.  
10 Jessica Wong from the Office of Senator Elizabeth  
11 Warren.

12 MS. WONG: Good Evening. Thank you. As  
13 Brad said, my name is Jessica. I am from Senator  
14 Elizabeth Warren's office, and I'm her Regional  
15 Director.

16 So, Senator Warren reiterates her deep  
17 concerns with the consistently poor public safety  
18 record at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station and the  
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission's pattern of ignoring  
20 critical discrepancies in Entergy's safety measures  
21 that put Massachusetts residents at risk. This  
22 cannot continue, especially as the NRC reviews the  
23 license transfer for the decommissioning from Entergy  
24 to Holtec International. To date, she has sent six  
25 letters to the NRC expressing these concerns, most

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1 recently in October, following the reports of  
2 unplanned shutdowns due to problems with equipment.

3           Entergy cannot continue to use the  
4 summer's planned shutdown as an excuse to avoid much-  
5 needed safety upgrades that protect our communities.  
6 Senator Warren urges the company to prioritize the  
7 people of southeastern Massachusetts over its  
8 profits.

9           Similarly, the NRC can no longer shirk  
10 its responsibilities to establish and enforce proper  
11 safety standards. The Senator, once again, calls on  
12 the NRC to require Entergy to immediately comply with  
13 federal safety standards, and if they refuse to do  
14 so, then the NRC must take necessary steps to shut  
15 down the plant.

16           Thank you.

17           MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

18           Next, we will have Ms. Rory Clark from  
19 the Office of Senator Ed Markey.

20           MS. CLARK: Thank you for having me. As  
21 you said, I'm Rory Clark. I'm Senator Markey's  
22 Regional Director. I'll be reading a statement on  
23 Senator Markey's behalf.

24           "I've long been concerned about Pilgrim's  
25 safety and operating record and its management's

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1 history of cutting corners at the expense of  
2 increased risk to Massachusetts residents. As we  
3 turn our attention now to the details of the Post-  
4 Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Reports  
5 submitted by Entergy and Holtec International, I must  
6 remind the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Entergy,  
7 and Holtec that the people of Massachusetts will  
8 settle for nothing less than the most stringent  
9 safety measures.

10 "As the federal regulatory body  
11 overseeing the decommissioning process, we all expect  
12 the NRC will review both Entergy and Holtec's  
13 proposed decommissioning plans with the utmost of  
14 care and caution. The safety of Massachusetts  
15 residents demands this thorough review.

16 "Plans for the ownership and  
17 decommissioning of Pilgrim must prioritize safety ~~and~~  
18 [and] security. The NRC must evaluate both Entergy  
19 and Holtec's PSDARs to ensure that each provides a  
20 comprehensive accounting of how that owner will  
21 assume responsibility for safe operations, improve  
22 upon the abysmal safety record at Pilgrim, and  
23 finance the complete decommissioning process.

24 "I understand that it's common practice  
25 for the NRC to issue exemptions that would limit the

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1 required emergency planning zone when the plant  
2 begins the decommissioning process, but I must urge  
3 the NRC to require Pilgrim's owner, be it Entergy or  
4 Holtec, to work with local communities to maintain  
5 and fund the significant emergency planning zone and  
6 ensure that local communities are prepared for any  
7 eventuality.

8 "Last year I was proud to cosponsor the  
9 Safe and Secure Decommissioning Act which would  
10 prohibit the NRC from issuing waivers or granting  
11 exemptions from complying with safety and emergency  
12 preparedness regulations put forth in the Atomic  
13 Energy Act of 1954 until nuclear fuel had been  
14 transferred to spent nuclear fuel dry casks. I will  
15 continue to push for all parties involved in the  
16 decommissioning of Pilgrim to abide by such  
17 standards.

18 "As we are all aware, this region is home  
19 to fierce nor'easter storms and rising tides, posing  
20 safety concerns that other nuclear facilities around  
21 the country do not have to contend with. Especially  
22 given this region's harsh environmental conditions,  
23 the NRC should ensure the completion of a full  
24 National Environmental Policy Act analysis that would  
25 exam the effect of the proposed decommissioning plans

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1 on the environment and allow for additional public  
2 involvement.

3 "Furthermore, any Pilgrim licensee  
4 should provide thorough plans for communicating  
5 regularly with the public and local stakeholders  
6 throughout the decommissioning process. This  
7 communication is essential to ensure that all members  
8 of the community understand how Pilgrim will be  
9 safely decommissioned and foster confidence that  
10 security measures satisfy federal safety standards  
11 and community expectations.

12 "I was proud to be an original cosponsor  
13 of additional legislation in 2018 entitled 'The  
14 Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Act,' which would  
15 ensure the states and local communities have a  
16 meaningful role in the crafting and preparation of  
17 decommissioning plans for retired nuclear plants  
18 located in our community. This bill also requires  
19 the NRC to publicly and transparently approve or  
20 reject every proposed decommissioning plan, which it  
21 currently is not required to do.

22 "I will be introducing the Dry Cask  
23 Storage Act this session, which would ensure every  
24 nuclear reactor operator must be compelled to comply  
25 with an NRC-approved plan that would require the safe

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1 removal of spent nuclear fuel from spent nuclear fuel  
2 pools and placed that fuel into dry cask storage  
3 within seven years of the time that the plan is  
4 submitted to the NRC. This bill would further  
5 provide funding to help reactor licensees implement  
6 these plans and would expand the emergency planning  
7 zone for all noncompliant reactor operators to 50  
8 miles.

9 "As we consider tonight the shutdown  
10 process for Pilgrim, Entergy and Holtec must provide  
11 conclusive proof that there are sufficient funds  
12 available in the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust to  
13 decommission Pilgrim in a safe and secure manner. It  
14 will be unacceptable for Entergy or Holtec to demand  
15 additional money from Massachusetts ratepayers to  
16 complete the decommissioning process at Pilgrim.  
17 There can be no second chances here.

18 "Historical data and NRC guidelines  
19 indicate that the decommissioning costs are likely to  
20 increase faster ~~that~~ [than] inflation. Entergy and  
21 Holtec must each account for that fact or find a way  
22 to clearly rebut it. Given the amount currently  
23 available in the Trust Fund, the NRC must carefully  
24 assess if the proposed decommissioning timeline is  
25 achievable in a safe and secure manner and require

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1 there is reasonable public assurance of available  
2 funds for the totality of the process. Additionally,  
3 as the proposed license transfer will further strain  
4 the NRC's resources, it is imperative that the NRC  
5 assign additional staff to work on these issues and  
6 charge the licensees for their salaries.

7 "In the recent past, I have also  
8 expressed my concerns to the NRC regarding the draft  
9 decommissioning rule currently awaiting review, which  
10 is intended to provide clear guidelines for all  
11 plants that are undergoing the decommissioning  
12 process. This proposal falls far short of the NRC's  
13 stated goals of providing for a safe, effective, and  
14 efficient decommissioning process for nuclear plants.  
15 In its current form, this fails to propose a  
16 comprehensive set of decommissioning and cleanup  
17 regulations, would result in the automatic approval  
18 of facilities' exemptions from safety, security, and  
19 emergency planning regulations, and would continue to  
20 rubberstamp the industry's Post-Shutdown  
21 Decommissioning Activities Report. I continue to  
22 urge the NRC to reject this draft and, instead, write  
23 a rule that will affirmatively guide plants and  
24 communities through the decommissioning process.

25 "Thank you."

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1 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

2 Next, we will have Mr. Michael Jackman of  
3 the Office of Congressman Bill Keating.

4 MR. JACKMAN: Thank you.

5 I do have a statement from the  
6 Congressman I'd like to read, but before I do that,  
7 I have just some housekeeping questions. The slide  
8 presentations that were made tonight, are those  
9 available online or will they be available online?

10 MR. KLUKAN: For the record, yes, they  
11 will be available online on the NRC's website.

12 MR. JACKMAN: Okay. Only because I  
13 think if people want to make comments both on the  
14 PSDAR and the license transfer, there's a lot of good  
15 information in there. Thank you.

16 "Thank you for the opportunity to address  
17 you at tonight's public meeting. Unfortunately, the  
18 House voting schedule prevents me from being here in  
19 person, but I wanted to restate my opinion that, as  
20 we draw closer to the cessation of operations at  
21 Pilgrim, the rigorous scrutiny of the operations at  
22 the plant must continue. Entergy must not be allowed  
23 to languish in column 4, representing the minimum  
24 level of operational safety for the remainder of its  
25 life as a power generating plant.

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1                    "In addition, the NRC must scrutinize  
2                    Entergy's and Holtec's Post-Shutdown Decommissioning  
3                    Activities Reports to ensure that the health and  
4                    safety of Massachusetts residents is not at risk.  
5                    The NRC must enforce its regulations and require the  
6                    licensee to adhere to the most stringent standards  
7                    for facility security, cybersecurity for all the  
8                    plant systems, structural integrity of the onsite dry  
9                    cask storage system, and mitigation of environmental  
10                    hazards.

11                    "In addition, decommissioning activities  
12                    must be fully funded by the licensee, and the NRC  
13                    must do all it can to ensure that taxpayers, be they  
14                    residents of Plymouth, the Commonwealth of  
15                    Massachusetts, or the United States of America, are  
16                    not left to shoulder the burden of the cost of the  
17                    cleanup of the Pilgrim site.

18                    "Given the real prospect of ongoing  
19                    nuclear waste storage here in Plymouth, it is  
20                    incumbent upon all levels of government to work  
21                    together to ensure the safety of our residents. It  
22                    is imperative that those residents and residents of  
23                    all affected communities in Plymouth County, the  
24                    Cape, and the islands are included in the discussion  
25                    and decisions involved with the decommissioning

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1 process.

2 "The Plymouth Town Select Board, the  
3 State legislative delegation, the Nuclear  
4 Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel, private  
5 groups like Pilgrim Watch and Cape Downwinders, and  
6 many other concerned individuals and groups, all have  
7 been engaged in this vital discussion over the years,  
8 and they all deserve to have their input heard and  
9 incorporated into the decisionmaking process. I am  
10 proud to have cosponsored legislation, which I've  
11 already referred to, the Nuclear Plant  
12 Decommissioning Act, that will do just that.

13 "I applaud all those present tonight for  
14 sharing their perspectives, and I will continue to  
15 fight to make sure that your voices are heard. Thank  
16 you."

17 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

18 Next, we will have Mr. Seth Schofield  
19 from the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

20 MR. SCHOFIELD: Thank you, Brett.

21 Good evening. I'm Seth Schofield,  
22 Senior Appellate Counsel and Assistant Attorney  
23 General in the Energy and Environment Bureau of the  
24 Office of Attorney General Maura Healey.

25 First, I'd like to thank the Nuclear

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1 Regulatory Commission for coming to Plymouth tonight,  
2 so that the public has an opportunity to voice their  
3 thoughts and concerns about the power plant and the  
4 proposed plans to decommission the plant following  
5 its shutdown this spring.

6 From the Attorney General's perspective,  
7 the proposed sale of Pilgrim and the related transfer  
8 of Pilgrim's operating license from Entergy to a  
9 Holtec subsidiary raise significant health, safety,  
10 environmental, and financial concerns for the  
11 Commonwealth and its citizens. We appreciate the  
12 potential benefits of accelerated decommissioning  
13 that forms the basis for the sale and license transfer  
14 application, but we currently have serious concerns  
15 about whether Pilgrim's Decommissioning Trust Fund  
16 contains sufficient funds to cover the performance of  
17 all necessary decommissioning, site restoration, and  
18 spent fuel management activities on an indefinite  
19 basis.

20 As currently proposed, neither Holtec,  
21 Pilgrim, LLC, the proposed licensee, nor Holtec  
22 Decommissioning International, LLC, the proposed  
23 licensed operator, will generate any revenue or bring  
24 with them any new assets that could be used to fund  
25 and complete site decommissioning, restoration, and

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1 spent fuel management activities at the site.  
2 Instead, Holtec-Pilgrim and Holtec Decommissioning  
3 International's only planned source of funds are the  
4 funds currently existing in the Pilgrim Trust Fund,  
5 and as currently proposed, there exists no guaranteed  
6 add to the parent company of those two single-purpose  
7 limited liability companies to compensate for any  
8 funding shortfall in the Trust Funds. If there are  
9 insufficient funds in the Trust Fund, Holtec would  
10 likely default on its obligation and likely leave the  
11 Commonwealth and its taxpayers with those  
12 obligations, both as the payer of last resort and the  
13 party responsible for protecting public safety and  
14 the environment for an indefinite period.

15 Based on our preliminary review of the  
16 license transfer application and the revised Post-  
17 Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, we have  
18 reason to believe that a Trust Fund shortfall could  
19 very well occur. For example, Holtec's estimate of  
20 what it will cost to decommission, restore, and  
21 manage spent fuel at the site is only \$3.615 million  
22 less than the total amount of money expected to be in  
23 the trust. That means there would be insufficient  
24 funds to cover any cost overrun in excess of \$3.6  
25 million.

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1                   Past experience, however, including  
2 decommissioning experience at other sites in New  
3 England, demonstrates that the potential discovery of  
4 previously unidentified radiological and non-  
5 radiological contamination, potential unanticipated  
6 work delays, and other potential problematic events  
7 could well drive costs significantly beyond  
8 preliminary post-shutdown decommissioning cost  
9 estimates.

