

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-I-90-91

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by the Region I staff on this date.

Facility:	Licensee Emergency Classification:
Boston Edison Company	___ Notification of Unusual Event
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station	___ Alert
Plymouth, Massachusetts	___ Site Area Emergency
DN 50-293	___ General Emergency
	<u>X</u> Not Applicable

Subject: SUMMARY OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH STUDY

On October 9, 1990 at 4:00 p.m., the Massachusetts Department of Public health (DPH) released a summary of its cancer study, after some of the studies findings were leaked to the media. The full study will be issued later this week.

The principal conclusions, as stated from the summary are as follows:

- The findings of this study show that the risk of leukemia for cases diagnosed between 1978-1983 was higher for those with the greatest potential for exposure (i.e., those who lived and/or worked the closest for the longest period of time) to the Pilgrim nuclear power plant. The risk of leukemia was almost four times higher for those individuals compared to those with the lowest potential for exposure.
- Although a cause and effect relationship cannot be proven, a possible explanation for this finding is that the elevated risk of leukemia may be associated with the higher plant emissions that occurred in the mid-1970's.
- The DPH plans to implement continuous monitoring of radionuclide emissions, and develop a State air quality standard more stringent than that of federal agencies and other States, and to continue surveillance of cancer in the Plymouth area.

CONTACT: Marie Miller
FTS 346-5246

DISTRIBUTION:

OWFN	MNBB	L-St.	NL	Mail: ADM:DMB
Chairman Carr	AEOD		RES	DOT:Trans only
Comm. Rogers	IRM	PDR		
Comm. Curtiss	OIG			NRC Ops Ctr _____
Comm. Renick				

CA	EDO	Phillips	INPO----
OGC	NMSS	ACRS	NSAC----
GPA	NRR		
PA	OE	Regional Offices _____	RI Resident Office _____
	SLITP		
		EWW	Licensee: _____
		ASLAP	(Reactor Licensees)

9010160281 901009
PDR I&E
PNO-I-90-091 PDC

6-00
110 / K-34