



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

August 26, 2019

SECRETARY

Ms. Henrietta Cosentino
Chair, Nuclear Affairs Committee
Plymouth Area League of Women Voters
Box 3906
Plymouth, MA 02361

Dear Ms. Cosentino:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your letter of August 19, 2019, to Chairman Svinicki regarding the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station license transfer request from Entergy and Holtec (Docket Nos. 50-593 and 72-1044). In your letter, you request that the NRC reconsider its decision on the 90-day stay request filed by the State of Massachusetts and the issuance of the NRC staff's intent to approve the transfer of the license on or about August 21st. The license transfer was approved on August 22, 2019.

Because your request bears on the contested adjudication pending before the Commission, it would be inappropriate for the Chairman to discuss or comment on your request at this time. This is because the Commission must remain impartial during the pendency of the adjudication.

A copy of your letter and this response will be served on the participants in the Pilgrim license transfer proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rochelle C. Bavor".

Rochelle C. Bavor
Acting Secretary



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

PLYMOUTH AREA Making Democracy Work

Serving the people of Plymouth, Kingston, Carver, Duxbury, Marshfield, Plympton

August 19, 2019

Kristine L. Svinicki
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop O-16 B33
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairperson Svinicki,

The Plymouth Area League of Women Voters wishes to protest, in the strongest terms, two recent NRC decisions regarding Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. In light of strong state and local opposition, we urge you to reconsider them.

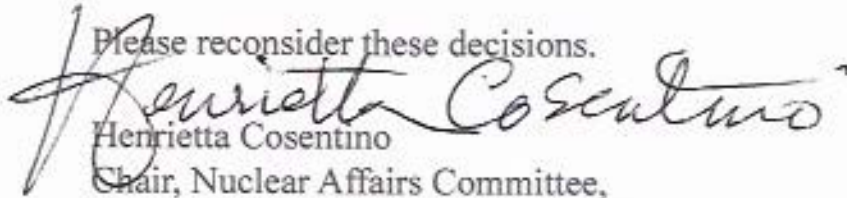
First, you denied our AGO's application to stay the decision on Pilgrim's license transfer for 90 days. Both the Town of Plymouth and the Commonwealth have legitimate concerns about the financial accountability of the prospective licensee, its finances and its plans for safety, security, monitoring, and emergency response during the period of decommissioning. Your decision effectively stymies negotiations intended to provide assurances either missing from NRC regulations, or waived by the NRC.

Second, you signaled your intent to announce the transfer of Pilgrim's license to Holtec on or about August 21st—before the public hearing scheduled for September 11, and before full consideration of long-standing petitions by our AGO and Pilgrim Watch to intervene in the license transfer. This decision communicates a blatant disregard for the public interest.

Both Holtec and its chosen partner, SNC-Lavalin, have dubious histories of bribetaking. Re Holtec, see <https://www.propublica.org/article/holtec-international-george-norcross-tax-breaks>; see also <http://www.beyondnuclear.org/decommissioning/>. Re SNC-Lavalin: <https://business.financialpost.com/executive/canada-now->

[dominates-world-bank-corruption-list-thanks-to-snc-lavalin](#). How is it possible that such companies would be entrusted with vast quantities of nuclear waste in America's Hometown?

Please reconsider these decisions.



Henrietta Cosentino
Chair, Nuclear Affairs Committee,
Plymouth Area League of Women Voters
Box 3906, Plymouth, MA 02361

CC:

Governor Charlie Baker
Att'y General Maura Healey
Senator Edward Markey
Senator Elizabeth Warren
Representative Bill Keating
State Senator Vinny deMacedo
State representative Matt Muratore
NDCAP Chair Sean Mullin
Plymouth Select Board:
 Ken Tavares
 Betty Cavacco
 Shelagh Joyce
 John Mahoney
 Patrick Flaherty
Pilgrim Watch
Cape Downwinders
David Abel (The Boston Globe)
David Kindy (The Old Colony Memorial)
Christine Legere (The Cape Cod Times)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.)
ENTERGY NUCLEAR GENERATION) Docket Nos. 50-293 and 72-1044 LT
COMPANY, HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL,)
and HOLTEC DECOMMISSIONING)
INTERNATIONAL, LLC)
)
(Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing **Letter from NRC Acting Secretary, Rochelle Baval, to Henrietta Cosentino of the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters** have been served upon the following persons by Electronic Information Exchange.

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Office of the Secretary of the Commission
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Washington, DC 20555-0001
E-mail: hearingdocket@nrc.gov

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001
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Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station Docket Nos. 50-293 and 72-1044 LT

Letter from NRC Acting Secretary, Rochelle Bavol, to Henrietta Cosentino of the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters

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[Original signed by Herald M. Speiser]
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

Dated at Rockville, Maryland,
this 26th day of August 2019