

50-293



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

February 10, 1997

Mr. E. Thomas Boulette, Ph.D  
Senior Vice President - Nuclear  
Boston Edison Company  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

SUBJECT: PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION - REQUEST PERTAINING TO RELIEF FROM  
ASME SECTION XI INSPECTIONS AND GENERIC LETTER (GL) 88-01  
INTERGRANULAR STRESS CORROSION CRACKING (IGSCC) INSPECTIONS  
(TAC NO. M97419)

Dear Mr. Boulette:

By letter dated December 12, 1996, as supplemented January 20, 1997, and February 5, 1997, Boston Edison Company (licensee) requested two relief requests pursuant to 10 CFR 50.55.a(a)(3)(ii) for various ASME Section XI inspections related to nozzle-to-reactor welds and Class 1 piping welds and a delay in inspecting certain welds related to IGSCC inspections per GL 88-01, currently scheduled for the upcoming refueling outage (RFO) #11 at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

The licensee's request consists of (1) relief from volumetric examination of three (N1A, N2A and N2B) full penetration nozzle to vessel welds and its inner radii, and a safe-end weld (N1A), (2) relief from surface and/or volumetric examination of 12 piping welds and 2 integral attachment welds and (3) relief from IGSCC inspection of two safe-end welds (N2A and N2B). The licensee proposed to inspect the above referenced welds in RFO #12 instead of the RFO #11 scheduled to begin on February 15, 1997. In this safety evaluation, the staff reviewed only the request pertaining to the IGSCC inspection of two recirculation safe-end welds (N2A and N2B) per GL 88-01. The staff did not review the other two requests for relief related to ASME inspections because they were withdrawn by letter dated February 5, 1997.

The NRC staff has completed its review of the licensee's submittal. Based on the favorable inspection experience in the last three refueling outages and the continued implementation of hydrogen water chemistry (HWC) at Pilgrim plant, the staff concludes that the licensee's one time request to defer the inspection of two Category D safe-end welds (N2A and N2B) until RFO #12 is acceptable. The staff's conclusion is based on the finding that the likelihood of developing extensive IGSCC in these two welds during the next fuel cycle is small. The staff's safety evaluation is contained in the enclosure.

1/1  
RFO 1

130040

**NRC FILE CENTER COPY**

9702130199 970210  
PDR ADOCK 05000293  
PDR

E. Thomas Boulette

- 2 -

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact Mr. Alan B. Wang at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick D. Milano", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick D. Milano, Acting Director  
Project Directorate I-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact Mr. Alan B. Wang at (301) 415-1445.

Sincerely,

(Original Signed By)

Patrick D. Milano, Acting Director  
Project Directorate I-3  
Division of Reactor Projects - I/II  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket No. 50-293

Enclosure: Safety Evaluation

cc w/encl: See next page

Distribution:

Docket File	JZwolinski	OGC
PUBLIC	PMilano	ACRS
PDI-3 Reading	SLittle	CCowgill, RGN-I
SVarga	AWang	WKoo
	GHill (2)	THarris (e-mail SE)

DOCUMENT NAME: G:\PILGRIM\M97419.SER

To receive a copy of this document, indicate in the box: "C" = Copy without enclosures "E" = Copy with enclosures "N" = No copy

OFFICE	PM:PDI-3	LA:PDI-3	OGC	(A)D:PDI-3
NAME	AWang <i>AW</i>	SLittle		PMilano <i>PM</i>
DATE	02/7/97	02/10/97	02/10/97	02/10/97

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

E. Thomas Boulette

Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

cc:

Mr. Leon J. Olivier  
Vice President of Nuclear  
Operations & Station Director  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
IFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Ms. Nancy Desmond  
Manager, Reg. Affairs Dept.  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Resident Inspector  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
Post Office Box 867  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Mr. David F. Tarantino  
Nuclear Information Manager  
Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station  
RFD #1, Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
11 Lincoln Street  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Ms. Kathleen M. O'Toole  
Secretary of Public Safety  
Executive Office of Public Safety  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

Chairman, Duxbury Board of Selectmen  
Town Hall  
878 Tremont Street  
Duxbury, MA 02332

Mr. David Rodham, Director  
Massachusetts Emergency Management  
Agency  
400 Worcester Road  
P.O. Box 1496  
Framingham, MA 01701-0317  
Attn: James Muckerheide

Office of the Commissioner  
Massachusetts Department of  
Environmental Protection  
One Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Chairmen, Citizens Urging  
Responsible Energy  
P. O. Box 2621  
Duxbury, MA 02331

Office of the Attorney General  
One Ashburton Place  
20th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108

Citizens at Risk  
P. O. Box 3803  
Plymouth, MA 02361

Mr. Robert M. Hallisey, Director  
Radiation Control Program  
Massachusetts Department of  
Public Health  
305 South Street  
Boston, MA 02130

W. S. Stowe, Esquire  
Boston Edison Company  
800 Boylston St., 36th Floor  
Boston, MA 02199

Regional Administrator, Region I  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Chairman  
Nuclear Matters Committee  
Town Hall  
11 Lincoln Street  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Ms. Jane Fleming  
8 Oceanwood Drive  
Duxbury, MA 0233

Mr. William D. Meinert  
Nuclear Engineer  
Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale  
Electric Company  
P.O. Box 426  
Ludlow, MA 01056-0426

Mr. Jeffery Keene  
Licensing Division Manager  
Boston Edison Company  
600 Rocky Hill Road  
Plymouth, MA 02360-5599