10                   For example, the discovery of  
11 strontium-90 during decommissioning at Connecticut  
12 Yankee doubled the anticipated decommissioning cost  
13 there. The discovery of highly contaminated  
14 groundwater during decommissioning at Maine Yankee  
15 also increased costs beyond those anticipated to  
16 decommission that site. And the discovery of  
17 [polychlorinated                   biphenyl]                   PCB  
18 contamination/radiological groundwater contamination  
19 during decommissioning at Yankee Rowe, similarly,  
20 caused significant and unanticipated cost increases.

21                   Holtec and its partner, SNC-Lavalin, have  
22 poor track records on other projects at other sites  
23 around the country, which amplifies the  
24 Commonwealth's concerns about the potential for cost  
25 overruns, delays, and other issues that will both

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1 imperil public safety and our environment, while at  
2 the same time enhancing the risk of a Trust Fund  
3 shortfall that would make matters even worse. For  
4 example, the NRC just recently issued a Notice of  
5 Violation related to Holtec's mishandling of dry cask  
6 loading and transfer operations at San Onofre Nuclear  
7 Generation Station in California, and its failure to  
8 timely report that matter to the NRC.

9           Because of the significant risk to the  
10 Commonwealth embodied by the pending license transfer  
11 proposal, we implore the NRC to join us in ~~elosing~~  
12 [closely] scrutinizing the proposal's terms and  
13 ensure that substantial financial assurances exist to  
14 ensure that those risks are fully addressed. To that  
15 end, the Attorney General intends, on behalf of the  
16 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to intervene in the  
17 pending license transfer proceeding to articulate  
18 these and other concerns for evaluation by the  
19 Commission and the imposition of protective  
20 safeguards and other conditions with respect to any  
21 license transfer.

22           Thank you.

23           MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

24           Next up, we have several authorized  
25 representatives from the Board of Selectmen of the

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1 Town of Duxbury.

2 MS. M. LAMPERT: Good evening. I'm Mary  
3 Lampert, speaking tonight on behalf of the Duxbury  
4 Board of Selectmen.

5 The town is very concerned the site will  
6 not be properly cleaned up due to reliance on a  
7 [Generic Environmental Impact Statement] GEIS written  
8 in 2002 and an [Supplemental Environmental Impact  
9 Statement] SEIS written in 2006 that are outdated,  
10 incomplete, and ignore new and significant  
11 information, and the failure of NRC to require a  
12 [National Environmental Policy Act] NEPA analysis, as  
13 required by federal law and legal precedent, into  
14 insufficient funds in the [Decommissioning Trust  
15 Fund] DTF.

16 With respect to the GEIS and SEIS,  
17 Duxbury sees no rational basis for NRC to assume that  
18 the environmental impacts are bounded by these  
19 documents, nor that environmental impacts will be  
20 small or that the site is essentially clean. It is  
21 not. A few examples:

22 The SEIS incorrectly denies that the  
23 National Academy's Biological Effects of Radiation  
24 Report, 2006, denies to provide new and significant  
25 information from the 1990 report. The 2006 report

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1 found mortality rates for women exposed to radiation  
2 was 37.5 percent higher than its 1990 report and the  
3 impact of allowable radiation standards on workers  
4 was twice that estimated in 1990. Therefore,  
5 allowable doses need to be reduced from the 25  
6 millirem a year to less than 10 millirem a year, as  
7 the State has requested, and reduction in allowable  
8 doses to workers. You are obligated to follow the  
9 latest scientific information, not go back to 1990.

10           Second, contamination onsite must be  
11 updated. In the GEIS and SEIS, NRC didn't lift a  
12 shovel. You just relied on the licensees' reports.  
13 Their conclusions cannot be relied upon. Pilgrim  
14 opened with bad fuel and no off-gas treatment system,  
15 and blew its filters in 1982.

16           Where did the contamination go?  
17 Hazardous waste is buried onsite, including on the  
18 property off the access road. Construction has  
19 occurred at the site and the soil buried. What's in  
20 that soil? There's a crack in the reactor's torus  
21 floor. Soil outside the reactor, beneath it, must  
22 be analyzed. The source of tritium levels of  
23 monitoring wells is unknown. Other slower-moving  
24 radionuclides also are likely to be there, not yet  
25 picked up by the monitoring wells. Also, what is

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1 leaked from seismic gaps and the condensate system?  
2 Again, who knows? It's not in the 2002 report. It's  
3 not in the SEIS written in 2006.

4 NRC's 2014 continued storage rule that  
5 the waste may be stored onsite indefinitely has to be  
6 considered. The PSDAR's assumptions that spent fuel  
7 will be offsite by 2062 cannot be accepted by NRC.  
8 Entergy relied on DOE for its projections, but DOE  
9 qualified its projections. Entergy and Holtec did  
10 not.

11 PSDAR cost estimates and plans to ensure  
12 the long-term integrity of the casks must be revised  
13 to provide a contingency fund for long-term storage.  
14 NRC's Mark Lombard stated that there is no technology  
15 to find cracks in Holtec casks. They're made of  
16 steel and subject to corrosion. Dr. Kris Singh, the  
17 President of Holtec, said that it's not feasible to  
18 repair Holtec's sealed canisters.

19 These facts cannot be ignored. Casks  
20 must be better protected, monitored for heat, helium,  
21 and temperature, and funds for mitigation included in  
22 cost estimates because the fuel, as NRC has said,  
23 could remain here indefinitely in an environment  
24 subject to corrosion, moisture, and salt.

25 The GEIS and SEIS found socioeconomic

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1 impacts small. Again, not so. A University of  
2 Massachusetts Amherst study commissioned by the Town  
3 of Plymouth found that the economic impact on  
4 Plymouth alone would be almost \$500 million and that  
5 there would be more than \$100 million impact on the  
6 rest of the region, including Duxbury.

7 Conclusion: therefore, it's clear that  
8 the GEIS and SEIS are totally inadequate and do not  
9 bound the environmental impact. The NRC must require  
10 both a comprehensive environmental analysis that  
11 includes shovels and testing, made public, quite  
12 obviously, at the beginning of the decommissioning  
13 process and a NEPA analysis.

14 This is a major federal reaction. You  
15 cannot pretend it is mere oversight to wiggle your  
16 way out of the requirement. You gave the license and  
17 you will terminate the licenses. That is a major  
18 federal action.

19 And thank you very much.

20 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

21 MR. J. LAMPERT: I'm Jim Lampert, and I  
22 am also here representing the Duxbury Board of  
23 Selectmen. And I'd like to speak briefly on just one  
24 aspect.

25 The Selectmen in the Town of Duxbury have

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1 serious concerns about the financial aspects of  
2 decommissioning. You heard Senator Markey's  
3 representative, Senator Warren's representative,  
4 Representative Keating's representative, and the  
5 Attorney General's Office refer to these.

6 Holtec's PSDAR, like Entergy's, says  
7 there is enough money in the Decommissioning Trust  
8 Fund to accomplish the job. Putting aside all of the  
9 things the PSDAR doesn't talk about, and Mrs. Lampert  
10 just listed, that assumption by Entergy and Holtec  
11 rests on a further assumption that future costs in  
12 decommissioning will not be more than future  
13 increases in general inflation. That assumption is  
14 highly questionable.

15 According to Callan Associates that  
16 annually puts together a report on decommissioning  
17 costs for the nuclear industry, decommissioning costs  
18 increased at an annual rate of about 5.8 percent  
19 between 2008 and 2016. This increase in cost is  
20 about 4.5 percent above inflation. For a benchmark,  
21 the NRC and the PSDARs assume that the Trust Fund  
22 will grow at a rate of only 2 percent of the general  
23 inflation.

24 The NRC's own questions and answers on  
25 decommissioning financial assurance say that, over a

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1 20-year period, there will be an annual increase in  
2 decommissioning costs of between 5 and 9 percent.  
3 Again, well over both inflation and 2 percent above  
4 inflation. If the NRC's statements are correct, and  
5 if Callan's reports of actual past history are  
6 correct, it seems highly unlikely that there's going  
7 to be enough money in the fund to accomplish the job.

8           Which leads me to a fundamental question  
9 of the Board of Selectmen: if there is not enough  
10 money, what law or regulation requires a licensee,  
11 particularly a limited liability corporation like  
12 Holtec-Pilgrim, or any of its parent or associated  
13 entities, to pay the shortfall? Can you tell me if  
14 there is such a regulation? And if so, tell me what  
15 it is. And if you cannot do now, can I ask that you  
16 tell us all tomorrow night at the decommissioning  
17 panel meeting to give you the time to get the answer?

18           MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

19           MS. CHIN: Rebecca Chin for the Town of  
20 Duxbury. The Selectmen asked me to speak on public  
21 safety this evening.

22           And we urge you to retain the current  
23 offsite emergency planning funded by the licensee  
24 until the spent fuel pool is emptied and continue  
25 licensee-funded offsite emergency planning on a

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1 reduced level until all the fuel leaves the site.

2           Entergy has currently filed for a license  
3 exemption to end offsite and reduce onsite funding,  
4 and this should be denied by the NRC. You cannot  
5 expect mutual aid with no funding.

6           The second is on monitoring. Mass  
7 Department of Public Health should continue to expand  
8 offsite radiological monitoring and onsite tritium  
9 monitoring. The licensee should continue to provide  
10 Mass Department of Public Health with its funding.  
11 It needs to be required of the licensee.

12           Thank you.

13           MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

14           MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Sheila Lynch-  
15 Banttinin in Duxbury, speaking on behalf of the Board  
16 of Selectmen.

17           I would like to address one issue. Forty  
18 years ago when community safety was being addressed,  
19 telephone poles and speakers were the technology of  
20 the time. Currently, in our Town of Duxbury, which  
21 is within the 5-mile zone of Pilgrim, we have an Old  
22 Colony network, digital network, of public safety  
23 addresses. I would like Holtec, if they are going  
24 to start next July, to engage the regional fire  
25 departments and the Old Colony system of current

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1 digital notification to be engaged in community  
2 safety and planning during the three very important  
3 years, especially after what just happened in  
4 California with the accident. If there's an accident  
5 during the Holtec time, if they're given the license,  
6 and you're not up-to-date with the current fire  
7 department technologies in the region, it will be a  
8 very tragic day. So, I encourage Holtec, if they're  
9 given the license in July, to reach out to the  
10 regional fire departments and the emergency  
11 notification system, which has been greatly upgraded  
12 since 40 years ago.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

15 Are there any other elected officials or  
16 representatives of elected officials or  
17 representatives of federally-recognized tribes who  
18 would like to introduce themselves this evening  
19 before we move on to the public comment portion?

20 (No response.)

21 All right. Hearing none, I would like  
22 to introduce Donna Janda, and we will proceed with  
23 the public comment portion.

24 MS. JANDA: Thanks, Brett.

25 Good evening, everyone. As Brett said,

1 my name is Donna Janda, and I'll be facilitating  
2 tonight's meeting along with Brett.

3 For those of you who registered to speak,  
4 you should have received a ticket, the other half of  
5 which Brett has in a container over here. And the  
6 speaking order is going to be determined by the  
7 numbers that are pulled from the container. And the  
8 intent of this is so that the speaker order is just  
9 random.

10 So, I do want to emphasize there is no  
11 prohibition against donating your ticket to others.  
12 You are free to do so. However, both individuals  
13 should be present at the time that number is called,  
14 and the donation must be announced at that time.

15 In addition, if an individual has already  
16 spoken during the meeting as a result of someone  
17 donating their ticket, and then, that individual's  
18 ticket is called, that individual may not use that  
19 ticket, but they can donate it to someone else. This  
20 is just to give opportunity to everyone to be able to  
21 speak.

22 So, when your number is called, please  
23 queue up to the microphone that's in the aisle, in  
24 the center aisle right there. And if you need to  
25 have a microphone brought to you, just let us know,

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1 and Brett will take care of that for you.

2 Just so you have some advanced warning of  
3 when it's your turn to speak, Brett's posting the  
4 numbers right now as I'm speaking, and we're going to  
5 just go down them in sequential order there.

6 In an effort to give everybody the  
7 opportunity to speak tonight, please limit yourselves  
8 to three minutes when we speaking. We do have a  
9 clock here on this table in the center here, in front  
10 of the podium, and we'll count down those three  
11 minutes. And after the three-minute mark, I'll  
12 politely ask you to conclude your remarks.

13 For your awareness, the meeting tonight  
14 is being recorded, and there is a transcript that  
15 will generated after the meeting. Both the audio and  
16 the transcript will be posted to the NRC website.  
17 So, in light of that, I would ask, when it's your  
18 turn to speak, that you please identify yourself.  
19 And I would also ask, for the sake of the audio  
20 recording, that people not speak over each other.

21 I would also ask that we keep this area  
22 clear in front of the stage. If there is something  
23 you would like to give to the NRC staff, you can give  
24 that to Brett and he'll take care of that.

25 And now, just some basic groundrules to

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1 go over. While recognizing many of you have  
2 strongly-held opinions concerning the matters that  
3 were discussed tonight, I ask that you, nonetheless,  
4 adhere to civil decorum, that you respect each other.  
5 So, please do not disrupt each other. Just as you  
6 wouldn't want to be interrupted during your three  
7 minutes at the microphone, please respect the  
8 speaking time of others.

9 Any threatening gestures or statements  
10 will under no circumstances be tolerated and will be  
11 cause for immediate ejection from the meeting. If  
12 you feel you've been threatened, please let me know  
13 or please tell one of the NRC security personnel or  
14 police officers in the room, and we will try and  
15 address that.

