

June 22, 1989

Docket No. 50-293

Mr. Ralph G. Bird
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Boston Edison Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
RFD #1, Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360

Dear Mr. Bird:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter dated June 5, 1989, from the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, to the Representative of the Ecology Center of Southern California. The letter (1) acknowledges receipt of a Petition filed by the Ecology Center of Southern California, and (2) states that the Petition is being treated under 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations.

Please contact me if you have questions on this issue.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Daniel G. McDonald, Jr.
Senior Project Manager
Project Directorate I-3
Division of Reactor Projects I/II

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: Service List

DISTRIBUTION: Docket File, NRC&Local PDRs, DMcDonald, MRushbrook, BGrimes, EJordan, ACRS(10), SVarga, BBoger

[BIRD]

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DATE	: 6/17/89	: 6/17/89	: 6/22/89	:	:	:	:

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Mr. Ralph G. Bird
Boston Edison

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

Mr. K. L. Highfill
Station Director
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360

Mr. Ralph G. Bird
Senior Vice President - Nuclear
Boston Edison Company
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station
RFD#1, Rocky Hill Road
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360

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25 Braintree Hill Park
Braintree, Massachusetts 02184



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

June 5, 1989

Ms. Anna Harlowe
Issues Coordinator
Ecology Center of Southern California
P. O. Box 35473
Los Angeles, California 90035

Dear Ms. Harlowe:

This letter acknowledges the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) receipt of your Petition on behalf of the Ecology Center of Southern California dated March 8, 1989. Your Petition requests the NRC to fix or close all nuclear power reactors designed by the General Electric Company (GE). As bases for this request, you allege that (1) in 1972, a member of the NRC staff recommended that GE-designed reactors be banned in the United States; (2) in 1975, GE engineers generated the "Reed Report" that detailed dozens of safety and economic problems with GE-designed reactors and that recommended that GE stop selling those reactors; (3) in 1986, an NRC official admitted that 24 GE reactors with Mark I containments had a 90 percent chance of failure in a nuclear accident; (4) in 1987, an NRC task force confirmed that Mark I containments were virtually certain to fail in an accident; (5) according to NRC safety studies, Mark II reactors have many possible scenarios for early containment failures; and (6) Mark II designs, on which the Reed Report focused, have dozens of safety and economic problems and have suffered massive cost overruns during construction as a result of design problems.

The NRC will review the Petition in accordance with 10 CFR 2.206, and I will issue a formal decision with regard to it within a reasonable time. A copy of the notice that is being filed with the Office of the Federal Register for publication is enclosed for your information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James H. Smezik" or similar, with a flourish at the end.

Thomas E. Murley, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosure:
As stated

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UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONDOCKET NO. 50-293, ET AL.*BOSTON EDISON COMPANY, ET AL.*PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION, ET AL.*RECEIPT OF PETITION FOR DIRECTOR'S DECISION UNDER 10 CFR 2.206

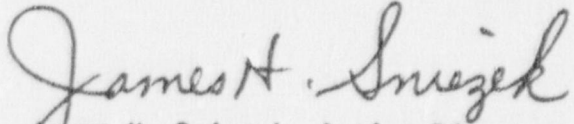
Notice is hereby given that by Petition dated March 8, 1989, Ms. Anna Harlowe, on behalf of the Ecology Center of Southern California (Ecology Center), has requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) to initiate enforcement action involving all boiling water reactors now operating or under construction. The Ecology Center requested that the NRC fix or close all nuclear power reactors designed by the General Electric Company (GE). As bases for this request, the Ecology Center alleged that (1) in 1972, a member of the NRC staff recommended that GE-designed reactors be banned in the United States; (2) in 1975, GE engineers generated the "Reed Report" that detailed dozens of safety and economic problems with GE-designed reactors and that recommended that GE stop selling those reactors; (3) in 1986, an NRC official admitted that 24 GE reactors with Mark I containments had a 90 percent chance of failure in a nuclear accident; (4) in 1987, an NRC task force confirmed that Mark I containments were virtually certain to fail in an accident; (5) according to NRC safety studies, Mark II reactors have many possible scenarios for early containment failures; and, (6) Mark II designs, on which the Reed Report focused, have dozens of safety and economic problems and have suffered massive cost overruns during construction as a result of design problems.

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The request is being treated pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 of the Commission's regulations. The NRC will take appropriate action on the Petition within a reasonable time.

A copy of the Petition is available for inspection in the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20555.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


James H. Sniezek, Acting Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dated at Rockville, Maryland,
this 5th day of June 1989.