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Decommissioning Activities Report

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING ON PILGRIM POST-SHUTDOWN

DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES REPORT

+ + + + +

TUESDAY,

JANUARY 15, 2019

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PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

+ + + + +

The meeting was convened in Room A, Hotel
1620, 18 Water Street, Plymouth, MA, at 6:00 p.m.,
Bruce Watson, chairman, presiding.

NRC STAFF:

DONNA JANDA, Facilitator

BRETT KLUKAN, Facilitator

JOHN LAMB, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

BRUCE WATSON, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and
Safeguards

ALSO PRESENT:

ANNETTE VIETTI-COOK, Secretary of the Commission

MARIAN ZOBLER, General Counsel

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P R O C E E D I N G S

6:02 p.m.

1
2
3 MR. WATSON: Good evening. I'm Bruce
4 Watson, Chief of the Reactor Decommissioning Branch in
5 the Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery, and
6 Waste Programs, and will be chairing tonight's
7 session.

8 Our purpose is to obtain your comments on
9 the Entergy Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities
10 Report and the Holtec license application and the
11 related Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Report
12 associated with it.

13 I would like to highlight NRC's mission to
14 protect public health and safety, promote the common
15 defense and security, and protect the environment, and
16 our current work related to the regulatory
17 requirements during the decommissioning of power
18 plants.

19 I would like to introduce a few of the NRC
20 staff who will be here to listen to your comments.
21 And hopefully, we, the staff, can collectively answer
22 questions on the decommissioning process. If we
23 can't, we'll do our best to get back to you.

24 So, you've met Brett, our Region I
25 Counselor, who will be facilitating tonight's meeting,

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1 along with Donna Janda, also from Region I. Also in
2 attendance is John Lamb, the current Project Manager
3 for Pilgrim. Amy Snyder is here, who will be the
4 Decommissioning Project Manager when the plant shuts
5 down and is transferred over to our organization.

6 Also in attendance is Mike Dusaniwsky, our
7 Senior Economist; Jason Plotter, Senior Engineer in
8 our Spent Fuel Management Group; Jessie Quintero, our
9 Environmental Review Specialist, and Ray Powell, our
10 Region I Branch Chief that will be inspecting the
11 plant during the decommissioning process. We also
12 have some additional folks in the audience that, if we
13 need to, we can call on them to help us with comments
14 or questions.

15 Next slide, please.

16 This is an NRC Category 3 public meeting
17 to obtain comments on the Entergy PSDR and the Holtec
18 application and their supplemental PSDR that's with
19 it. These documents were made publicly available for
20 comment.

21 The meeting is being transcribed and will
22 be made available for the public to review. There
23 will also be a meeting summary published for the
24 meeting.

25 We have a planned short presentation by

1 John Lamb, who will discuss the PSDR process and the
2 license review process. Then, Entergy and Holtec will
3 be giving short presentations. Speaking for Entergy
4 tonight is Mandy Halter -- she is the Director of
5 Nuclear Licensing -- and Andrea Sterdis from Holtec,
6 who from also the Comprehensive Decommissioning
7 International, who is a Vice President of Regulatory
8 Programs, Environment and Safety.

9 After those presentations, we will turn
10 the meeting over to Brett and Donna, who will begin
11 the process to allow speakers to provide comments. It
12 is my full intention, if we can, to end this meeting
13 at 9:00 p.m.

14 I also want to emphasize that this meeting
15 is to discuss the upcoming permanent shutdown of the
16 Pilgrim Plant and the decommissioning process
17 associated with it.

18 Next slide, please.

19 Now I want to just discuss a little bit of
20 our decommissioning experience. We have many years of
21 decommissioning experience. We have over 21 years'
22 experience with our current decommissioning
23 regulations and have completed over 80 complex
24 material decommissionings and terminated those
25 licenses. They have all been released for

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1 unrestricted use by the owner. So, they can be used
2 for any future purpose. And included in that 80 is 10
3 nuclear power plants.

4 Next slide, please.

5 On this slide is a picture of Yankee Rowe.
6 It's located here in Rowe, Massachusetts. It's one of
7 the 10 plants that was decommissioned. We terminated
8 the license in 2007. Pictured on the left is the
9 plant when it was in operation. Pictured on the right
10 is where the plant was greenfielded by the utility
11 associated with the requirements set up with the
12 State. The NRC does not require site restoration as
13 part of our process.

