MAR 3 0 1989

The Patriot Ledger
ATTN: Ms. Donna MacLearn
Editor
13-19 Temple Street
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169

Dear Ms. MacLearn:

I noted your article dated March 15, 1989, regarding claims of a lapse in NRC inspection coverage at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

Enclosed for your information are copies of recent NRC Pilgrim Biweekly Status reports. These widely distributed, publicly available, reports give some information regarding our inspection program and indicate what periods of time we chose to provide 24-hour inspection coverage.

NRC has an extraordinary inspection program in-place at Pilgrim, in order to closely monitor and evaluate the facility's performance during return to full power operation. Since the NRC Commissioners' decision in December to endorse the NRC staff recommendation to allow restart and power ascension to proceed, NRC has devoted over 3,000 person-hours of direct inspection to Pilgrim.

For your information, I have written Mrs. Fleming to inform her, as others have verbally, that she is mistaken in her contention that there were no inspectors onsite the evening of March 4, 1989.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by
A. Randy Blough

A. Randy Blough, Chief
Reactor Projects Section No. 3B
Division of Reactor Projects

Enclosures:
As stated

cc w/encls:
Ms. Jane Fleming
Public Document Room (PDR)
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)

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bcc w/encls:
Restart Panel Members
T. Gwynn, OCM/LZ
T. Elsasser, OCM/KC
M. Callahan, GPA/CA
K. Abraham, PAO - RI

RI:DRP
RBlough/mjd
3/30/89

RI:DRP
JWiggins
3/29/89