16 The one thing that I do want to also  
17 note -- and I haven't heard any tonight -- but please  
18 make sure you silence your cell phones, so that  
19 doesn't disrupt the meeting.

20 And I think we are ready to go at that.  
21 So, the first number on the list is No. 2.

22 PARTICIPANT: I've already spoken.

23 MS. JANDA: Okay. Would you like to  
24 donate that ticket to somebody else to speak?

25 MR. KLUKAN: Would anyone who didn't sign

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1 up yet to speak like to speak right now?

2 (No response.)

3 All right. So, let's break this down.

4 This system is designed -- I actually just  
5 experienced this at a Westinghouse meeting in South  
6 Carolina where we didn't have that many numbers. So,  
7 this is everyone. This is everyone who signed up to  
8 speak. So, we have 14 people who signed up to speak.  
9 There will likely be some opportunity at the end,  
10 after these individuals have spoken, if you haven't  
11 signed up to speak, or if you decide after hearing  
12 comments to speak then.

13 So, the plan is just to move through  
14 these numbers, and then, again, open it up after that.  
15 I'm still going to keep people to the three minutes.  
16 And then, if people have additional things to say  
17 after that, once we've gotten through the list, and  
18 whether there's any additional people who would like  
19 to speak, then we can add on a second round, as time  
20 permits. Okay?

21 So, did anyone want to use the No. 2  
22 ticket?

23 (No response.)

24 If not, we will move on to the No. 12  
25 ticket.

1 Pass? All right. Look at the time we  
2 are making this evening.

3 (Laughter.)

4 The No. 1 ticket. Do you want to go?

5 MS. LAMPERT: Yes.

6 MR. KLUKAN: All right, go. All right.

7 MS. LAMPERT: Mary Lampert for Pilgrim  
8 Watch.

9 I just want to amplify the concern of our  
10 town and other speakers of maintaining licensee  
11 responsibility for offsite emergency planning in full  
12 force, as it is now, whatever it is, until the pool  
13 is emptied, and then, ratcheted-down until fuel  
14 leaves the site.

15 What is not properly considered by NRC or  
16 the licensees is our acts of malice. We know there  
17 is a heightened threat environment, and we know that  
18 the spent fuel pool is a vulnerable target, as  
19 demonstrated by an expert for our Attorney General,  
20 Dr. Gordon Thompson, during relicensing.

21 We know, also, that even in a cask they  
22 are vulnerable to acts of malice by a shoulder-launch  
23 missile, for example, and then, in the hole, putting  
24 in an explosive. This is described in excruciating  
25 detail, again by Dr. Thompson, both in hearings in

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1 the United States, recent ones, and in Canada.

2 So, you have to consider it. The fact  
3 that the probability may be low, you can take an  
4 arithmetic view to it because of the consequences  
5 being so great as they are.

6 And consider also, we are very glad the  
7 ISFSI pad has been moved to higher ground. However,  
8 unfortunately, it wasn't moved to the Manomet side.  
9 It was moved more towards, I'd say, the Duxbury side.  
10 And it is very, very close to Rocky Hill Road.

11 So, we have gained a great deal by not  
12 having it subject to climate change effects, but we  
13 have lost on security. Therefore, we need a  
14 reinforced barrier or some measure, a building or  
15 something, to provide the security we need, because  
16 the threat is not going away and each cask contains  
17 over half the cesium-137 released in Chernobyl.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

20 MS. JANDA: And the next number is No.

21 3.

22 PARTICIPANT: Pass.

23 PARTICIPANT: I'll take it.

24 MR. KLUKAN: It's important to hold the  
25 physical copy of the ticket. I'm just kidding.

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1                   Could you state your name for the record?

2                   MR. WOLFE: My name is Dan Wolfe. I'm  
3 from Harwich on Cape Cod, and I also serve on the  
4 Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel.  
5 So, I'll see you all tomorrow night, and I appreciate  
6 your being here.

7                   In case there are people that can't be  
8 there tomorrow night that are here tonight, we have  
9 heard expressed by numerous folks from our  
10 legislative delegation, the Attorney General's  
11 Office, a real concern that there isn't sufficient  
12 funds. And we could go back and forth on that. It's  
13 conjecture. It's based on certain assumptions  
14 relative to economic returns on what's in the Trust  
15 Fund.

16                   So, I guess I have a really specific  
17 question. And that is, what happens if there isn't?  
18 What happens if there is not specific funds? Where  
19 does the burden go?

20                   MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

21                   MR. WATSON: The short answer is the  
22 licensee remains responsible for completing the  
23 decommissioning and providing the funds that are  
24 necessary to do that. So, that would be a  
25 responsibility that, if we were to grant the license

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1 transfer to Holtec, they would be responsible for and  
2 for complying with the requirements.

3 MR. WOLFE: Could I ask a followup  
4 question to that, please?

5 MR. KLUKAN: Sure. You have like two  
6 minutes left.

7 MR. WOLFE: Okay. Thanks.

8 So, I guess question would be, is there  
9 any precedent or is there an ability to hold the  
10 original licensee liable in addition to Holtec?  
11 There are layers of sort of corporate creation here  
12 that I think limit and insulate from liability. So,  
13 I question would be, is there a mechanism, is there  
14 a precedent, is there a way to keep Entergy  
15 potentially liable or the investors in Entergy  
16 potentially liable if the funds are insufficient?

17 Because our concern is it goes to that  
18 entity, and, of course, the well is dry. And by the  
19 way, that is by design. That is by corporate design  
20 as far as how this is being constructed.

21 Thank you very much.

22 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again.

23 MR. WATSON: To the best of knowledge,  
24 we don't have any precedent. We have had some sites  
25 go bankrupt, and we've worked with the trustee of the

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1 Trust Fund to complete the decommissioning. So,  
2 there's no -- once we complete our review, and if we  
3 were to transfer the license, there would be no going  
4 back to Entergy for the funds. So, it's either  
5 they're going to be qualified to do that and accept  
6 that responsibility or not.

7 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.  
8 4.

9 MS. TURCO: Diane Turco with Cape  
10 Downwinders.

11 Being a good neighbor means taking care  
12 of each other and making decisions for the common  
13 good. Entergy has advertised itself as a corporation  
14 that is a good neighbor -- as long as there is money  
15 to be made. Now the plug will be pulled in June and  
16 the coffers will dry up. Entergy is running for the  
17 exit door and leaving their legacy mess behind.

18 Entergy's PDS[A]R calls for SAFSTOR,  
19 making Pilgrim a radioactive holding tank for 60  
20 years. Holtec for DECON, prompt decommissioning  
21 using the Decommissioning Trust Fund with exemptions.  
22 What is best for the community should be the priority  
23 of both their plans, but it is not.

24 We all agree that prompt decommissioning  
25 is the best, but it must be done responsibly and

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1 safely. The following are our standards to meet the  
2 good neighbor requirements:

3           With the ISFSI holding tons of  
4 radioactive waste, there's still a potential for  
5 offsite release. The PSD[A]R must include emergency  
6 plans based on low-probability, high-consequence  
7 incidents, such as terrorists attacks, and be  
8 included in the Environmental Impact Statement.

9           Location of the ISFSI pad must consider  
10 a technically-defensible onsite storage location.  
11 That's not what we have now.

12           Dry cask must be improved with quality  
13 and be able to be inspected, monitored, repaired, and  
14 are retrievable.

15           Procedures must be in place for transfer  
16 of waste from any cracked or damaged canisters or  
17 casks which may mean keeping the pool.

18           Procedures and training for fuel transfer  
19 with certification of completion by the NRC prior to  
20 moving any fuel from the pool.

21           Residual radiation levels must match  
22 [Environmental Protection Agency] EPA standards and  
23 inclusion of independent oversight.

24           Finally, we ask for an [Attorney General  
25 Office] AGO inspection into Holtec and its

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1 subsidiaries before any license transfer. As  
2 [Limited Liability Corporations] LLCs, this looks  
3 like a house of cards with no guarantee that available  
4 funds will be available to complete the job.

5 The citizens of Massachusetts must have  
6 clear assurance that the taxpayers will not be left  
7 paying off the mess Entergy has left behind.

8 Looking at Holtec's record from recent  
9 events at San Onofre near San Diego, confidence in  
10 their ability to make decisions based on protection  
11 of the public is questionable. An NRC special  
12 inspection report of a near drop of a full canister  
13 cited poor training, not following procedures,  
14 equipment problems, and mismanagement. Sound  
15 familiar? Poor management, poor training, poor  
16 procedures, et cetera, has kept Entergy's operation  
17 at Pilgrim as the least safe in the U.S. still. This  
18 is like going from the frying pan into the fire. We  
19 don't need another corporation here with a poor  
20 safety culture that puts profit over public safety.

21 We are concerned neighbors and will  
22 support a responsible and safe decommissioning plan  
23 that protects our communities. If Holtec is setting  
24 the standard at SONGS, Cape Downwinders cannot  
25 support the transfer of license from Entergy at this

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1 time.

2 You need to go back to the drawing board  
3 and do better for our communities.

4 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

5 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.  
6 9.

7 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Good evening. Richard  
8 Rothstein, Town of Plymouth resident and a new member  
9 of the State Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens  
10 Advisory Panel.

11 I asked the question during last week's  
12 webinar regarding Entergy's PSDAR for SAFSTOR about  
13 the anticipated timeline for when the NRC would allow  
14 the onsite meteorological towers to get dismantled  
15 during the decommissioning process under SAFSTOR.  
16 The NRC couldn't answer that question, only because  
17 it's a little bit too early in the process. So, I  
18 just wanted to rephrase my question.

19 Why is it important to have the onsite  
20 meteorological towers? They're important because of  
21 emergency planning purposes. In the event of a  
22 radiological emergency with the plant still operating  
23 or once the plant is permanently shut down, but spent  
24 fuel in the pool, before it gets transferred, and  
25 even with the dry casks onsite, if there were a

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1 radiological emergency, a release, emergency  
2 responders would need to have that information to be  
3 able to make determinations of shelter in place  
4 versus emergency evacuation determinations there.  
5 This need doesn't disappear simply just because the  
6 plant is permanently shutting down.

7           So, to rephrase my question from last  
8 week, I'd be interested in learning about other  
9 plants that have decommissioned or are in the process  
10 of decommissioning, most using SAFSTOR, but some are  
11 probably going to use DECON, and when the NRC allowed  
12 a licensee to dismantle the onsite meteorological  
13 towers. I don't expect you would have an answer  
14 tonight, but certainly in the next few weeks I'd be  
15 very interested in learning more about that history,  
16 so we can see what circumstances did NRC require those  
17 towers to stay up longer or other circumstances where  
18 they allowed a licensee to dismantle them sooner than  
19 later.

20           Thank you.

21           MS. JANDA: All right. Thank you.

22           The next speaker will be No. 10.

23           MR. WALLEN: Hello. My name is Stan  
24 Wallen, a resident of the Town of Plymouth. And I'll  
25 disclose that I'm a retiree of Pilgrim Nuclear Power

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1 Station.

2 I have one simple question for Holtec.  
3 Based on the numbers you put up on the board, where  
4 are you going to make \$89 million in five years? You  
5 need 1.54 billion to decommission in your timeline.  
6 You have 105 now. If you're in the business to make  
7 money, where are you going to get an additional almost  
8 90 million?

9 MR. KLUKAN: One moment.

10 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis.

11 And the cash flow analysis that are  
12 included in both the license transfer application as  
13 well as the PSDAR for DECON demonstrate that the costs  
14 will be distributed over time, and it does accurately  
15 reflect the regulations regarding the Trust Fund  
16 increases over time.

17 MR. WALLEN: I see. So, I'll just quote  
18 a former presidential candidate, that we're working  
19 with, "voodoo economics".

20 Secondly, this whole situation here  
21 almost looks like it's down pat that Holtec will get  
22 a license transfer. What is the consequence of the  
23 NRC not approving a license transfer? We're going  
24 to have Entergy try to decommission and take 60 years.  
25 Is there a method or order or compulsion that can

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1 happen to have Entergy accelerate the process? Are  
2 we stuck with that if the license transfer is not  
3 approved? An NRC question.

4 MR. WATSON: Okay. Yes, first of all,  
5 we are in the process of reviewing the Holtec  
6 application and the associated financial and  
7 technical information that has been provided. So,  
8 there's been no conclusion on that.

9 Should we deny the application and not  
10 allow the transfer to take place, yes, Entergy would  
11 remain the licensee and be responsible for  
12 maintaining the plant in a safe condition. So, we  
13 would continue to inspect as we will if the license  
14 were transferred the facility to ensure it's  
15 maintained safely, and regardless of the DECON option  
16 or SAFSTOR option they choose. But the bottom line  
17 here is the licensee would be, continue to be Entergy,  
18 and their requirement is that they have to complete  
19 the decommissioning in 60 years.

20 MR. WALLEN: Thank you.

21 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

22 Would it be beneficial to people if we  
23 put back up the slide with one of the numbers instead  
24 of just looking at "Thank you," which I'm sure is  
25 very useful to all of you? Maybe either the Pilgrim

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1 numbers, or the Entergy numbers or the Holtec number,  
2 one of the two? Okay. Thanks for doing that.

3 MS. JANDA: Okay. The next speaker will  
4 be No. 14.

5 MS. CONSETINO: Good evening, everybody.  
6 I'm Henrietta Consetino, resident of Plymouth and,  
7 also, Chair of the League of Women Voters Nuclear  
8 Committee.