14 One of the things that I want to point out
15 to you is that, on the picture on the right there is
16 a hydroelectric dam that's been there for over 100
17 years. As you note, the nuclear plant operated, was
18 decommissioned, and is gone. However, on the hill in
19 the center there is a picture of the dry fuel storage
20 facility that is still located on their site and under
21 license, and will continue to be inspected by our
22 inspectors. Of course, the spent fuel is there
23 awaiting the final disposition of the high-level waste
24 disposal, either interim or final repository, here in
25 the U.S.

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1 Next slide, please.

2 I wanted to just briefly discuss the two
3 decommissioning options discussed in the November 2008
4 submittals. Regardless of the option chosen,
5 preparation of the decommissioning takes about one to
6 two years to remove the radioactive waste stored
7 onsite, remove filters, resins; drain systems to allow
8 the dismantling to begin and be done safely or placed
9 in storage. After the decommissioning preparation
10 period, the licensee can go into either DECON or
11 SAFSTOR.

12 DECON, or a prompt decommissioning, the
13 licensee begins the decommissioning activities and
14 usually transfer the spent fuel to dry storage. Past
15 experience has shown that decommissioning typically
16 takes seven to ten years to complete.

17 With SAFSTOR, the plant is placed in
18 storage -- we like to call it, it's cold and dark
19 -- until the licensee decides to dismantle and
20 decommission the plant. In SAFSTOR, the NRC will
21 continue to inspect the plants at least annually and
22 more frequently when decommissioning activities are
23 performed.

24 Regardless of the decommissioning option
25 chosen, the NRC regulations require that the

1 decommissioning be completed in 60 years.

2 Next slide, please.

3 A few reminders. We are here to listen to
4 your comments on the Pilgrim decommissioning. This is
5 part of the process we've set up and it's intended to
6 hear your comments, so we can consider those in our
7 review of both the PSDR from Entergy and, also, the
8 license application and the PSDR that supplements it
9 from Holtec.

10 The meeting, again, is being transcribed,
11 and the transcript will be publicly available. A
12 meeting summary will be published and would be
13 publicly available.

14 And we will do our best to answer your
15 questions, where we can. There's going to be possibly
16 some that we can't answer, but we do our best to get
17 back to you.

18 I'm going to introduce John. John Lamb is
19 going to sit down and speak.

20 MR. LAMB: Yes.

21 MR. WATSON: Okay. Thank you.

22 MR. LAMB: Hi. Good evening. My name is
23 John Lamb. I am the Project Manager for Pilgrim at
24 NRC Headquarters in Rockville. I've been working for
25 the NRC for 19 years, and prior to that, I worked 15

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1 years in the power plant.

2 Next slide, please.

3 In accordance with the NRC regulations, a
4 Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, or
5 PSDAR, must be submitted to the NRC, and a copy to the
6 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, prior to or within two
7 years following the permanent cessation of operations
8 of Pilgrim. Entergy submitted the Pilgrim PSDAR on
9 November 16th, 2018.

10 A PSDAR must contain a description of the
11 planned decommissioning activities, along with a
12 schedule for their accomplishment and a site-specific
13 decommissioning cost estimate, including the projected
14 cost of managing irradiated fuel.

15 The NRC staff uses a Regulatory Guide that
16 provides guidance on the content and format of PSDARs.
17 The Regulatory Guide is available to the public as
18 noted on this slide.

19 Decommissioning activities must not
20 endanger the public health and safety or result in
21 significant environmental impacts not previously
22 reviewed.

23 Next slide.

24 A PSDAR must contain a discussion that
25 provides the reasons for concluding that the

1 environmental impacts associated with site-specific
2 decommissioning activities will be bounded by
3 appropriate previously-issued Environmental Impact
4 Statements. Therefore, during the environmental
5 review of a PSDAR, the NRC uses various previous staff
6 reports to determine whether the environmental impacts
7 from decommissioning are bounded by these reports.
8 For instance, for Pilgrim, the NRC staff will use a
9 generic Environmental Impact Statement regarding
10 decommissioning and will also look at previous
11 Environmental Impact Statements developed specifically
12 for Pilgrim, such as the Environmental Impact
13 Statement developed for the renewal of the Pilgrim
14 operating license. The NRC staff will also rely on
15 findings from its inspection program.

