


Boston Edison

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
 Rocky Hill Road
 Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360-5599

November 24, 1998

BECo Ltr. 2.98.153

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 ATTN: Document Control Desk
 Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**WITHDRAWAL OF 70.24(a) EXEMPTION REQUEST CONCERNING CRITICALITY ACCIDENT
 MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

By letter dated September 25, 1998, Boston Edison (Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station) requested exemption from the criticality accident monitoring requirements of 10 CFR 70.24. This request was made in accordance with guidance provided in SECY 97-155, dated July 21, 1997, and NRC Information Notice 97-77, dated October 10, 1997.

This letter withdraws Pilgrim's September 25, 1998, 10 CFR 70.24 exemption request.

On November 12, 1998, 10 CFR 70.24 was revised and a new regulation, 10 CFR 50.68, was issued (Federal Register pages 63127-63130). The revision to 70.24(d)(1) allows a Part 50 licensee, such as Pilgrim, to be exempt from criticality accident monitor requirements if the licensee complies with the requirements of 50.68(b). The requirements are similar to those previously used by the NRC to grant exemptions to 70.24 and which Pilgrim's September 25, 1998, exemption request addressed; therefore, Pilgrim's exemption request is no longer needed because the new rule makes the exemption unnecessary.

Should further information be required on the withdrawal of Pilgrim's September 25, 1998, 10 CFR 70.24 exemption request, please contact P.M. Kahler at (508) 830-7939.

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