

November 14, 1984

Docket No. 50-293

Mr. William D. Harrington
Senior Vice President, Nuclear
Boston Edison Company
800 Boylston Street
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Dear Mr. Harrington:

SUBJECT: NUREG-0737, ITEM II.K.3.16

Re: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

As a result of the TMI-2 accident, the Commission concluded that, in a boiling water reactor (BWR), failure of a safety/relief valve (SRV) to close would be the most likely cause of a small-break Loss-of-Coolant Accident (LOCA). At the time, the operating history of SRVs had been poor, resulting in a relatively high failure rate per challenge.

NUREG-0737, Item II.K.3.16 required BWR licensees and BWR operating license applicants to investigate the feasibility of a number of actions and modifications to reduce challenges to SRVs. The objective of the task was to effect sufficient changes so as to substantially reduce challenges to SRVs by an order of magnitude. This evaluation was performed by the BWR Owners Group and reported in BWROG-8134.

By letter dated April 3, 1984, we sent you our generic Safety Evaluation (SE) of the BWR Owners Group study, endorsing three specific modifications along with an effective preventative maintenance program. Our letter requested that you advise us of what actions you have taken or propose to take to reduce challenges and failures of SRVs in your facility. You responded by letter dated June 20, 1984.

We have reviewed your response and conclude that the actions you have taken or have committed to take will achieve the objective of NUREG-0737, Item II.K.3.16. Therefore, we consider this task resolved for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

Sincerely,

Original signed by/

Domenic B. Vassallo, Chief
Operating Reactors Branch #2
Division of Licensing

cc: See next page

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Mr. William D. Harrington
Boston Edison Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

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