February 4, 1991

The Honorable Gerry E. Studds Member, United States House of Representatives 2 Columbia Road Pembroke, Massachusetts 02359

Dear Congressman Studds:

I am responding to your note of December 5, 1990 to Mr. Dennis Rathbun of our Office of Congressional Affairs. You requested the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (MRC) to look into radiation exposure concerns expressed by your constituent, Michael McMahon. Mr. McMahon's letter of October 12, 1990, states that he and his family have suffered health problems as a result of his internal contamination from the inhalation of cobalt 60 in February 1985, while working at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (PNPS).

As you know, the Code of Federal Regulations contains stringent limits on exposure from external sources of radiation and Aposure from material that may enter the body. In addition, the regulations require licensees to report personnel exposures that exceed the limits. The Boston Edison Company reported no incidents in 1984 or 1985 that exceeded the quarterly limits for the intake of radioactive material. We have reviewed the licensee's exposure records to determine Mr. McMahon's exposure history. Based on our review, we believe Mr. McMahon's concern regards activities in 1984, not in 1985. The NRC staff reviewed its inspection records and Mr. McMahon's exposure records for the years 1984 and 1985 and did not identify any abnormalities related to Mr. McMahon's allegation.

The provisions of Part 19 of Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations permit Mr. McMahon to obtain, from the facility licensee, radiation exposure data and the results of any analyses that may have been performed relative to his alleged contamination incident. Mr. McMahon should send his request for information to the Boston Edison Company, Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, RFD #1, Rocky Hill Road, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360. If he has difficulty obtaining such information, he should inform us and we will provide appropriate assistance.

I hope this information is of use to your constituent.

Sincerely, Original Signed By: James M. Taylor

James M. Taylor Executive Director for Operations

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Document Name: GT 6060

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DISTRIBUTION: Docket File NRC & Local PDR (w/cy of incoming) EDO# 6060 EDO Reading J. Sniezek J. Balaha W. Russell F. Gillespie H. Thompson T. Murley/F. Miraglia J. Partlow PDI-3 R/F (w/cy of incoming) S. Varga(2) E. Greenman R. Wessman OGC CPA SECY 90-1254 J. Taylor
E. Tana (EDO #6060) w/cy of incoming
R. Eaton (w/cy of incoming) M. Rushbrook PDI-3 G/T File (w/cy of incoming) J. Johnson, RI T. Martin, RI E. Beckjord, Research

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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY Document Name: GT 6060 The Honorable Gerry E. Studds Member, United States House of Representatives 2 Columbia Road Fembroke, Massachusetts 02359

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OFFICIAL RECORD COPY Document Name: GT 6060 The Honorable Gerry E. Studds Member, United States House of Representatives 2 Columbia Road Pembroke, Massachusetts 02359

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James M. Taylor Executive Director for Operations

*See previous concurrence

LA: PDI-3* MRushbrook 01/09/91

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Tech Editor* JMain 01/09/91

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EDO . Taylor ADRI* 01/10/91

Telephone concurrence from RI EGreenman JJohnson and JJoyner 01/18/91

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LA:PD1-3* PM: PDI -3* D: PDI-3* Tech Editor* MRushbrook REaton: mes RHWessman JMain EGreenman 01/09/91 01/09/91 01/09/91 01/09/91 1 10/91 D:DRP ADP D:NRR ED0 JMTay lor JPartlow SVarga Thurley / /91 / /91 / /91 / /91

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The Honorable Gerry E. Studds 2 Columbia Road Pembroke, Massachusetts 02353

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*See previous concurrence

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James M. Taylor

Executive Director

for Operations

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20556

EDO Principal Correspondence Cont

FROM:

EDO CONTROL: 0006050

DOC DT: 12/05/90

FINAL REPLY:

Rep. Gerry E. Studds

TO:

Dennis Rathbun, OCA

FOR SIGNATURE OF:

** GRN

CRC NO: 90-1254

Executive Director

DESC:

ROUTING:

ENCLOSES LETTER FROM MICHAEL MCMAHON WHO FEELS THAT HIS HEALTH HAS BEEN JEOPARDIZED BY EXPOSURE TO COBALT AS A RESULT OF UNSAFE WORKING CONDITIONS AT THE PILGRIM STATION

TMartin, RI Beckjord, RES

DATE: 12/13/90

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Murley

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

REPLY TO PEMBROKE, MA OFFICE.

RECEIVED NRR: DECEMBER 13, 1990

ACTION:

DRPR: VARGA

NRR ROUTING :

MURLEY

MIRAGLIA

PARTLOW

PUSSELL

GILLESPIE

TANA

ACTION

DUE TO WAR DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

PAPER NUMBER:

CRC-90-1254

LOGGING DATE: Dec 12 90

ACTION OFFICE:

EDO

AUTHOR:

Gerry Studds--Const Ref

AFFILIATION:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

LETTER DATE:

Dec 5 90 FILE CODE:

SUBJECT:

Const feels that his health has been jeopardized by exposure to cobalt as a result of unsafe working

conditions at the Pilgrim station

ACTION:

Direct Reply

DISTRIBUTION:

OCA to Ack

SPECIAL HANDLING: None

NOTES:

DATE DUE:

SIGNATURE: AFFILIATION:

DATE SIGNED:

Resid Off, LOD

Deto 12-12-90

Time