

October 20, 2016

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

I am responding to your letter of September 21, 2016, in which you urge the Commission to reject a request from Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. for an extension of time to comply with NRC order EA-13-109 for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. EA-13-109 relates to the installation of reliable hardened containment vents.

The Commission also recently received a request from Pilgrim Watch, on behalf of itself and a number of other groups, asking that the Commission hold a hearing on Entergy's extension request. The agency has not yet resolved Entergy's extension request or Pilgrim Watch's request to hold a hearing. For these reasons, we cannot fully respond to your letter at this time. We will keep you apprised of any significant agency actions on these matters.

Please feel free to contact me or Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Stephen G. Burns

Identical letter sent to:

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable William R. Keating
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Niki Tsongas
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James P. McGovern
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael E. Capuano
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy, III
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard E. Neal
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Katherine Clark
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Seth Moulton
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515