

## Office of the Governor

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts State House • Boston, MA 02133 (617) 725-4000

DEVAL L. PATRICK GOVERNOR TIMOTHY P. MURRAY LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

May 7, 2012

Chairman Gregory B. Jackzo
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
One White Flint North
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Chairman Jackzo:

I write regarding the relicensing of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

I urge the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to complete evaluation of the outstanding issues and contentions pending before the Commission as part of its relicensing review. There are a number of serious concerns that have been raised regarding public safety, public health and the environment, and I request that the NRC thoroughly consider these matters prior to making any decision on Pilgrim's license renewal application. I understand that because Pilgrim's relicense application was filed in a timely fashion, the plant can continue to operate beyond the expiration of its current license, allowing the NRC as much time as necessary to review the outstanding contentions without impacting the operation of the plant.

Public safety related to nuclear plants continues to be my highest priority, and safety issues become increasingly critical as Pilgrim's spent fuel pools reach capacity. I support many of the safety recommendations put forth by the Union of Concerned Scientists, as well as the Massachusetts Attorney General's action urging the NRC to address critical safety issues as part of Pilgrim's

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relicensing process. I am also supportive of the goals of the Department of Energy's Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future, which called for a comprehensive national strategy for managing the back end of the nuclear fuel cycle. I will continue to push for solutions to the nuclear waste issues and for collaboration among states as it relates to spent fuel and emergency planning.

Thank you for your personal attention to this matter.

Sincerely,