



FEMA

May 28, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: W. Russell Webster
Regional Administrator,
FEMA Region I

FROM: Chad M. Gorman
Assistant Administrator (A),
National Preparedness Directorate

SUBJECT: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 10 CFR §50.54 (q) Exemption
for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has officially notified this agency of the granting of an exemption to Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) from certain provisions of 10 CFR§50.54 (q) concerning emergency response planning. Specifically, this exemption allows Entergy to discontinue its offsite radiological planning activities; and as a result, no longer requires FEMA to review, monitor, and report activities associated with offsite radiological emergency planning and preparedness for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (PNPS). The NRC approved the amendments to the operating license that support the exemptions on April 1, 2020.

The NRC exemption documentation states, "Emergency planning and preparedness will be limited to on-site activities; notification of off-site authorities in event of an emergency classification; requiring only on-site exercises with the opportunity for off-site response organization participation; and only maintaining arrangements for off-site response organizations (i.e., law enforcement, fire and medical services) that may respond to on-site emergencies as identified in the licensee's permanently defueled emergency plan."

Considering the basis of this exemption – permanent shut-down of the reactor and defueled condition of the plant – effective May 31, 2019, FEMA discontinued evaluation of offsite emergency planning and preparedness activities for the site. Emergency planning and preparedness are limited to onsite activities, notification to offsite authorities, and training of offsite personnel who may need to respond onsite (e.g., police, fire and ambulance personnel).

The Region I Technological Hazards Branch staff will prepare a letter for your signature informing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Barker IV of the cessation of FEMA-supported radiological emergency planning activities for the Pilgrim site.

Governor Barker's office will notify the appropriate state and local government officials that FEMA will no longer review, evaluate, and monitor offsite radiological emergency planning and preparedness activities surrounding the Pilgrim site in accordance with 44 C.F.R. Part 350.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Hampton H. Hart, Jr, Acting Director Technological Hazards Division at (202) 436-5838.

cc: Hampton H. Hart, Jr., Acting Director, Technological Hazards Division
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