16 Next slide, please.

17 The request for comment and meeting notice
18 for the Pilgrim PSDAR was published in The Federal
19 Register on December 21st, 2018. The 90-day comment
20 period ends on March 21st, 2019.

21 The NRC staff will notify the licensee if
22 the staff needs additional information to support its
23 review of the PSDAR. The NRC staff will document its
24 PSDAR review in a letter to the licensee and will
25 address the comments received during the comment

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1 period.

2 After the submission of the Pilgrim PSDAR,
3 the NRC regulations require that Entergy shall notify
4 the NRC in writing and send a copy to the Commonwealth
5 of Massachusetts before performing any decommissioning
6 activity inconsistent with or making a significant
7 schedule change from those actions and schedules
8 described in the PSDAR.

9 Next slide, please.

10 By letter dated November 16h, 2018,
11 Entergy and Holtec submitted a license transfer
12 application requesting that the license for Pilgrim be
13 transferred from Entergy to Holtec. Before this
14 transfer may be completed, the NRC must determine that
15 Holtec is qualified to be the holder of the Pilgrim
16 license.

17 In order to make this determination, the
18 NRC staff reviews the following five areas: financial
19 qualifications; decommissioning funding assurance;
20 foreign ownership, control, and domination; technical
21 qualifications, and insurance and indemnity. If the
22 NRC finds that Holtec is qualified in these areas,
23 then it would approve the license transfer by an order
24 and issue a conforming license amendment.

25 Next slide, please.

1 License transfer applications are noticed
2 in The Federal Register, and the public can request a
3 hearing and/or provide comments on the application.
4 The program license transfer application is ready for
5 publication in The Federal Register. However, The
6 Federal Register is currently impacted by the partial
7 federal government shutdown. Therefore, the Pilgrim
8 license transfer federal registration notification
9 will not be published until after the partial federal
10 government shutdown ends. Once this Federal Register
11 notice is published, there will be a 20-day hearing
12 period, and then, a 30-day comment period.

13 License transfer applications typically
14 contain proprietary information. A redacted,
15 nonproprietary version of the Pilgrim license transfer
16 application is available to the public and can be
17 found online through the NRC's electronic library
18 called ADAMS. The proprietary version can be
19 requested using a process that will be described in
20 The Federal Register notice.

21 Next slide, please.

22 By letter dated November 16th, 2018,
23 Holtec submitted a proposed revised PSDAR for Pilgrim.
24 The Holtec PSDAR is a supplement to the license
25 transfer application, and therefore, is part of the

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1 license transfer application action, and not part of
2 the Entergy PSDAR action. The Holtec PSDAR is
3 contingent upon the approval of the licensed transfer
4 application and the equity sale closure. For purposes
5 of this public meeting, the NRC will be accepting
6 comments on both the Entergy PSDAR action and the
7 license transfer application, which includes the
8 proposed Holtec PSDAR.

9 Next slide, please.

10 Holtec also submitted a request for an
11 exemption from the NRC's Decommissioning Trust Fund
12 requirements in an enclosure to the license transfer
13 application. If this request were to be granted, then
14 Holtec would be allowed to use the Pilgrim
15 Decommissioning Trust Fund not only for radiological
16 decommissioning expenses, but also for expenses
17 related to spent fuel management activities and site
18 restoration activities. Like the Holtec PSDAR, this
19 exemption request is contingent upon the approval of
20 the license transfer application and the equity sale
21 closure.

22 Next slide, please.

23 Comments regarding the Entergy PSDAR can
24 be submitted on regulations.gov website under Docket
25 ID NRC-2018-0286 until March 21st, 2019. Comments

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1 regarding the license transfer application can be
2 submitted during tonight's public meeting. Once the
3 license transfer application is noticed in The Federal
4 Register, then comments can be submitted on the
5 regulations.gov website under Docket ID NRC-2018-0279
6 for a period of 30 days for comments, and a hearing
7 can be requested for a period of 20 days.

8 Next slide, please.

9 This slide shows where to mail comments
10 regarding Entergy PSDAR or the license transfer
11 application. Please remember to use the Docket ID
12 associated with each application.

13 That concludes my presentation. I'll turn
14 it back over to Bruce.

15 MR. WATSON: Okay. Our next speaker is
16 Mandy Halter from Entergy.

17 MS. HALTER: Good evening. My name is
18 Mandy Halter, and I'm the Director of Nuclear
19 Licensing for Entergy Nuclear. With me tonight is
20 Mike Twomey, the Vice President of External Affairs
21 for Entergy Wholesale Commodities. I appreciate the
22 opportunity to be here tonight to provide you
23 information on Entergy's plans to decommission the
24 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station.

