

Mr. Theodore A. Sullivan  
Vice President Nuclear and Station Director  
Boston Edison Company  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

January 20, 1999

SUBJECT: WITHDRAWAL OF 70.24(a) EXEMPTION REQUEST CONCERNING  
CRITICALITY ACCIDENT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (TAC NO. MA3696)

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

By letter dated September 25, 1998, Boston Edison Company (BECo) requested an exemption from the criticality accident monitoring requirements of 10 CFR 70.24 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. 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. By letter dated November 24, 1998, BECo withdraws this 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 monitoring 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. By this letter, we consider the exemption request withdrawn and all work under TAC No. MA3696 to be complete.

Sincerely,

/s/

William M. Dean, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

cc: See next page

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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William M. Dean", is written over a horizontal line.

William M. Dean, Director  
Project Directorate I-2  
Division Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

cc: See next page

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cc:

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