



**Boston Edison**

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
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Generic Letter 94-02

September 29, 1998  
BECo Ltr. 2.98.131

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn.: Document Control Desk  
Washington DC 20555

Docket No. 50-293  
License No. DPR-35

**Generic Letter 94-02, BWR Thermal-Hydraulic Instabilities: Request for Extension**

**Commitment Description**

The NRC issued Generic Letter (GL) 94-02 which requested each BWR licensee to take appropriate actions to augment its procedures and training for preventing or responding to thermal-hydraulic instabilities in their reactors. Each licensee was also requested to install hardware to provide a long-term stability solution. Pilgrim is currently scheduled by Pilgrim Long Term Program Item #504 (Boston Edison letter 98-117, dated August 31, 1998) to complete the long-term stability solution by September 30, 1998.

**Extension Request**

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station requests the NRC to extend the current September 30, 1998, completion date 60 days to November 29, 1998. Pilgrim requests this extension because the implementation of the long-term solution has experienced unanticipated contingencies discussed below under Reason for Request. This extension does not impact safety because Boiling Water Reactor Owners' Group (BWROG) interim corrective actions continue to be in place pending long-term solution completion.

**Current Status**

The two period based detection system (PBDS) circuit cards are installed and connected to the input Local Power Range Monitors (LPRM). The fiber optic connector on the cards sends output to a data acquisition computer to monitor system performance. There are no alarms or indications for the operators. One average power range monitor (APRM) flow control trip reference card is installed in channel A. This channel is under the non-stability licensing-basis because the flow biased stability setpoints are more conservative than the non-safety linear flow biased setpoints. Rod Block and Scram signals are generated from this card. Pilgrim procedures continue to contain the BWROG interim corrective actions until the long-term solution is complete.

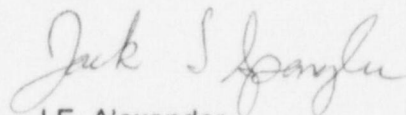
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Reason for Request

Implementation was delayed by unanticipated contingencies during implementation. Pilgrim planned to implement phase one (PBDS) in July, 1998, and phase two implementation was scheduled for the week of September 7, 1998. Several delays during final modification development and in parts delivery resulted in all implementation being scheduled for September, 1998. This left no margin in the schedule to address emerging contingencies during final implementation. As implementation progressed, an enhanced postwork test methodology was identified as necessary for the flow control trip reference cards and the need for independent verification of the PBDS modification was identified. These unanticipated contingencies make the September 30, 1998 completion date unachievable. Therefore, Pilgrim requests a 60 day extension of the completion date to November 29, 1998. Pilgrim is vigorously pursuing implementation and expects completion before the extended date.

Based on a telephone call between Mr. Alan Wang (NRR) and Mr. P.M. Kahler (Pilgrim) on September 22, 1998, no NRC written response to this request is required. Pilgrim considers this request granted unless notified of NRC rejection. Should you require further information on this request or Generic Letter 94-02, please contact P.M. Kahler at (508) 830-7939.



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(for JFA)

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