9 And I thank you for coming tonight. We  
10 appreciate it. It's very important.

11 I also want to say I appreciate greatly  
12 the speakers who came from the offices of our elected  
13 officials. It was very helpful to have their  
14 comments.

15 I have a question, but I'll save it for  
16 last. My first is just a comment in total laymen  
17 terms. We have two possibilities right now. On the  
18 one hand, we have Holtec proposing to decommission in  
19 a very short amount of time, and for cheap, and  
20 phenomenally. It just sounds too good to be true,  
21 particularly if you start to pay attention to the  
22 nature of the dry casks that are being proposed and  
23 the fact that these very same dry casks have been  
24 tremendously troublesome at San Onofre and probably  
25 in other places, too, all of them scratched, being

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1 subject to erosion from saltwater, being stored on  
2 the beach.

3 At least in San Onofre, the plan was it's  
4 now suspended for a time, but the plan was to put  
5 these faulty casks in a vaulted system. Here in  
6 Plymouth, there is no proposal for any kind of  
7 vaulting, any kind of hard cover for these very  
8 vulnerable casks that could be subject to terrorism.

9 We appreciate the moving of the ISFSI,  
10 and that was important to us, but there is much more  
11 that needs to be done if Holtec is to have the  
12 license. It's also very disturbing that Holtec is  
13 requesting waivers for a certain amount of  
14 regulations, just as Entergy has been granted waivers  
15 for the computer security that was required for all  
16 of their plants in the wake of Fukushima, waiver from  
17 the kind of hard valves that would make it safer.  
18 So, this is disturbing.

19 On the other hand, if we go with so-  
20 called, grotesquely-called SAFSTOR, 60 years of  
21 decommissioning, this is surreal. We will all be  
22 gone 60 years from now, every single one of us in  
23 this room, unless there is a very young person. And  
24 many of our children will be gone, too. And I wonder  
25 who exactly is going to be in charge, what they will

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1 have been told, and so forth.

2 Have I reached my limit? Okay. I stop  
3 there then.

4 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

5 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.  
6 8.

7 MR. GARLEY: Hi. I'm John Garley. I'm  
8 from Hingham.  
9 I have an NRC Information Notice 2012-20 [Potential  
10 Chloride-Induced Stress Corrosion Cracking of  
11 Austenitic Stainless Steel and Maintenance of Dry  
12 Cask Storage System Canisters, dated November 14,  
13 2012 (ML12319A440)] that says that chloride-induced  
14 stress corrosion cracking of austenitic -- right?  
15 You got the right word? -- stainless steel in dry  
16 cask storage systems. And there's a couple of  
17 times that it happened in San Onofre, St. Lucie  
18 Nuclear Power Plant, Turkey Point, and through the  
19 wall at Koeberg Nuclear Power Station. Are these  
20 casks made out of this austenitic steel? That's a  
21 question for Holtec. Austenitic. Are you going to  
22 answer the question or?

23 PARTICIPANT: Austenitic.

24 MR. GARLEY: Austenitic? Thank you.  
25 Are these casks made out of that? Because this

1 document says that they're cracked from being near  
2 saltwater.

3 Do you need to hit a button or something  
4 (referring to microphone)?

5 MR. KLUKAN: I'm just going to phrase it.  
6 Would someone from either Entergy or Holtec like to  
7 answer that question?

8 MR. GARLEY: Well, my concern is that the  
9 [Chief Executive Officer] CEO says that, if there is  
10 a crack, you couldn't fix it, right? And you might  
11 not be able to find it. But if there's no fuel pool,  
12 what do you do with that cask? So, that's a question  
13 for Holtec. Do we have a solution if there's a cask  
14 leak, and what are you going to do with it?

15 MS. J. RUSSELL: My name is Joy Russell.  
16 I think that Andrea did introduce me at the very  
17 beginning.

18 First, I would like to say that your  
19 information about canisters is incorrect. There are  
20 no leaking canisters in the United States. Holtec's  
21 canisters do not leak. There has been no --

22 MR. GARLEY: The steel has corroded.

23 MS. J. RUSSELL: That is incorrect, sir.  
24 I have --

25 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Well, that's an NRC

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1 information docket number. So, you might want to  
2 check with them. I'm just going by what they have.

3 MS. J. RUSSELL: Okay. Holtec's  
4 canisters have no evidence of stress corrosion  
5 cracking.

6 MR. GARLEY: Really? All right. Well,  
7 you might want to talk to them because they're putting  
8 stuff online that says they do. All right?

9 And then, the Sierra Club put a letter to  
10 the NRC as well -- it's Event No. 51134 [event date  
11 June 6, 2015 - [https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150610en.html)  
12 [collections/event-](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150610en.html)  
13 [status/event/2015/20150610en.html](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/2015/20150610en.html)] -- that Holtec  
14 filled the Diablo Canyon canisters incorrectly in  
15 half of them. Is that incorrect as well? Because  
16 there's stuff online you might want to cancel.

17 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, I beg to differ  
18 with you; that is also incorrect.

19 MR. GARLEY: Again? Okay.

20 MS. J. RUSSELL: The Diablo Canyon  
21 canisters, which were loaded by Holtec on behalf of  
22 Pacific Gas and Electric, were all loaded correctly  
23 in accordance with our Certificate of Compliance.

24 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Well, somebody's got  
25 some bad -- and the last thing is with NRC. Are you

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1 considering deep isolation technology as well,  
2 besides just Holtec's stuff? Because, I mean, we're  
3 getting one option here or two that sound pretty bad  
4 to me.

5 MR. WATSON: Well, let me just state that  
6 there is --

7 MR. GARLEY: It just stopped my number  
8 (referring to the tickets for order of speakers).

9 MR. WATSON: There is a need in the  
10 country for permanent repository of the spent fuel.

11 MR. GARLEY: Uh-hum.

12 MR. WATSON: The Department of Energy is  
13 responsible for developing and finding that site and  
14 using the proper technology. So, it's really up to  
15 our policymakers in Washington to fund those  
16 activities and to allow them to do their work in  
17 identifying and developing a site and what  
18 technologies will be used with that.

19 I think everybody is aware that there was  
20 some work-in-progress at the Yucca Mountain site in  
21 Nevada. And so, that came to a halt. And so now,  
22 it's up to the policymakers to reinstate the need or  
23 the promise they made for disposing of this material.

24 MR. GARLEY: Okay. And my last question  
25 for Holtec is that you have sent an application to

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1 the NRC for interim storage in Lea County, New Mexico.  
2 Does that mean you want to move this waste to New  
3 Mexico? Is that on your plan?

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, you're correct,  
5 Holtec has submitted a license application to the  
6 Nuclear Regulatory Commission to license a  
7 consolidated interim storage facility in southeast  
8 New Mexico. And if the facility is constructed, it  
9 is the possibility of moving the fuel from here to  
10 that facility in New Mexico. That is correct.

11 MR. GARLEY: All right. So, the DOE says  
12 there's 5,000 train car incidents a year. Do you  
13 think that could be dangerous with stuff that's  
14 corroded from the ocean?

15 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, if I understand  
16 your question correctly, you're asking for my  
17 opinion --

18 MR. GARLEY: Yes.

19 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- if I think  
20 transportation of spent nuclear fuel is safe. Yes,  
21 I do. The industry does it on a regular basis. We  
22 have transported more than 1380 shipments by rail,  
23 all safely, without any release of radioactive  
24 material.

25 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Thank you.

1 MS. JANDA: Thank you.

2 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

3 Before we move, since we do have some  
4 time, we kind of left that hanging there, that  
5 question. So, just to clarify, so the members of the  
6 public don't go away potentially confused on this.

7 Are the casks made out of this kind of  
8 steel, or if they're not, could we just state that  
9 for the record? Because we kind of moved on to the  
10 second question without answering the first. I just  
11 want to make sure, because it seemed like there was  
12 some confusion about that amongst the crowd.

13 MS. J. RUSSELL: Yes, the canisters are  
14 made out of austenitic stainless steel.

15 MR. KLUKAN: All right. Thank you. I  
16 appreciate that.

17 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.  
18 11.

19 MS. MILLER: Hello. My name is Claire  
20 Miller. I'm the lead organizer with Toxics Action  
21 Center. We're a public health and environmental  
22 nonprofit founded in 1987.

23 And while I don't consider myself to be  
24 an extremely young person, it is conceivable that I  
25 could live to 93.

1                   And I'm a community organizer, but I also  
2 happened to grow up -- I was born and raised in  
3 Duxbury, Massachusetts. And so, I want to speak a  
4 little bit more from the heart tonight.

5                   At Toxics Action Center we've really seen  
6 over our history that corporations go to very great  
7 lengths to avoid cleaning up their messes. And as a  
8 teenager, I have a lot of memories hearing about  
9 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant. It's not every  
10 childhood that you learn your home could be in a  
11 nuclear meltdown.

12                   My father is a curious man. He took  
13 tours of the nuclear power plant before they stopped  
14 doing that after 9/11. He told me stories about how  
15 the folks would say, "Oh, don't stand there. That  
16 spot's hot."

17                   We also had a family friend who worked at  
18 like a landscaping company. And I remember my father  
19 and them joking about, you know, how the site  
20 was -- there are hidden mysteries. And my distinct  
21 impression was that they weren't kidding, even though  
22 they were talking in a funny manner.

23                   So, it really disturbs me that this isn't  
24 proceeding with extreme care to the data. And I want  
25 to say that it's extremely important to me that

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1 there's a comprehensive environmental analysis done  
2 on the entire site. We have to know really what's  
3 there.

4           The second piece here is that, as corny  
5 as it may sound, we're in Hotel 1620. I am actually  
6 descended from a pilgrim, and that's 15 generations  
7 of my family. And I have an intention to do well by  
8 this place. You know, my descendants haven't always  
9 done well by this land, and I'd like to see 15 more  
10 generations. But that's only possible if we do an  
11 extremely good job. So, it's very important to me  
12 that we honor the Commonwealth's desire for a cleanup  
13 standard of no less than 10.

14           And the third thing that I am really  
15 sitting on as we're here is really around drinking  
16 water. It's so precious. And once it's  
17 contaminated, it's extremely difficult to fix.

18           Toxics Action Center is working with  
19 countless communities across the region who don't  
20 have access to clean drinking water. And so, as this  
21 continues, as the NRC oversees the future of the site,  
22 we have to ensure that there's clean drinking water  
23 and we must meet the EPA's own standard of no less  
24 than 4 for the drinking water.

25           Thank you.

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1 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

2 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.  
3 7.

4 MS. CORRIGAN: Hi. Joanne Corrigan. I  
5 live in Plymouth. I can ride my bike to the power  
6 plant.

7 I've got a couple of questions. First  
8 of all, that beautiful slide they showed of Yankee  
9 Rowe, how pastoral it looked after the  
10 decommissioning, where are the spent fuel casks? Is  
11 that airbrushed or Photoshopped?

12 (Laughter.)

13 MR. WATSON: No, that's an actual  
14 picture. The dry fuel storage facility is located  
15 above the river there on the hill.

16 MS. CORRIGAN: Because Plymouth will  
17 never look like that. First of all, we have that  
18 nasty jetty that's ripped the sand off Priscilla  
19 Beach. And apparently, that's staying there, even  
20 though the slides are saying how it goes back to the  
21 natural state in the environment. Is that right?  
22 Isn't Holtec going to leave the jetty there? After  
23 the reactor cools, I know --

24 MR. WATSON: I guess Holtec can maybe  
25 answer.

1 MS. STERDIS: It is our plan to leave the  
2 jetty there.

3 MS. CORRIGAN: Okay. My other  
4 question -- and I agree 100 percent with Mary Lampert  
5 that you're moving the casks now. Finally you  
6 figured out it's too close to the ocean. You didn't  
7 need a study. Just come down to Priscilla Beach  
8 during a full moon when there's a nor'easter, and  
9 you'll see the waves come crashing onto the street.  
10 Why they put those first ones so close is beyond me.

11 Now where they're going to move them,  
12 they're right out in the open of Rocky Hill Road.  
13 And what's to prevent, say, a dump truck with about  
14 10 terrorists with RPGs or AR-15s with armor-piercing  
15 bullets from stopping there, jumping up, and not  
16 shooting at 100 casks, shooting at one cask? What's  
17 the chance of that being compromised and breached and  
18 releasing radiation?

19 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, Joy Russell.

20 In November, we presented at the Citizens  
21 Advisory Panel  
22 [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OWW70ZbX1Q>] a very  
23 lengthy discussion -- I personally did that with one  
24 of my colleagues -- about the safety and security  
25 that's offered by the Holtec HI-STORM 100 System

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1 that's in use at Pilgrim. In that discussion, which  
2 you can go back and I believe see it online, I  
3 presented a long discussion about the casks' ability  
4 to withstand even an aircraft crash  
5 [[https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/12/10/Ho  
7 ltec%20Cask%20Design%20NDCAP%20Nov%2028th.pdf](https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/12/10/Ho<br/>6 ltec%20Cask%20Design%20NDCAP%20Nov%2028th.pdf)].

8 So, the system is very robust and it can withstand  
9 what you have just described as beyond-design-basis  
10 scenarios.

11 MS. CORRIGAN: I see. Well, my third  
12 comment is, when Pilgrim was up and running and  
13 actually made money, Entergy still couldn't get them  
14 out of the column 4 degraded column, didn't want to  
15 spend the money, didn't have the expertise, didn't  
16 have the enthusiasm, all of the above.

