

SEP 01 1987

Docket No. 50-293

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lee H. Bettenhausen, Chief
Reactor Projects Branch No. 1

FROM: James T. Wiggins, Chief
Reactor Projects Section 1B

SUBJECT: PILGRIM STATUS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 13, - 26, 1987

Enclosed is the Pilgrim bi-weekly status report from the NRC Resident Office at Pilgrim. Three NRC resident inspectors and several region-based specialist inspectors monitored activities at the plant during the report period.

These status reports are intended to provide NRC management and the public with an overview of plant activities and NRC inspection activities. Subsequent inspection reports will address many of these topics in more detail.

Original Signed By:

James T. Wiggins, Chief
Reactor Projects Section 1B

Enclosure:
As stated

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PDR ADOCK 05000293
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SEP 01 1987

cc w/encl:

- W. Russell, RI
- W. Kane, RI
- W. Johnston, RI
- T. Martin, RI
- J. Partlow, NRR
- S. Collins, RI
- S. Varga, NRR
- T. Murley, NRR
- B. Boger, NRR
- R. Wessman, NRR
- W. D. Paton, OGC, NRC
- R. Bird, Senior Vice President-Nuclear, BECo
- K. Roberts, Station Manager, BECo
- Paul Levy, Chairman, Department of Public Utilities
- Chairman, Board of Selectmen
- J. D. Keyes
- R. Boulay
- Plymouth Civil Defense Director
- Senator Edward P. Kirby
- Representative Peter Forman
- S. M. Pollard
- M. Conyngham
- M. R. Jeka
- K. R. Anderson
- The Honorable E. J. Markey
- M. D. Ernst, Committee on Energy, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- 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)
- J. Wiggins, DRP
- L. Doerflein, DRP
- R. Fuhrmeister, DRP
- PAO (2)

RI:DRP
 MMcBride/mjd
 8/31/87

RI:DRP
 JWiggins
 8/1/87

LB
 RI:DRP
 LBettenhausen
 8/1/87

ENCLOSURE

PILGRIM STATUS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 13 - 26, 1987

1.0 Plant Status

As of 8:00 a.m. on August 26, 1987, spent fuel pool temperature was about 70 degrees Fahrenheit. All fuel has been removed from the reactor vessel and transferred to the spent fuel pool.

2.0 Facility Operations Summary

The plant has been shutdown for maintenance and to make program improvements since April 12, 1986. The reactor core was completely defueled on February 13, 1987. The licensee is presently performing extensive preventive maintenance, plant modifications and post maintenance testing of plant equipment.

3.0 Items of Special Interest

NRC Response to 10 CFR 2.206 Petition

On August 21, 1987, the NRC responded to a petition which requested that NRC order the Boston Edison Company to show cause why the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station should not remain closed or have its operating license suspended by NRC. The basis for this request was 1) numerous deficiencies in licensee management, 2) inadequacy of the existing radiological emergency response plan, and 3) inherent deficiencies in the facilities containment structure. The petition was submitted by Massachusetts Senator W. Golden and others in accordance with federal regulation 10 CFR 2.206.

The NRC denied items (2) and (3) and will further review item (1). Although the emergency planning contentions in the petition were denied, the NRC will consider the emergency planning issues identified in the recent FEMA interim finding prior to permitting a plant restart. A copy of this letter has been delivered to the local public docket room.

4.0 Emergency Notification System (ENS) Reports

During this period, the licensee made two reports to the NRC pursuant to 10 CFR 50.72.

- On August 20, 1987, the licensee reported that a portion of the 'A' Residual Heat Removal (RHR) system heat exchanger inlet piping failed visual inspections due to heavily pitted conditions. The portion of the piping was subsequently dressed to allow ultrasonic testing (UT) thickness measurements. The deepest pits were measured and it was determined that some of the areas had a wall thickness less than the prescribed minimum wall thickness. The licensee is currently formulating a repair plan for the affected portion of piping and also additional inspection plans. The resident inspectors are following up on licensee's corrective actions.
- On August 22, 1987, during a daily plant status check, it was discovered that the ENS was inoperable. The ENS is a dedicated phone line between the NRC and the Pilgrim station. As required per 10 CFR 50.72(b)(1), the Pilgrim control room personnel notified the NRC duty officer via a commercial phone line of the problem. On August 26, 1987, the resident inspector verified that the problem was corrected and the ENS was operational.

5.0 NRC Staff Status During the Period

The inspection staff at Pilgrim during the report period consisted of the following:

Martin McBride, Ph.D.	--- Senior Resident Inspector
Jeffrey Lyash	--- Resident Inspector
Tae Kim	--- Resident Inspector
Lawrence Doerflein	--- Project Engineer, Region I
Clay Warren	--- Senior Resident Inspector at Shoreham

In addition, two separate team inspections were conducted by eight regional specialist inspectors to review selected plant modification implementation and the general maintenance program. The results of these team inspections will be documented in NRC inspection reports 50-293/87-23 and 50-293/87-26, respectively. During the week of August 17, 1987, two regional inspectors were onsite to review licensee corrective action in response to previous inspection findings.

Dr. Martin McBride, the Senior Resident Inspector at Pilgrim, will leave that position on August 29, 1987 to assume a new post with the Department of Energy. Dr. McBride has been with the Pilgrim resident office since December, 1983. Mr. Clay Warren, currently the NRC Senior Resident Inspector at Shoreham, has been selected to fill this vacancy.

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Plymouth Civil Defense Director
Senator Edward P. Kirby
Representative Peter Forman
S. M. Pollard
M. Conyngham
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L. Doerflein, DRP
R. Fuhrmeister, DRP
PAO (2)

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MMcBride/mjd

8/31/87

RI:DRP
JWiggins

8/1/87

RI:DRP
LBettenhausen

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