25 2019 is a significant year for Entergy,

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1 for Pilgrim, and for this area. On May 31st of this
2 year, Pilgrim will permanently cease power operations.
3 In June, we will certify to the NRC that the reactor
4 is permanently shut down and defueled. Also in June,
5 Pilgrim will complete its first staffing reduction, as
6 we transition the organizational structure to support
7 Pilgrim's SAFSTOR decommissioning plan. Throughout
8 the final months of plant operation, and as we
9 transition to decommissioning, we remain committed to
10 safety, health, and security of the plant, its
11 employees, and you, the public.

12 Next slide. Next slide, please. Thank
13 you.

14 The Entergy Post-Shutdown Decommissioning
15 Activities Report, or PSDAR, was submitted to the NRC
16 on November 16th, 2018, and outlines our plan to use
17 the SAFSTOR decommissioning strategy. Our PSDAR was
18 prepared by a team of experts, in accordance with
19 regulations, NRC guidance, and a thorough review of
20 PSDARs submitted to the NRC by plants in
21 decommissioning.

22 The Pilgrim PSDAR contains a description
23 of our planned decommissioning activities as well as
24 a schedule for their completion, an estimate of the
25 cost, and a discussion of the environmental impacts of

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1 these activities. And I will provide more information
2 in the following slides.

3 Next slide, please.

4 The majority of the dormancy period of our
5 SAFSTOR plan will involve all spent fuel in dry fuel
6 storage. This slide shows our plan to achieve the dry
7 fuel storage storm and sea state by the end of 2022.
8 Along the way, Pilgrim will make adjustments to its
9 staffing levels and the emergency plan, in accordance
10 with appropriate regulatory approvals, based on the
11 status of the fuel and the corresponding decreasing
12 risk of offsite radiological consequences from an
13 accident.

14 Next slide, please.

15 Under the SAFSTOR methodology, we will
16 maintain and monitor Pilgrim in a dormancy period to
17 allow for the radioactive decay of the plant, followed
18 by the dismantlement and decontamination to permit NRC
19 license termination within 60 years, as required by
20 regulations. Under Entergy's plan, radiological
21 decontamination and dismantlement will occur safely by
22 the year 2079. We plan to restore the site following
23 license termination.

24 Next slide, please.

25 In accordance with regulations, we

1 developed a site-specific estimate of the costs for
2 the planned SAFSTOR decommissioning activities at
3 Pilgrim. This cost estimate was developed by a
4 leading expert using up-to-date and best available
5 data. In addition to estimating the costs associated
6 with license termination, we also estimated the cost
7 associated with spent fuel management and site
8 restoration. Our SAFSTOR decommissioning cost
9 estimate for Pilgrim is included as an attachment to
10 the Entergy PSDAR.

11 Next slide, please.

12 The site-specific decommissioning cost
13 estimate submitted to the NRC in November 2018 was
14 reported using 2018 dollars and up-to-date 2018
15 pricing information. The total estimated cost
16 associated with license termination as well as spent
17 fuel management and site restoration for Pilgrim is
18 \$1.66 billion. We will periodically update the
19 decommissioning cost estimate throughout the SAFSTOR
20 period, in accordance with regulations.

21 It is very important to note that we are
22 required by regulation, as the owner of the plant, to
23 demonstrate reasonable assurance that there are
24 adequate funds available to cover the cost of license
25 termination. We provide this funding for Pilgrim

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1 through a Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund, which,
2 as reported to the NRC and the PSDAR, was funded at
3 \$1.05 billion at the end of October 2018. Accounting
4 for the growth of these funds over time, as permitted
5 by NRC methodology, the Pilgrim nuclear
6 decommissioning trust balance does not provide
7 financial assurance for the decommissioning costs of
8 our SAFSTOR plan.

9 Next slide, please.

10 We have concluded that the environmental
11 impacts associated with planned SAFSTOR
12 decommissioning activities at Pilgrim are less than,
13 and are bounded by, impacts addressed in previously-
14 issued Environmental Impact Statements. A more
15 detailed discussion of the reasons for our conclusion
16 is included in the PSDAR.