17 What makes you think we are going to  
18 believe, after the NRC gives them a pass on the  
19 cybersecurity, the everything, that now, all of a  
20 sudden, they're offline, they're not making money,  
21 and they're going to put in the resource of the money  
22 to keep us safe? I don't believe that for a minute.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

25 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.  
5.

1 MS. CONSETINO: Now I'll finish my  
2 comment, but I'll make it very quick.

3 I wanted to follow up on the  
4 comments -- I'm sorry. Henrietta Consetino.

5 MS. JANDA: Thank you.

6 MS. CONSETINO: Plymouth resident,  
7 League of Women Voters.

8 I wanted to follow up on the many  
9 questions about finances, and go back to Jim  
10 Lampert's question. Where is the regulation that  
11 actually holds the licensee responsible, should the  
12 fund, the Decommissioning Trust Fund, be inadequate?  
13 And along the way, what happens if the stock market  
14 crashes, and 1.05 billion turns into 900 million, or  
15 something of that sort? What happens then? What is  
16 the state of the Trust Fund right now?

17 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

18 MR. TWOMEY: Mike Twomey, on behalf of  
19 Entergy.

20 We provide a periodic update on the value  
21 of the Trust Fund, and we do not have an up-to-date  
22 number available this evening.

23 MR. KLUKAN: Just to follow up, so we  
24 don't leave it like that, when do you provide these?  
25 So, October was the last one. When would you provide

1 the next one?

2 MR. TWOMEY: Well, we at least provide a  
3 number in March of every year as part of our annual  
4 disclosure to the NRC. I don't know if we will be  
5 providing one before March. And it's actually a  
6 March number. I think it actually comes out in  
7 April.

8 MR. KLUKAN: Okay. Thank you.

9 MS. CONSETINO: It's worrisome because  
10 we've had some very serious major plummets in the  
11 market since October.

12 But I want to go back to the first  
13 question and make sure you don't forget that Jim  
14 originally asked, is there a regulation that holds  
15 the licensee to its financial responsibilities? And  
16 if so, what is that regulation?

17 MR. KLUKAN: Again, thank you.

18 MR. WATSON: Let me respond. I'm sorry.  
19 The regulations for the decommissioning funding are  
20 spelled out in 50.82. The actual requirement, if  
21 you're going to accept or apply for a license with  
22 the NRC, means that the licensee will be responsible  
23 for providing the decommissioning funds to restore  
24 the site and have the license terminated. Those are  
25 in, I think it's 50.2. When a licensee applies for

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1 a license, there's something called the Common  
2 Defense Clause, which means you are accepting that  
3 responsibility when you apply for a license, and that  
4 you will be radiologically and environmentally  
5 responsible for cleaning up the site when you've  
6 completed the work.

7 PARTICIPANT: What if they go bankrupt?

8 MR. WATSON: They're still responsible  
9 for providing the funding, and that would be part of  
10 the process we would go through for getting the assets  
11 of the company and continuing the completion of the  
12 decommissioning.

13 MR. WATSON [KLUKAN]: We have two more,  
14 and then, we can potentially do a second round. But  
15 the question that was posed on the floor, to which  
16 Bruce responded, was, what happens if they go  
17 bankrupt? I just wanted to make sure we capture that  
18 for the transcript.

19 So, next up will be No. 13.

20 MR. GUSTAFSON: Good evening. My name's  
21 Scott Gustafson. I'm a Plymouth resident.

22 I'm happy to hear tonight that Holtec is  
23 planning on going with the DECON process and the  
24 expedited process. I'm here to support the license  
25 transfer to Holtec because of their technical

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1 expertise.

2 As a representative of the Laborers'  
3 International Union of North America, our union has  
4 worked extensively with Holtec and their subsidiaries  
5 around the country, successfully, safely,  
6 efficiently.

7 I don't know if some of the references to  
8 Holtec tonight are accurate, because we've always  
9 worked closely with them. It's always been safe.  
10 It's always been very efficient.

11 I have a brother and sister who are  
12 working down at Pilgrim now, or have worked on the  
13 last two projects with Holtec down there. I don't  
14 hear anything about unsafe conditions. I hear that  
15 the job is going great; they're moving the fuel  
16 correctly, and they're very comfortable, and they're  
17 making a great living while they're doing it. The  
18 plant has always been an economic benefit to our town,  
19 and decommissioning this way will also be a strong  
20 economic benefit.

21 I also want to say that Holtec works  
22 extensively with our International Union and has  
23 helped us develop a state-of-the-art rad worker  
24 training program, and we train workers in our state-  
25 of-the-art facilities here in New England, in

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1 Hopkinton, in Pomfret, Connecticut. And over the  
2 years, our members have decommissioned Maine Yankee,  
3 Connecticut Yankee, and the Yankee Rowe Plant, which  
4 I actually go rafting up there, tubing up there in  
5 that river. It's a beautiful site. I go up there  
6 every year. It doesn't bother me at all.

7 I'm happy that it's going to be the  
8 expedited decommissioning and return that site back  
9 to its beauty that it once was for the Town of  
10 Plymouth.

11 So, thank you very much.

12 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

13 MS. JANDA: And the last speaker on the  
14 list will be No. 6.

15 MS. CARPENTER: My name is Susan  
16 Carpenter with the Cape Downwinders, and I live in  
17 South Dennis on the Cape.

18 I have a comment, and then, I have two  
19 questions. At one of the Nuclear Decommissioning  
20 Citizens Advisory Panel meetings, Holtec spoke and  
21 said that they have an impeccable safety record. On  
22 the other hand, the fact that that near-drop on the  
23 West Coast occurred kind of defies their claim that  
24 they have an impeccable record. And not only that,  
25 but it was a whistleblower that brought this to public

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1 attention.

2 My questions are: is it a conflict of  
3 interest for Holtec to buy Holtec casks to store the  
4 nuclear waste?

5 MR. WATSON: I guess that's a commercial  
6 thing that the NRC would not get into, but I don't  
7 see any real issue with it. It is what their product  
8 line is and what they're offering. And I assume that  
9 they will use that, do the work safely and compliantly  
10 with the license requirements for the Certificate of  
11 Compliance. And we'll be there to inspect to make  
12 sure that they are.

13 MS. CARPENTER: Okay. And my other  
14 question was: how many sites has Holtec  
15 decommissioned? And by that, I don't mean as a  
16 contractor. Excluding that, how many sites has  
17 Holtec decommissioned?

18 MS. J. RUSSELL: Holtec International  
19 has not decommissioned any sites. However, that  
20 said, we have hired Comprehensive Decommissioning  
21 International, CDI, which is a company that includes  
22 SNC-Lavalin, and they have a rich history of  
23 decommissioning nuclear plants and other nuclear  
24 facilities.

25 MS. CARPENTER: Thank you.

1 MR. KLUKAN: Again, that was Joy Russell  
2 of Holtec, just for the purposes of the transcript.

3 All right. We've now exhausted, as you  
4 can see -- this is really good handwriting for me.  
5 I'm going to pat myself on the back for this. We've  
6 now opened it up -- whatever, I'll take what I can  
7 get -- to people who have not yet spoken this  
8 evening.

9 So, we don't have an established order,  
10 but I think Pine raised her hand first. And then,  
11 we'll just go around. Okay?

12 So, again, we'll do three minutes apiece,  
13 and then, if we have enough time left over, people  
14 may get to do a second round. But let's go first  
15 with people who have not yet had an opportunity to  
16 speak.

17 So, I turn it over to you.

18 MS. DUBOIS: Thank you, and thank you all  
19 for being here.

20 I want to state clearly that I hope  
21 Holtec succeeds. I hope Entergy is happy, and I hope  
22 the NRC finally wraps its head around sea-level rise,  
23 which you are not doing, and that is pretty plain  
24 with your reliance on the ~~SI~~EC [SEIS] and the ~~GE~~IR  
25 [GEIS].

1                   There is no basis at all for you to accept  
2 Entergy's proposal to wait 60 years to clean up the  
3 site. That's plainly a fraud.

4                   Take a look at the Fourth National  
5 Climate Assessment that was released in late October-  
6 November. You will be chapter 18 in the Northeast.  
7 You will see that our worst-case scenario is, by 2100,  
8 we have sea-level rise of 11.5 feet  
9 [<https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/downloads/>].  
10 That's the new estimate, but daily things are  
11 changing so fast and the scientists are learning so  
12 much, that that adjustment continues.

13                   It is important to the public trust that  
14 you regulators and you contractors and Entergy -- oh,  
15 Lord -- takes care of us and looks at that. Cleaning  
16 up the site does not mean letting it wash into Cape  
17 Cod Bay, and in 60 years that's what's going to  
18 happen.

19                   Even if there's not inundation on the  
20 site, the groundwater level will be so high that you  
21 will not be able to safely and effectively get the  
22 contamination out of the ground. If it goes into the  
23 environment, the NRC is failing in its mission to  
24 protect the environment and the people. So is  
25 Holtec, as a reputable company, I will say. So, is

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1 Entergy, as a reputable company. You need to address  
2 this. The PSDAR for Entergy does not. The Holtec  
3 PSDAR does not. And if they run out of money and the  
4 cleanup is delayed, we're all in a stew.

5 So, please, NRC, take another look at  
6 your regulations. Give it a try at updating that.  
7 Call in those scientists that work for the government  
8 that wrote that report, and get on the reality page.  
9 We've living with it here. Stick around on Sunday.  
10 Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, stay here. Go down to the  
11 plant then and see what happens.

12 Thank you very much.

13 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

14 Again, that was Pine duBois.

15 Just please state your name for the  
16 record before you begin.

17 MS. DUBOIS: Pine duBois with  
18 [Commonwealth of Massachusetts Nuclear  
19 Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel] NDCAP.

20 MR. KLUKAN: So, Pine duBois with NDCAP.  
21 Thank you.

22 MR. E. RUSSELL: I'm Ed Russell, an  
23 elected town meeting member in Plymouth.

24 When businesses as well as governmental  
25 agencies engage in big contracts, they usually see to

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1 it that there's a bond produced that will guarantee  
2 the performance of the contract. And so, I'd like  
3 to know why that isn't possible here.

4 MR. WATSON: Performance bonds are used  
5 frequently. If we deem that there's sufficient funds  
6 to do the decommissioning, we have no need to require  
7 them. I think in the recent [Vermont Yankee] VY  
8 transfer, Vermont Yankee sale, asset sale and license  
9 transfer, one of the conditions we put on -- or the  
10 agreement that we got from NorthStar was to provide  
11 additional financial assurance. I think it was along  
12 the lines of \$30 million to make sure there was  
13 sufficient funds. If it's not required, then they're  
14 not required. So, it's up to the agreement between  
15 the sales, also, to come up with the proper financial  
16 information and guarantees.

17 MR. E. RUSSELL: That's your version of  
18 risk assessment, but we citizens here have a  
19 different assessment of the risk. And when you do  
20 have a contract that's just barely enough to cover,  
21 and could well exceed the funds available, I would  
22 say a prudent entity would look for a bond. And if  
23 there is, as you say, a low risk, then the bond should  
24 not be that expensive. So, I'd like to see that  
25 happen.

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1 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

2 MR. KELLERMAN: So, my name is Bruce  
3 Kellerman.

4 I have a question. What happens to the  
5 1200-acre site? Who owns it and are there plans for  
6 development? And if so, where can we find those and  
7 what are their elaborate schemes?

8 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on  
9 behalf of Entergy.

10 When you say the 1200 acres, I assume you  
11 mean the 1200 acres of undeveloped property across  
12 Rocky Hill Road, correct?

13 MR. KELLERMAN: Yes.

14 MR. TWOMEY: That property currently is  
15 owned by Entergy. It is included in the sale to  
16 Holtec. And if the license transfer application is  
17 approved and the transaction closes, Holtec will  
18 become the owner of the 1200 acres. And I have not  
19 heard about any specific plans for development of  
20 that site at this time, but they would be the owner  
21 of the land after the transaction closes, if it  
22 closes.

23 MR. KELLERMAN: Does Holtec have plans  
24 for the development of the site? It will be  
25 paying -- I assume it will be paying property taxes

1 going forward.

2 MS. STERDIS: No specific plans for that  
3 property have been defined at this time. And, yes,  
4 we will be paying the appropriate property taxes on  
5 that site.

6 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you for your  
7 questions.

8 MR. DELAFIELD: Yes, I'm Lawrence  
9 Delafield. I'm a resident of the Town of Plymouth,  
10 a town meeting member, and the President of the Six  
11 Ponds Association, which is a local organization very  
12 close to the site.

13 And of course, my concern is this: we  
14 live in an area that will be in danger until this  
15 material is totally removed from the site. Why do  
16 we have to wait that long? How can we possibly get  
17 that moved up, so that it's removed quicker, or at  
18 least provide a major incentive to remove all items  
19 from the site? Because we will not be safe until  
20 that happens.

21 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

22 Okay. Is there anyone else who has not  
23 yet spoken who would like to speak this evening?

24 (No response.)

25 Going once, going twice. All right.

1                   Is there anyone who has spoken this  
2 evening who would like to speak again?

3                   MR. LAMPERT: Jim Lampert, resident of  
4 Duxbury.

5                   I'd just like to spend a moment on  
6 comments, and if I'm wrong, I would ask that the NRC,  
7 Entergy, and Holtec correct me. My understanding of  
8 the transaction, as described in the license transfer  
9 application, is that Holtec-Pilgrim will be the owner  
10 of the site and will be the one who owns the  
11 Decommissioning Trust Fund.

