

NOV 09 1984

Docket No. 50-293

Boston Edison Company M/C Nuclear
ATTN: Mr. William D. Harrington
Senior Vice President, Nuclear
800 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02199

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection No. 50-293/84-36

This refers to the special safety inspection conducted by Messrs. J. Johnson and M. McBride of this office on November 1, 2, and 7, 1984, at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, Plymouth, Massachusetts, of activities authorized by NRC License No. DPR-35 regarding core alterations with a Source Range Monitor bypassed and later with the Source Range Monitors unmonitored, and to the discussions of our findings held by Mr. J. Johnson with Mr. C. Mathis at the conclusion of the inspection.

Areas examined during this inspection are described in the NRC Region I Inspection Report which is enclosed with this letter. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector.

Based on the results of this inspection, we are concerned with the lack of attention to neutron monitoring during core alterations, i.e., bypassing a Source Range Monitor (SRM) and later leaving the SRMs unmonitored. Also, we are concerned with the quality and thoroughness of shift turnover activities since a Source Range (neutron) Monitor was left in the bypass position for a significant period of time without subsequent shift personnel noticing it. An enforcement conference has been scheduled for November 20, at the Region I office to further discuss these problems. At this conference you should be prepared to discuss your critique of these events and the corrective actions taken. The need for and nature of appropriate enforcement action relative to the issues discussed in the enclosed report will be considered after this conference and will be the subject of separate correspondence at a later time.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Starostecki, Director
Division of Project and Resident
Programs

Enclosure: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-293/84-36

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cc w/encl:

- A. V. Morisi, Manager, Nuclear Management Services Department
- C. J. Mathis, Station Manager
- Joanne Shotwell, Assistant Attorney General
- Paul Levy, Chairman, Department of Public Utilities
- Plymouth Board of Selectmen
- Plymouth Civil Defense Director
- Senator Edward P. Kirby
- Public Document Room (PDR)
- Local Public Document Room (LPDR)
- Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
- NRC Resident Inspector
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts (2)

bcc w/encl:

- Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
- Senior Operations Officer (w/o encls)
- L. Tripp, DPRP Section Chief
- Director DETP
- D. Holody, RI
- J. Axelrad, IE

RI: DPRP

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for Johnson/mjd
 11/6/84

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RI: DPRP

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 Tripp
 11/6/84

RI: DPRP

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 Weizinger
 11/9/84

RI: DPRP

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 Starostecki
 11/8/84

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