



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 28, 2018

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

Dear Congressman Keating:

On behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), I am responding to your August 2, 2018, letter expressing concerns regarding the proposed sale of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim) by Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (Entergy) to Holtec International (Holtec). The NRC shares your interest in ensuring that decommissioning at Pilgrim occurs in a way that protects public health and safety and the common defense and security.

The NRC has not yet received an application from Entergy requesting a transfer of Pilgrim's operating license to Holtec, although it is expected soon. Please be assured that, consistent with its regulations, the NRC will carefully review the Pilgrim license transfer request to ensure that Holtec is financially and technically qualified to be the holder of the license and that the safety and security of the Pilgrim site is not adversely affected during future decommissioning activities. As a part of this process, the NRC will seek input from the public.

With respect to your concern regarding the adequacy of the decommissioning trust fund for Pilgrim, the NRC staff determined that Entergy was in compliance with the decommissioning funding assurance requirements during the most recent biennial trust fund review in late 2017. While the NRC, to date, has not received a site-specific decommissioning cost estimate against which to evaluate the current balance held in trust, we also have not received any information that would suggest that trust funds are insufficient to complete the decommissioning process.

If you need any additional information, please contact me or have your staff contact Eugene Dacus, Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, at (301) 415-1776.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "KS", written over a white background.

Kristine L. Svinicki