12                   In Holtec's license transfer and PSDAR  
13 applications, it says that, quote, "The existing  
14 Decommissioning Trust Funds provide the appropriate  
15 basis for the financial qualifications of Holtec-  
16 Pilgrim." It also says that Holtec, quote, "Holtec-  
17 Pilgrim will be required to pay for HDI's cost of  
18 post-shutdown operations, including all  
19 decommissioning costs at Pilgrim." Close quote.

20                   It seemed very clear from that that the  
21 only potential financial responsibility of Holtec-  
22 Pilgrim -- and that is the only one we need to focus  
23 on because they are the only licensee -- depends  
24 entirely on the Decommissioning Trust Fund.

25                   It also seems clear, listening to Mr.

1 Watson, that a statement in a regulation that a  
2 licensee that, frankly, has no money and is bankrupt  
3 is, quote, "responsible," close quote, provides  
4 absolutely no assurance that that licensee will pay.  
5 It, frankly, doesn't have any money. And that,  
6 unless I missed something that Mr. Watson has  
7 said -- and I asked the question earlier -- there is  
8 absolutely nothing in NRC rules, regulations, or  
9 pertinent law that would permit the NRC to enforce  
10 the licensees' and their parents' responsibility to  
11 pay for what they caused. Am I correct?

12 MR. WATSON: I will try and respond a  
13 little bit here. We owe you a response to your  
14 question on the ownership. The only comment I can  
15 really make at this point, we will be responsible  
16 with the responsible regulations. I have to go to  
17 our Office of General Counsel for that.

18 MR. LAMPERT: No, no, I would appreciate  
19 your doing that, though.

20 MR. WATSON: Yes. No, we have to do  
21 that.

22 The other issue is that we are currently  
23 reviewing the license application or plan to start on  
24 that very soon. So, we really can't pass any  
25 judgment other than the general process we're using

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1 and the general requirements for the decommissioning  
2 funding and how they would apply to the license  
3 transfer. It's we're still doing our review. So,  
4 we haven't concluded anything. And so, your comments  
5 are valid to that review. And so, I'm sure the staff  
6 will take that into account.

7 MR. LAMPERT: Yes, and I would ask that,  
8 if in the review or in further conversations with  
9 Holtec, the NRC or its staff discovers any way in  
10 which there, in fact, is an enforceable commitment or  
11 an agreement, that people who have the money will set  
12 that money up to pay for the shortfall. I would like  
13 to hear about it, and it's quite clear that the  
14 Massachusetts Attorney General would also like to  
15 hear about it.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again.

17 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, if I may briefly, Mr.  
18 Lampert introduced his remarks by saying that, if we  
19 didn't say anything, it meant that we agreed with  
20 him. And I can't agree to that, just at least on  
21 behalf of Entergy. On behalf of Entergy.

22 MR. KLUKAN: Okay.

23 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Richard Rothstein.

24 Two questions. One for Mr. [Mr.] Watson  
25 and one for our Holtec representative, Joy.

1           ~~Dr.~~ [Mr.] Watson, can you qualitatively  
2 explain or define, for purposes of releasing the site  
3 license, site restoration, what basically is  
4 included; what would not be included in the case of  
5 the Entergy site? So that people don't get false  
6 expectations one way or the other.

7           MR. WATSON: Yes. The Decommissioning  
8 Fund requirements from the NRC are for the  
9 radiological decommissioning. So, once we would  
10 terminate the license after verifying the  
11 radiological conditions of the site -- we have an  
12 independent contractor we use in many cases to help  
13 us with the surveys and verify the radiological  
14 residual radioactive levels at the site -- we would  
15 terminate the license. If the site restoration is  
16 not in the requirements by NRC, because there's a  
17 number of approaches you can take to  
18 decommissioning -- many of them take into account  
19 removing the buildings and turning it back into  
20 greenfield. If they submit that to us in their  
21 license termination plan, then that's the plan they  
22 follow because it's a license amendment.

23           If they choose to do things which some of  
24 the other power plants have done, such as Trojan or  
25 Rancho Seco, where they actually terminate the

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1 license, but leave buildings and stuff still  
2 remaining on the site, that's their choice. And  
3 after that, it's up to the owner of the facility or  
4 the licensee -- and at that point they're no longer  
5 the licensee, but the owner of the property -- and  
6 the state, to determine when and where they should do  
7 the final decommissioning and site -- I should say  
8 final site restoration and what those requirements  
9 are.

10 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Okay. Thank you.

11 I had the pleasure of sitting in the  
12 Holtec predecisional enforcement conference last  
13 Wednesday, I believe it was, the four-hour -- and  
14 more nuts and bolts were discussed than I could fit  
15 in my car.

16 But I wanted to commend Holtec on its dry  
17 cask presentation to the NDCAP last fall. I thought  
18 it was very informative, and I believe it's on the  
19 NDCAP website.

20 Just expanding upon Ms. Lampert's comment  
21 earlier about cracks not being able to be fixed in  
22 the multipurpose canister at this day and age, one  
23 thing I was envisioning, given that premise, has  
24 Holtec, for purposes of future design considerations  
25 to remedy that kind of unsolvable problem at the

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1 moment, considered constructing a larger multipurpose  
2 cask there to go over the cracked cask? And then,  
3 of course, that slightly larger cask could be filled  
4 with helium gas as a coolant and sealed. And then,  
5 that larger cask would then -- or that larger  
6 multipurpose cask with the cracked inside of the  
7 other cask, multipurpose cask, getting to a larger  
8 overpack, if it need be, with the air vents, too.  
9 So, is that a possible design solution that may be on  
10 the drawing board from Holtec?

11 MS. J. RUSSELL: That's a very  
12 explanation. It's very close to what we've actually  
13 designed for recovery of a canister in the event the  
14 inspections were to show that there has been a  
15 degradation. So, indeed, that is the approach, is  
16 to put it into another overpack, but an overpack, not  
17 necessarily the canister as you've described. So,  
18 you're on the right track, sir. It is definitely an  
19 additional overpack that we are going to use.

20 MR. ROTHSTEIN: I'm glad to hear that.  
21 Can you tell me who I write to at Holtec to get some  
22 royalties?

23 (Laughter.)

24 MS. J. RUSSELL: Right. Royalties and  
25 to get on the patent.

1 MS. M. LAMPERT: Can a canister be  
2 shipped under current regulations?

3 MR. KLUKAN: Ma'am, are you asking, just  
4 so we get it on the transcript, are you asking whether  
5 the current canister or the overpack can be shipped?

6 MS. M. LAMPERT: (Off microphone.)

7 MR. KLUKAN: Okay. I just have just  
8 given you the microphone.

9 So, essentially, can a cylinder which has  
10 been or a canister which has been compromised or  
11 degraded, do the regulations allow it to be shipped,  
12 is the question that was posed by Ms. Lampert.

13 MS. J. RUSSELL: The regulation question  
14 I defer to the NRC.

15 MR. WATSON: I ask Jason Piotter, who is  
16 our Senior Engineer for Spent Fuel Safety, to come up  
17 and give you an answer for that.

18 MR. PIOTTER: The regulations are  
19 performance-based. And so, if you had a canister  
20 that had a demonstrated flaw like you're talking  
21 about, there would have to be an engineering analysis  
22 that was done to determine what the best way to  
23 mitigate that particular flaw would be. I can't  
24 answer the question right now whether or not it would  
25 be allowed to be shipped because we don't have any

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1 scenarios where there are flaws such as you describe.  
2 So, it's a case-by-case basis, depending upon what  
3 the situation is for the canister that you're talking  
4 about. But it would have to be evaluated prior to  
5 transport. I couldn't just be put into a transport  
6 overpack and sent. So, it would have to be an  
7 engineering analysis prior to that activity.

8 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

9 MS. TURCO: I just want to go back to the  
10 Holtec in San Onofre because it could be our future.

11 Diane Turco with Cape Downwinders.

12 At San Onofre, they've been loading,  
13 Holtec has been loading canisters in underground  
14 vaults on the beach. The sea-level rise is  
15 eventually going to leak into the bottom of those  
16 vaults. They have been loading them and scratching  
17 them. And there was a special inspection by the  
18 Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
19 [[https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-  
22 experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-  
23 misalignment.html](https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-<br/>20 experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-<br/>21 misalignment.html)]and it sounded almost like  
24 Entergy's special inspection report, pretty much the  
25 same.

24 So, I want to know. And the people in  
25 California have said, "Let them know the public in

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1 Southern California is asking the Holtec System to be  
2 recalled." It's a lemon, and Holtec is making  
3 loading errors due to mismanagement and bad  
4 engineering design that the NRC admits it cannot fix.  
5 So, that's what's happening out in California.

6 So, I have two questions. No. 1, how can  
7 you come to the NDCAP meeting and say that Holtec has  
8 an impeccable safety record when this was all exposed  
9 by a whistleblower?

10 And No. 2, would you conduct an  
11 environmental impact study, including sea-level rise  
12 and acts of malfeasance on the spent fuel pad?

13 MS. J. RUSSELL: Can you repeat the first  
14 question again?

15 MS. TURCO: Let me try it this way: how  
16 could you with a straight face tell the NDCAP that  
17 Holtec has an impeccable safety record when we know  
18 what's going on at San Onofre?

19 MS. J. RUSSELL: I appreciate the  
20 question. I understand your concern.

21 Let me just state, Holtec does have an  
22 impeccable safety record. And the issue that  
23 happened at San Onofre, which was reported by the  
24 licensee who is the Southern California Edison  
25 Nuclear Plant, they went through their process. So,

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1 Holtec does have an impeccable safety record. I  
2 absolutely can emphatically say that.

3 MS. TURCO: Did Southern Edison report  
4 this incident when it happened to the NRC?

5 MS. J. RUSSELL: Those questions are  
6 best --

7 MS. TURCO: Okay. No, they did not.

8 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- to the Southern  
9 California --

10 MS. TURCO: And you can look up on the  
11 record they did not. No. Actually, the NRC  
12 initiated the special inspection, right, Mr. Watson?

13 MR. WATSON: From what I understand, the  
14 licensee was a little late in responding to --

15 MS. TURCO: Yes.

16 MR. WATSON: -- the requirements. And  
17 so, based on that, we escalated our inspections to --

18 MS. TURCO: Thank you.

19 MR. WATSON: -- evaluate the situation.

20 MS. TURCO: Thank you. It was a  
21 whistleblower.

22 MR. WATSON: But it was not a  
23 whistleblower that submitted the complaint.

24 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on  
25 behalf of Entergy.

1                   One thing, I think, just to clear up any  
2 confusion for those who don't know as much about the  
3 issues as some of the recent speakers. One thing  
4 that's important to note here is that, if Entergy  
5 remains the owner of the facility, we will be using  
6 the Holtec dry fuel storage system. If Holtec  
7 becomes the owner, they will be using the Holtec dry  
8 fuel storage system. So, the license transfer will  
9 have no impact on what system is used at Pilgrim for  
10 storing spent nuclear fuel. It will be the Holtec  
11 dry fuel storage system that we use or they use.

12                   And I don't know how that relates to the  
13 scope of this particular proceeding, but I do want to  
14 make sure that people understand that it's not an  
15 "either/or". It's not like, if Holtec becomes the  
16 owner, that's the only circumstance under which the  
17 Holtec system will be used. That very same system  
18 will be used if we remain the owner.

19                   I just wanted to clear that up for  
20 anybody who may not understand that.

21                   MS. TURCO: Right. Yes. Thank you.  
22 Right. Because the point is it's both mismanagement,  
23 poor equipment, ongoing problems.

24                   But the second question was, would an  
25 environmental impact study include sea-level rise and

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1 acts of malfeasance on the ISFSI pad?

2 MS. J. RUSSELL: First, I want to  
3 emphatically state that the system that's in use at  
4 San Onofre is markedly different than the one that's  
5 in use at Pilgrim. You're comparing apples to  
6 oranges. It is correct. It's an above-ground system  
7 versus an underground system.

8 MS. TURCO: Oh, no, no. That's not my  
9 question.

10 MS. J. RUSSELL: And not the dry storage  
11 system.

12 MS. TURCO: That's not my question.

13 MS. J. RUSSELL: And therefore --

14 MS. TURCO: That's not my question.

15 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- there isn't a  
16 probability of an issue as you have at San Onofre  
17 with water collection in the bottom of the system.

18 MS. TURCO: Okay.

19 MS. J. RUSSELL: It can't happen because  
20 they are two different systems.

21 MS. TURCO: Right. But what I'm asking  
22 is, would you include sea-level rise for the  
23 property, as Pine spoke about, and storm surges, and  
24 acts of malfeasance? That's my question.

25 MS. J. RUSSELL: So, the dry storage

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1 systems are licensed under Part 72, and they're  
2 deployed under Part 72 currently. And they're  
3 already being deployed in accordance with the  
4 regulatory requirements. There's no additional  
5 investigation or analyses that need to be performed  
6 for the dry storage systems.

7 MR. KLUKAN: I gave the women a back-and-  
8 forth. But, if you know you're going to keep  
9 talking, just, for the sake of our poor  
10 transcriptionist -- he is not the object of your  
11 concern. So, let's make his life easier. So, just  
12 speak into the microphone when you're asking  
13 questions. Okay?

14 And the question there was, would you  
15 include sea-level risk and acts of malfeasance in an  
16 environmental assessment or impact statement?

