

JUL 08 1980

TERA

Docket No. 50-293
EA-80-38

Boston Edison Company M/C Nuclear
ATTN: Mr. G. Carl Andognini, Manager
Nuclear Operations Department
800 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02199

Gentlemen:

On March 8, 1980, irradiated fuel was moved at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station without secondary containment integrity, an event which exceeded a Limiting Condition for Operation (LCO). Furthermore, this activity was conducted in a manner that apparently violated station fuel handling procedures. In addition, the auxiliary electrical system, including emergency power, was aligned in a condition not prescribed by plant procedures.

These matters were brought to our attention by your telephone notification and report (LER 80-008/01X-0) of March 8, 1980. Your commitment to halt further fuel handling operations until immediate corrective actions were completed and to obtain our concurrence to resume those operations is documented in our letter to you dated March 11, 1980. Based on our inspector's verification of the return of the auxiliary electrical alignment to a normal standby condition and establishment of secondary containment integrity on March 21, 1980, our concurrence with fuel handling resumption was communicated to you by our inspector onsite on March 21, 1980.

We are concerned about the implementation of your control of licensed activities that allowed these events to occur. These events resulted in a violation of a refueling LCO prescribed in the facility Technical Specifications and a noncompliance with operating procedures for fuel handling and for equipment alignment required by the Technical Specifications. The personnel errors represent a matter of serious safety significance and indicate weaknesses in your controls which should ensure safe operation of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. As indicated in Appendix B, we intend to impose civil penalties in the amount of \$13,000 for the three items of noncompliance described in Appendix A.

In addition to the Civil Penalties, we are issuing a letter of reprimand to one of the licensed Senior Reactor Operators involved in the apparent violation related to the refueling event and a Notice of Violation to the other licensed Senior Reactor Operator. Copies of these letters are enclosed as Appendices C and D.

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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JUL 08 1980

In your reply to this letter please give particular attention to describing those actions you have taken or will take to improve both your controls for the timely development of required safety related procedures, where foreseeable changes in plant conditions invalidate current procedural coverage, and your controls for personnel actions related to procedure adherence. Also, you should address your planned improvements in the areas of procedural development, personnel training, and safety related activity supervision, inspection and audit.

Our review of your enforcement history at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station indicates a chronic problem with procedure establishment and implementation. Your written reply to this letter, combined with our findings from our continuing inspection program, will be considered in determining whether any further enforcement action, such as modification, suspension or revocation of the license, is appropriate.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

**Original Signed By
R. C. DeYoung**

Victor Stello, Jr.
Director
Office of Inspection
and Enforcement

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. Appendix B, Notice of Proposed
Imposition of Civil Penalties
3. Appendix C, Letter to Mr. E. O'Rork
4. Appendix D, Letter to Mr. J. Alukonis

cc w/encls:

P. J. McGuire, Pilgrim Station Manager

See previous correspondence

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|----------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|
| WPU:SM | ROI <i>OK</i> | XOOS <i>OK</i> | ROI <i>OK</i> | ROI <i>OK</i> | XOOS <i>OK</i> | ELD | DD:IE <i>OK</i> | D:IE <i>OK</i> |
| 6/24/80 | JRiesland | T Brockett | SEBryan | NCMoseley | DThompson | RHoefling | RCDeYoung | VStello |
| JOB F(3) | 6/24/80 | 6/24/80 | 6/24/80 | 6/24/80 | 6/24/80 | 6/ /80 | 6/24/80 | 6/24/80 |

JUL 08 1980

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Massachusetts Department of Public Health

ATTN: Robert M. Hallisey, Acting Director

Radiation Control Program

600 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02111

Office of the Attorney General

ATTN: Hon. Francis X. Bellotti

Attorney General

One Ashburton Place

Boston, MA 02108

Executive Office of Consumer Affairs

ATTN: Doris Pote, Chairman

Department of Public Utilities

100 Cambridge Street

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