17 Next slide, please.

18 In November 2018, we filed an updated
19 Pilgrim Spent Fuel Management Plan with the NRC which
20 outlines our intent to store all spent fuel on a new,
21 larger, independent spent fuel storage installation
22 pad which will be located at a higher elevation on the
23 program site. This pad, which we plan to construct by
24 the end of 2020, will store a total of 61 casks,
25 including the 17 casks that are on the current pad, as

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1 well as 44 additional casks which are needed to store
2 the fuel that is currently in the reactor vessel and
3 the spent fuel pool.

4 Next slide, please.

5 In November 2018, Entergy and Holtec
6 submitted a request to the NRC to transfer the control
7 of Pilgrim's plant and ISFSI licenses from Entergy to
8 Holtec. If approved by the NRC, the license transfer
9 will allow for prompt decommissioning under Holtec's
10 plan, which is different than Entergy's plan.
11 Specifically, Holtec plans to decommission Pilgrim
12 using a DECON or immediate dismantlement strategy by
13 approximately 2024. Additionally, Holtec intends to
14 move all spent fuel to dry fuel storage on the new pad
15 by the end of 2021. Following this presentation,
16 Andrea Sterdis will provide more information on
17 Holtec's decommissioning plans for Pilgrim.

18 A major benefit of decommissioning under
19 Holtec's plan is that it will allow for earlier
20 release of portions of the Pilgrim site for reuse. We
21 have requested that the NRC review and approve the
22 license transfer application by May 31st of this year.
23 We know that this is an aggressive review schedule for
24 the staff and we are certain that the NRC will conduct
25 a very diligent review, and we expect nothing less.

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1 The intent behind this requested timeline is to
2 provide certainty to the plant employees and to the
3 citizens of Plymouth and the surrounding areas on
4 plant ownership as well as the decommissioning plan
5 and timeline following plant shutdown.

6 Next slide, please.

7 More information about Pilgrim's plans for
8 decommissioning as well as our related submittals that
9 we have provided to the NRC are publicly available on
10 our website, www.pilgrimpower.com.

11 I thank you for your time. And a number
12 of us are here from Entergy, and we look forward to
13 answering your questions later in the evening. Thank
14 you.

15 MR. WATSON: Thank you for your
16 presentation.

17 Our next presentation is by Andrea Sterdis
18 from Holtec International and CDI, I believe it's
19 called.

20 MS. STERDIS: Thank you, Bruce.

21 Good evening. I really appreciate the
22 opportunity to provide you all with a brief overview
23 of the Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report
24 that has been prepared to show the Holtec plan for
25 initiating plant decommissioning following NRC

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1 approval of the license transfer application,
2 execution of the license transfers, and completion of
3 the sale closure.

4 Next slide, please.

5 On this slide, you can see that I am up
6 here providing the presentation. I'm Andrea Sterdis.
7 I'm the Vice President for Regulatory Programs,
8 Environment and Safety for Comprehensive Commissioning
9 International. I am joined tonight by Joy Russell,
10 Senior Vice President for Holtec International.

11 Next slide.

12 On November 16th, 2018, Holtec submitted
13 a revised Post-Shutdown Decommissioning Activities
14 Report, or PSDAR, based on their plan to initiate
15 prompt DECON. Our PSDAR for DECON includes a
16 description of the planned activities, specifically
17 the activities that are required to initiate that
18 prompt DECON and complete it. It also includes a
19 planned DECON decommissioning schedule and a cost
20 estimate reflecting that schedule and the DECON plan.
21 Lastly, it includes a discussion of the environmental
22 impacts for the specific activities that will be
23 performed during the execution of the dismantlement
24 and the waste removal from the site to complete the
25 radiological decommissioning.

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1 The PSDAR was prepared in accordance with
2 NRC regulations and addresses NRC guidance. It was
3 prepared by a team that is experienced in planning,
4 estimating, and executing nuclear power plant
5 decommissioning. It was also informed by a review of
6 previously-submitted PSDARs, as well as particularly
7 a review and an alignment with the assumptions that
8 were provided and used in the Entergy SAFSTOR PSDAR.
9 The DECON PSDAR is contingent upon NRC approval of the
10 license transfer, execution of the transfers of the
11 license, and completion of the sale.

12 Next slide, please.

13 The DECON PSDAR reflects Holtec's plan to
14 promptly start decommissioning activities following
15 the license transfer and sales closure. The schedule
16 reflects the project goal to achieve partial site
17 release within eight years.