17 MS. J. RUSSELL: We'll meet the  
18 regulations. The dry spent fuel storage system is  
19 already deployed and it will continue to be deployed,  
20 no matter whether this license transfer application  
21 occurs or not. I don't understand the question of  
22 the need for additional environmental studies related  
23 to dry storage.

24 MS. TURCO: You're building a new storage  
25 facility there, a brand-new storage facility. Right

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1 now, you can drive onto the property, pass the "no  
2 trespassing" signs, and eyeball the dry casks. Now  
3 you're moving them closer to Rocky Hill Road. We  
4 need to be assured that there's going to be some  
5 increased security there. So, that's just a  
6 question. Are you going to be looking at acts of  
7 malfeasance when you do the new pad?

8 MS. J. RUSSELL: The security that's  
9 already at the nuclear plant, I allow Entergy to talk  
10 to. The security of the dry storage system, under  
11 the license under Part 72, has already been  
12 established. There's no additional requirements  
13 that need to be addressed.

14 MS. HALTER: This is Mandy Halter, on  
15 behalf of Entergy.

16 The independent spent fuel storage  
17 installation facilities are required to be secure.  
18 And with the newly-located pad, there will continue  
19 to be a physical barrier behind an intrusion  
20 detection system, and monitored 24/7 by armed  
21 security.

22 And that's correct; that's all I can talk  
23 about, due to safeguards.

24 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Sheila Lynch  
25 Benttinin, Duxbury.

1 I have a question about regional public  
2 safety. In the last 40-plus years, Entergy was  
3 required to do a regional public safety plan, and  
4 they've applied with their PSDAR to abandon that  
5 regional planning. And we are concerned about Holtec  
6 taking over. What is your plans for notifying  
7 regional safety folks, like firemen, et cetera, on  
8 safety, particularly with the expedited four-year  
9 plan that you presented tonight?

10 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis.

11 We will continue to comply with all NRC  
12 regulation. And I want to emphasize that it is  
13 Holtec's top priority to maintain the health and  
14 safety of the public.

15 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: But what I'm  
16 asking, in particular, is, what is your plan to reach  
17 out to regional safety folks, like firemen and  
18 regional coordinators, as your expedited four-year  
19 plan is ongoing?

20 MS. STERDIS: And again, I will emphasize  
21 that we will maintain the health and safety of the  
22 public, and we will be complying with all  
23 regulations.

24 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: And my second  
25 question is, can NRC add to their PSDAR another level

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1 of regional safety outreach to public safety  
2 officials?

3 MR. WATSON: If I understand your  
4 question correctly, there's no need to add anything.  
5 Because the site is still going to maintain an  
6 emergency plan and emergency response capabilities,  
7 along with security response plans, which have those  
8 communication tools in them that they're required to  
9 have. So, they're going to continue those things  
10 until the decommissioning is complete. So, there's  
11 really no need to change those plans.

12 Now I can't specifically talk to the  
13 regional plan. I'm not familiar with it. It was not  
14 an NRC requirement that I know of. But there are  
15 requirements for notification and security/police  
16 support; also, fire protection and fire response,  
17 medical emergencies and medical responses to the  
18 site. And so, those things all stay in place.

19 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: But Entergy has  
20 requested that they be discontinued in the regional  
21 capacity.

22 MR. WATSON: All I know is they have to  
23 meet the minimum requirements for the NRC, which  
24 means they will maintain the ability to talk with,  
25 get notification of the response capabilities from

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1 local and state law enforcement. They will continue  
2 to deal with, communicate with the local fire  
3 departments and rescue squads.

4 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Would they be  
5 required to coordinate --

6 MR. WATSON: The regional, there's no NRC  
7 requirement for a regional response plan.

8 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Okay.

9 MR. WATSON: There is one for the  
10 immediate location around the plant.

11 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Thank you.

12 MS. MILLER: Claire Miller from Toxics  
13 Action Center.

14 I'm getting really agitated because this  
15 really matters a lot to me. And if I understand what  
16 Diane is bringing up correctly, and your response,  
17 Ms. Russell -- it's kind of hard to read your name  
18 tag from here; sorry if I got that wrong -- it's that  
19 we have rapidly upchanging data on climate change,  
20 the impacts of sea-level rise that are getting worse  
21 every time they're updated. We have someone in the  
22 White House who's changing world politics and  
23 dynamics rapidly, and we are living in an age in which  
24 terrorism is ever present. And we want to know, are  
25 you willing to go above and beyond, if necessary, or

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1 are you only willing to do as much as -- like the  
2 floor of what's required?

3 Because what I hear Diane asking is, are  
4 you willing to go above and beyond to protect our  
5 health, our community? And what I hear you saying  
6 back is, "We're doing with it what's written. We're  
7 just going to do what's necessary, what the law is."  
8 Am I understanding correctly? You're committing to  
9 the floor?

10 MR. WATSON: I just want to respond to  
11 that, and that the NRC regulations fully provide for  
12 safety for the people working at the plant, the  
13 public, and the environment. And so, complying with  
14 those is one demonstration that the plant is  
15 maintained safe, and we'll continue to inspect that  
16 plant against those requirements.

17 MS. MILLER: I have no doubt that the NRC  
18 is doing the best that it can to protect the health  
19 and safety of my community. I also know that we're  
20 in a rapidly-changing world. And I am interested to  
21 know if Holtec is committing to the floor of what the  
22 NRC -- like where we're at the last time those laws  
23 were passed, those statutes, those regulatory  
24 processes we went through, those elaborate commenting  
25 periods, or if they're committing to respond to an

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1 ever-present, fast-changing world of climate change  
2 and terrorism.

3 MS. J. RUSSELL: I think what you're  
4 asking me is, am I confident that our dry spent fuel  
5 storage system is safe.

6 MS. MILLER: No, that's not what I'm  
7 asking you at all. It's not what I'm asking you at  
8 all.

9 MS. J. RUSSELL: I am personally  
10 convinced -- I am a nuclear engineer. I am part of  
11 the design team that designed this dry storage  
12 system. And I am confident in its robustness. I'm  
13 confident that we have gone above and beyond to ensure  
14 that we selected materials --

15 MS. MILLER: I am --

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- that we've selected  
17 the methodologies, and we have done the absolute  
18 utmost we can to ensure the health and safety.

19 MS. MILLER: I have no doubt that you're  
20 sincere --

21 MS. J. RUSSELL: May I please finish?

22 I live by these nuclear plants as well,  
23 and I am confident that, when I go to visit these  
24 plants -- I live by these plants; I live by where our  
25 dry storage systems are deployed -- I am personally

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1 confident that my company has done everything it can  
2 to go above and beyond. And therefore, I have  
3 answered your question.

4 MS. MILLER: That wasn't my question in  
5 the slightest. I do believe you're 100 percent  
6 sincere when you say that. I also believe that the  
7 engineers who worked on Chernobyl, Three Mile Island,  
8 and Fukushima were also really sincere in believing  
9 that their plants were safe as well.

10 I just want to say for the record you  
11 didn't answer my question.

12 MR. KELLERMAN: So, Bruce Kellerman  
13 again.

14 My question is to Holtec. As I  
15 understand the fund, it can go up and down. It's  
16 like a 401(k), right? It's an investment vehicle.  
17 What happens if it goes down? And also, could you,  
18 would you sue the Department of Energy, as others  
19 have done, for failing to take the waste offsite?  
20 Would you plan to do that? Are you?

21 MR. WATSON: Well, let me respond to the  
22 first part. Yes, there are market changes. The  
23 Trust Fund is in an independent trust with an  
24 independent trustee. Most of them are with Mellon  
25 Bank of New York. So, the trustee has certain

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1 requirements on them to make conservative investments  
2 to protect the fund.

3           Secondly, all the licensees that are  
4 storing fuel -- I'll say broadly "everyone" -- has  
5 the ability to request or sue, if they have to, the  
6 Department of Energy to get the cost back for the  
7 storage of the nuclear fuel. So, I'm sure Entergy  
8 has done that in the past for their plants. I'm sure  
9 Holtec will do the same to recoup the costs. Those  
10 costs are, then, available for doing other activities  
11 at the sites. And so, that's part of the agreement  
12 with the federal government.

13           MR. KELLERMAN: Thank you.

14           MS. LAMPERT: Two points. NRC is giving  
15 exemptions. So, the DTF can be used for spent fuel  
16 management costs. Now go back. The Decommissioning  
17 Trust Fund was established when we were a utility  
18 structure -- Boston Edison was the owner -- by  
19 ratepayers. Since that time, it's grown from  
20 investments. Entergy didn't put a dime in it.  
21 Holtec won't put a dime in it. Okay?

22           Then, they will sue DOE to recoup what  
23 they've spent on spent fuel management costs, okay,  
24 what they've spent by taking it out of the  
25 Decommissioning Trust Fund. But, then, when they get

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1 the money out of DOE, there's no requirement to put  
2 it back. If there is, please correct me and give me  
3 the regulation. Instead, they put it in their  
4 pocket. And that's, you know, if I were Holtec, I'd  
5 say, "I'm going to make a pile of money doing this."  
6 And that's part of the incentive to take over the  
7 license.

8           It would seem to me that the NRC would  
9 get on the stick and make some sort of  
10 requirement/regulation that it goes back into the  
11 Decommissioning Trust Fund to refurbish what they  
12 have taken out. Because there's no requirement?  
13 Correct that.

14           And then, I just want to sum up by saying,  
15 the points brought forward on sea-level rise, the  
16 points brought forward on the increased risk of  
17 terrorism, of cyberattack -- now that's a big one  
18 when you think of the spent fuel pool. All these new  
19 and significant information that you should be  
20 responsible, NRC require that they do a NEPA review,  
21 and then, not say what is blatant foolish. It's a  
22 lie to say the 2002 Generic Environmental Impact  
23 Statement and the 2006 Impact Statement done during  
24 relicensing bound environmental impact, so we can all  
25 skip along and say it's a clean site; we've done our

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1 job. So, they really don't have to spend a dime, and  
2 all the stuff can go in Cape Cod Bay. Dilution is  
3 the solution.

4 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

5 MR. WATSON: I just want to make one  
6 comment, that the Decommissioning Funds that  
7 are -- or excuse me -- the spent fuel funds that are  
8 recuperated from the Department of Energy, I think  
9 it's 50.82, Mike, in the regulations, the fund. The  
10 money goes back into the fund. No? It doesn't?  
11 Okay.

12 PARTICIPANT: It goes to the company.

13 MS. LAMPERT: No, it's a good thing for  
14 them to make money.

15 MR. WATSON: Okay. Well, I'm sorry. I  
16 appreciate the comment then. We have to look at  
17 that.

18 MR. KLUKAN: Before you begin, is there  
19 anyone else in the audience who has not yet had an  
20 opportunity to speak who would like to do so?

21 (No response.)

22 Okay, please. Would you mind letting her  
23 go first? Okay. Thank you, sir.

24 Your name for the record, please.

25 MS. GARRY: Joanne Garry. I live a mile

1 from the plant. I've been here since I was 16. So,  
2 I saw it built by people that shouldn't be building  
3 it. But that's not my question.

4 My question is twofold. First of all,  
5 Entergy owns it, correct? Got the license. Owns  
6 all the property. How much is it worth? What's the  
7 property worth? What did Entergy get or might get  
8 from Holtec, the cost, the dollars? Are you selling  
9 it for money? So, there's no money exchange?  
10 Entergy walks away. Holtec, if it gets the license,  
11 walks in, correct?

12 So, why does Holtec want this? Well,  
13 that's my question. Why does Holtec want this really  
14 horrible thing to fix? We've got thousands of people  
15 on the line. So, what's the deal? Why are you doing  
16 this? No answer?

17 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis, and  
18 I will make this a personal response.

19 As a mother of two children and a  
20 grandmother of four children, I am committed to us  
21 doing in this industry what is right. And that is  
22 to take care of our plants when they're past their  
23 operational life expectancy and to turn that property  
24 back into a useful piece of property in the community.  
25 So, that is my personal reason for being involved in

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1 this project.

2 MS. GARRY: But it's in it for the money.  
3 So, the money, you're going to own 12,000 acres.  
4 Twelve hundred acres. You've got a big hill there  
5 that hasn't been developed. Why not move all this  
6 terrible spent fuel to the top of the hill? If you're  
7 going to move it; move it, move it away from the ocean  
8 or bury it in the hill -- I don't know -- a better  
9 solution than moving it next to Rocky Hill Road, which  
10 I go by every day. So, I mean, it just seems simple  
11 solution. If you can't move it away, move in a safer  
12 area.

13 But, again, you're going to be making big  
14 bucks here. So, we want to be safe.

15 That's all I have to say.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Before we begin, because we  
17 do have -- I'm sorry for interrupting you again, sir.  
18 Just because we do have extra time -- I don't usually  
19 intervene like this, but I think there's some  
20 confusion out there regarding what's the financial  
21 arrangement between -- and I'm not asking in specific  
22 terms -- but what's the financial relationship  
23 between Holtec and Entergy?

24 And I think the question was asked like,  
25 how would Holtec benefit from this transaction? And

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1 I think if we could answer that, that would go a long  
2 way to clearing up some of the confusion in the  
3 audience.

4 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey for  
5 Entergy. I'll address the specific question of the  
6 way the transaction is structured.

7 Entergy is receiving only nominal  
8 consideration. And I have to say I don't have the  
9 number in front of me. We just recently closed the  
10 Vermont Yankee transaction, and the nominal  
11 consideration there was a thousand dollars.

