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GEORGE W. CAMERON

September 27, 1988

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

We, the Plymouth Board of Selectmen, have tried in every way to apprise you of the fact that this community does not have an approved nor tested radiological response plan in being.

We have repeatedly advised you that the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station ought not be permitted to restart until the citizens of this town are protected by a response plan in the event of a major accident.

We have many times testified, witnessed, and written to this effect. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, its staff, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Reactor Safeguards Committee, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are well informed of our position.

The Board of Selectmen of the 45,000 inhabitants of the historic town of Plymouth, all of whom live within ten miles of the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant, now reiterate our position that until an approved radiological response plan is in place, the plant ought not be given permission to restart.

Not once in the past three years has any official of the NRC nor of FEMA visited this community to monitor the conditions of our readiness to respond to nuclear emergency or to consult with our Civil Defense Director or any elected official. Yet 20,000 hours of inspection have been recently completed by the NRC at Pilgrim. This is a deplorable ratio of concern, particularly since we have been told at public hearings that the NRC would indeed consider emergency planning prior to restart.

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We who have sworn to uphold the public safety and who know best the circumstances of the community remind the NRC that all the technical evaluations do not outweigh the necessity to consider the public health and safety. Let it be known that the full weight of decision rests with the NRC, and we hold it accountable in this matter.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Alba C. Thompson

Alba C. Thompson
Chairman

ACT/lt

cc Congressman G. Studds
Senator J. Kerry
Senator F. Kennedy
Secretary Barry, MA Department of Public Safety
State Representative P. Forman
State Senator E. Kirby
FEMA
Plymouth Civil Defense Director