MassDEP
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

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May 20, 2016

David Webster, Chief
Water Permits Branch
USEPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OEP-06-1)
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Water Quality Certification for NPDES Permit MA0003557 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station

Dear Mr. Webster:

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 124.53(c)(3), MassDEP requests that you extend the time for state certification of the above-referenced NPDES Permit due to unusual circumstances. As you know, Massachusetts does not have delegation from EPA to administer the federal NPDES program. Therefore, MassDEP and Region 1 jointly issue NPDES Permits in Massachusetts. Those permits consist of two separate and independent federal and state issued permit authorizations. Both the federal and the state Clean Water Acts require a public notice of all draft permits. MassDEP relies on the public notice issued for the draft permit to provide public notice for the state permit. Therefore, to enable MassDEP to duly consider the comments received from the public, MassDEP requests that you extend the date for certification until the final permit and response to comments has been duly prepared and MassDEP has had a chance to review the final permit.

As has been the practice for several years now the Department intends to issue a water quality certification at the time it signs the final permit. The Department does not intend to waive certification at this time.

Sincerely,

David Ferris, Director
Massachusetts Wastewater Management Program
Bureau of Water Resources

cc: Susy King, MassDEP
George Papadopoulos, USEPA

This information is available in alternate format. Call Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Diversity Director, at 617-292-5751. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370
MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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