12 And we receive nominal consideration.  
13 Holtec receives title to the plant or they're  
14 actually buying Entergy Nuclear Generation Company  
15 through an equity sale. They get that company which  
16 owns the plant, has the Decommissioning Trust Fund  
17 and the liability for the decommissioning.

18 So, what Entergy gets out of the  
19 transaction is a thousand dollars. And we are no  
20 longer involved in the decommissioning of the plant,  
21 in the same way that Boston Edison is not involved in  
22 the decommissioning of the plant. All right. We're  
23 going to transfer that responsibility to Holtec, and  
24 Holtec will receive the project, the plant, the  
25 Decommissioning Trust Fund, and the work associated

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1 with it.

2 And I'll let Holtec describe why they  
3 would be willing to take this work on, as other  
4 companies have taken it on in other parts of the  
5 country.

6 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, this is Joy  
7 Russell from Holtec.

8 Holtec is, and has been for 30 years, an  
9 industry leader in safe and secure storage of spent  
10 nuclear fuel. We also have other business endeavors  
11 such as designing a small modular reactor. And as  
12 we've pointed out this evening, we also have  
13 submitted an application to establish a consolidated  
14 interim storage facility in southeast New Mexico.

15 Holtec is committed to the nuclear  
16 industry. And unfortunately, part of that also  
17 includes the safe decommissioning of nuclear power  
18 plants.

19 We recently built our third manufacturing  
20 facility here in the United States. We now have 1.4  
21 million square feet of manufacturing here in the  
22 United States. We're the largest exporter of nuclear  
23 products. And again, that's a demonstration of our  
24 commitment to the nuclear industry.

25 So, that is Holtec's reason for taking

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1 the next step and to acquire shuttered nuclear plants  
2 and to safely decommission those; and to take the  
3 ownership of the spent nuclear fuel, which is also  
4 our core expertise, and to manage that as it remains  
5 either onsite or is moved to New Mexico.

6 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

7 And thank you, sir, for indulging me for  
8 that minute.

9 MR. ROTHSTEIN: I've got all the time in  
10 the world.

11 A final question for ~~Dr.~~ [Mr.] Watson.  
12 I was hoping that NRC's proposed revised  
13 decommissioning regulations were going to come out  
14 last November, as originally envisioned, and that  
15 final promulgation would have taken place sometime in  
16 the first half of this year. Notwithstanding the  
17 current government shutdown, what is NRC's [estimated  
18 time of arrival] ETA for when it was envisioning  
19 getting these proposed and final regulations out?

20 And a second question is, licensees who  
21 have submitted their PSDARs, even if they're in the  
22 process of being evaluated, or the NRC said, okay,  
23 they're good enough, so you can start the  
24 decommissioning process once the plant is permanently  
25 shut down, would existing licensees in those

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1 circumstances get grandfathered separate from the new  
2 regulations for decommissioning? Or would it be  
3 like, for example, a post-Fukushima, where the NRC  
4 says, okay, we've come up with this and the new  
5 regulations; therefore, all licensees must do blank,  
6 blank, blank for decommissioning, regardless of what  
7 was in your PSDAR?

8 MR. WATSON: Let me respond to the  
9 rulemaking schedule. The proposed decommissioning  
10 rulemaking that's been in progress over the last few  
11 years, the staff made its scheduled requirement to  
12 submit to the Commission the proposed rules and the  
13 basis for those proposed rules back in May. As many  
14 of you may know, we also had two new Commissioners  
15 appointed by the Administration. And based on that,  
16 they've been taking care of the backlog of  
17 information or voting issues that they have on their  
18 plate.

19 So, the staff is waiting for the  
20 Commission to do their job. So, it's the  
21 Commission's priority to address their work at their  
22 own schedule. So, the staff is waiting for the  
23 Commission to vote on it. We have not received a  
24 schedule of when that vote is to take place. And so,  
25 we are basically at the mercy of the Commission for

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1 meeting the time limit requirements they had  
2 originally placed on us to have these rules in place  
3 by the end of 2019 [[https://www.nrc.gov/reading-  
6 rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-  
7 ruleforum/active/RuleDetails.html?id=49](https://www.nrc.gov/reading-<br/>4 rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-<br/>5 ruleforum/active/RuleDetails.html?id=49)].

8 So, we will, hopefully, resolve the issue  
9 with a Commission vote. That will give us the  
10 direction on how we are to proceed with the proposed  
11 rules.

12 One of the proposed evaluations was  
13 looking at the PSDARs. If there is a change in the  
14 regulations that the Commission wants concerning the  
15 PSDARs, then we will issue the regulations and the  
16 guidance with that. And anybody that would come out  
17 in the future would have to comply with the new  
18 regulations. Since the plants that are already in  
19 decommission have submitted their PSDAR, if they were  
20 to revise that, we would believe they would have to,  
21 at least I would believe that they would have to  
22 comply with the new requirements.

23 So, I think I answered both questions.  
24 But we're at the mercy of the Commission and their  
25 vote scheduling. And apparently, they have more  
pressing issues than the decommissioning rulemaking.

MR. LAMPERT: Jim Lampert, Duxbury.

1 I've spent a lot of time thinking and  
2 trying to figure out the answer to the question why  
3 would Holtec get into this. And in addition to the  
4 fact that it's your business, I think the obvious  
5 answer is they expect to make a profit.

6 And if you ask yourself on what basis do  
7 they expect to make this profit, a number of things  
8 that I think are fairly clear, if you look at the  
9 whole picture, come to mind. And to the extent  
10 anybody, Holtec disagrees with me, and you think you  
11 can, consistent with the limitations of what you can  
12 say, correct me; please do so.

13 The first is they obviously think they're  
14 a great deal more efficient at doing this type of  
15 thing than Entergy ever will be.

16 The second is they want to get the  
17 decommissioning done early to avoid the risk of  
18 drastically-increasing costs that could  
19 be -- "destructive" is a nice word -- if they waited  
20 the period of that Entergy was planning to wait.

21 The third is that I was told by a Holtec  
22 representative that their profit is included in the  
23 costs you see in their PSDAR.

24 And last, just talking to various people  
25 in the industry, my understanding is that, before

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1 someone will get into something like this, they  
2 really need a fairly clear path to what they see as  
3 a 25- to 35-percent profit.

4 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

5 MS. CARPENTER: Susan Carpenter with  
6 Cape Downwinders.

7 This has nothing to do with money, but it  
8 has to do with ethics. Recently, I know that Holtec  
9 changed the design of its casks for San Onofre and  
10 did not notify anyone, and that it really took  
11 Southern California Edison and Entergy by surprise.  
12 And I'm wondering if Holtec, having basically gotten  
13 away with it because it was eventually approved, if  
14 they feel that they can do that here or if there's a  
15 likelihood they'll do that in the future, and we'll  
16 end up with something different than what we've  
17 negotiated for.

18 MS. J. RUSSELL: The statements that you  
19 just made I need to disagree with. They're  
20 incorrect. I'll correct them.

21 The design of the system was not changed  
22 for San Onofre  
23 [[https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-  
experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-  
misalignment.html](https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/ops-<br/>24 experience/songs-spec-insp-activities-cask-loading-<br/>25 misalignment.html)].

1           Actually, the amount of time it would  
2 take me to actually correct all of your statements is  
3 going to exceed the time we have, and I would hate to  
4 do that, so that other speakers to have an opportunity  
5 to speak.

6           I'd recommend that you go and listen to  
7 the NRC's [pre-decisional enforcement conference] PEC  
8 Conference that was held last Wednesday, the 9th of  
9 January. It explains the entire process. But you've  
10 incorrectly characterized that.

11           MS. CARPENTER: May I send you the  
12 article where I got the information?

13           MS. J. RUSSELL: I didn't hear what she  
14 said.

15           MR. KLUKAN: May she send you the article  
16 where she learned of this information?

17           MS. J. RUSSELL: Absolutely.

18           MS. JANDA: Just to clarify for the  
19 transcript, the PEC video -- I hope I'm not restating  
20 this -- is available on the NRC website. I think  
21 it's video.nrc.gov, will be the quickest way of  
22 getting there [<https://video.nrc.gov/>].

23           MS. CARPENTER: This is the Orange County  
24 Register. The title is, "NRC and Holtec to Face Off  
25 Publicly Over Redesign of Spent Fuel Canisters at San

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1 Onofre Plant".

2 I wonder if, are they wrong in their  
3 headline?

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: I'm sorry, re-read the  
5 headline again?

6 MS. CARPENTER: "NRC and Holtec to Face  
7 Off Publicly Over Redesign of Spent Fuel Canisters at  
8 San Onofre Plant"  
9 [[https://www.ocregister.com/2019/01/02/nrc-and-  
10 holtec-to-face-off-publicly-over-redesign-of-spent-  
11 fuel-canisters-at-san-onofre-plant/](https://www.ocregister.com/2019/01/02/nrc-and-holtec-to-face-off-publicly-over-redesign-of-spent-fuel-canisters-at-san-onofre-plant/)].

12 MS. J. RUSSELL: The headline is  
13 misleading. We didn't redesign the canister for San  
14 Onofre. And again, it's a lengthy discussion, and  
15 it's all captured in a video from the PEC Conference  
16 on January 9th, where Holtec had a meeting at the NRC  
17 Headquarters.

18 MS. CARPENTER: From what I understood,  
19 they have a difference in the canisters. But it was  
20 aware of, down at the bottom there were bolts added,  
21 and that design was only discovered when one of the  
22 bolts was loose in the canister.

23 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, you're making  
24 misstatements, and we could go back and forth all  
25 evening on this. I recommend that you get your facts

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1 from this PEC video from the January 9th meeting.

2 MS. CARPENTER: Okay. And I will  
3 recheck with the newspaper as well.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

6 MR. DELAFIELD: This is Lawrence  
7 Delafield again.

8 I didn't really get an answer to my  
9 question. So, I'd like to restate it in a slightly  
10 different way.

11 The question -- and it was a  
12 question -- is there any way at this point in this  
13 process that we could require that the material be  
14 removed and put in a secure facility someplace else,  
15 such as you're talking about doing in New Mexico, and  
16 get it away from the community? Because we will not  
17 be safe until that happens. Or, if that's not the  
18 case, is there any way to give an incentive so that  
19 it gets removed faster and moved to another location?  
20 I did not receive an answer to that. So, I'd  
21 appreciate getting an answer.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on  
24 behalf of Entergy. I'll answer that because we're  
25 the current owner of the facility.

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1 I believe what your question is when you  
2 talk about the material, you're referring to the  
3 spent nuclear fuel. And the answer to that is, the  
4 United States Federal Government is responsible for  
5 removing the spent nuclear fuels from the Pilgrim  
6 site and every other nuclear site in the country.  
7 And the federal government has repeatedly breached  
8 its obligation to do so. And many of us have been  
9 required, not personally, but Entergy has been  
10 required to sue the federal government for failing to  
11 fulfill its obligation.

12 So, the only answer I can give you is  
13 that -- I know there were some representatives of  
14 some federal Congressmen here tonight -- it is to  
15 talk to them about when the federal government is  
16 going to fulfill its obligation to remove spent  
17 nuclear fuel from the Pilgrim site as well as the  
18 other sites in the U.S.

19 MR. KLUKAN: All right. So, it's 8:47.  
20 We're scheduled to go to 9:00 p.m.

21 Is there anyone who would like, who has  
22 not yet spoken who would like to make any additional  
23 comments before we close this out?

24 (No response.)

25 Going once, going twice. All right.

1                   Before I turn it over to Bruce to close  
2 out the meeting, I would just like to thank all of  
3 you for attending, personally from the facilitators,  
4 and to say, out on the registration table there are  
5 feedback forms. Donna and I would greatly appreciate  
6 you filling those out. We use your feedback in  
7 trying to make these meetings better in terms of  
8 public process. So, please take a couple of minutes  
9 to do so.

10                   And with that, I'll turn it over to  
11 Bruce.

12                   Thank you.

13                   MR. WATSON: Well, the first thing I want  
14 to thank you for is coming out tonight. I know this  
15 is an important issue to many of you.

16                   Your comments will inform the staff on  
17 the NRC's review of the PSDAR. I heard some very  
18 good comments for our consideration. And then, when  
19 we look at the license transfer request and the  
20 application and its PSDAR, those comments can also be  
21 taken into account there.

22                   As a reminder, you could provide written  
23 comments, I believe it's through March 21st. We will  
24 be publishing The Federal Register notice on the  
25 license transfer when the rest of the federal

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1 government goes back to work. The comment period,  
2 again, is going to be 30 days for that and 20 days  
3 for hearings. So, you're hearing about it early  
4 before the notice is published. So, we look forward  
5 to your comments.

6 Again, I want to thank you for your  
7 comments and questions. We will be, at least I will  
8 be, and a couple of the other NRC will be, at the  
9 Massachusetts Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens  
10 Advisory Panel tomorrow evening. So, I'm sure we'll  
11 be having some more discussions on the topic.

12 So, with that, I would thank our  
13 panelists and our presenters for their presentations  
14 and in answering questions where we could.

15 With that, I would adjourn the meeting.  
16 Thank you very much.

17 (Whereupon, at 8:49 p.m., the meeting was  
18 adjourned.)

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT FOR PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 15, 2019, IN PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS REGARDING SEABROOK NUCLEAR POWER STATION POST-SHUTDOWN DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT AND LICENSE TRANSFER APPLICATION (EPID L-2018-LLL-0031) DATED FEBRUARY 7, 2019

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