18 The decommissioning cost estimate reflects
19 DECON activities and schedule for completing
20 radiological decommissioning, managing the spent fuel,
21 and completing site restoration activities.

22 The environmental evaluation considers the
23 DECON activities and provides evidence that those
24 activities are bounded by the existing Environmental
25 Impact Statements that are applicable to the Pilgrim

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1 site, including the NRC generic Environmental Impact
2 Statement for Decommissioning as well as the Pilgrim
3 Site License Renewal Environmental Impact Statement.

4 If you look at the SAFSTOR PSDAR and
5 compare the decommissioning cost estimate with that
6 provided in our PSDAR for DECON, you will see some
7 differences. Those differences are primarily driven
8 by two reasons. First, the core business for Entergy
9 in the current time is to provide and generate
10 power/electricity. The core business for Holtec,
11 including CDI, is managing spent fuel and executing
12 decommissioning projects. And therefore, the Holtec
13 team has the latest technology, the engineering
14 expertise, and the project management expertise to
15 apply cost- and time-effective methods for
16 decommissioning, resulting in a difference in the
17 decommissioning cost.

18 In addition, the DECON plan eliminates the
19 transition to the dormant state, maintaining that
20 plant dormant state for almost 40 years, and the
21 transition to reactivate the plant and complete the
22 dismantlement and waste removal activities about 40
23 years down the road.

24 It's important to note that the SAFSTOR
25 dismantlement and waste removal schedule and the DECON

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1 dismantlement and waste removal schedule are similar
2 in duration. The difference is the prompt DECON one
3 modeled in our PSDAR is initiated immediately after
4 license transfer in 2019 and completes in
5 approximately five years.

6 On the next slide, please.

7 The schedule provided in the DECON PSDAR
8 assumes that the NRC will approve the license transfer
9 application in time to support a July 31st transfer of
10 the licenses and sale closure. This slide provides
11 some key assumptions that drove the schedule that's
12 included in that PSDAR, starting with the fact that
13 we've assumed an initiation of decontamination and
14 dismantlement activities in 2019 following the license
15 transfer. It also assumes that the newest ISFSI pad
16 construction is completed and the pad is available for
17 use in 2020. It assumes that the offloading of the
18 spent fuel transitioning the site from a combined wet
19 and dry spent fuel storage site to a dry fuel storage
20 site only occurs by the fourth quarter of 2021.

21 Similar to the SAFSTOR PSDAR schedule
22 submitted by Entergy, our DECON PSDAR schedule assumes
23 that the DOE completes the spent fuel removal from the
24 site in the 2062 time period. The DECON PSDAR
25 schedule shows radiological decommission, except for

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1 the independent spent fuel storage installation,
2 ISFSI, is accomplished within approximately five years
3 following the license transfer and sale closure. It
4 also assumes that site restoration activities, which
5 are not required for the partial site release approval
6 by the NRC, are continuing beyond that approximately
7 one year.

8 Next slide, please.

9 The Holtec DCE, or decommissioning cost
10 estimate, that's included in the DECON PSDAR results
11 in approximately \$1.134 billion cost in 2018 dollars.
12 The Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund for Pilgrim is
13 currently valued at \$1.05 billion as of October 31st,
14 2018. The cash flow analyses that were submitted as
15 part of the license transfer application as well as
16 the DECON PSDAR and decommissioning cost estimate
17 demonstrate that the Pilgrim Nuclear Decommissioning
18 Trust Fund contains sufficient funds to cover our plan
19 for radiological decommissioning, spent fuel
20 management, and site restoration.

21 It's important to note that, pursuant to
22 NRC regulations, we will be required, as the licensee,
23 to prepare and submit an annual report that provides
24 the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust Fund status,
25 including expenses and activities executed in the

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1 previous year, the remaining NDT balance, and showing
2 financial assurance that the balance can address and
3 cover the remaining costs of all the activities
4 required to complete the license termination. This is
5 a public report and is made available each year by the
6 NRC.

7 With that, I'd like to thank you for your
8 time, and I'd like to thank the NRC for this meeting.
9 Thank you.

10 MR. WATSON: Thank you, Andrea.

11 Before I turn the meeting over to Brett
12 and Donna to facilitate the comment session, I would
13 like to invite any elected officials or their
14 representatives or any Native American tribe
15 representations to make statements if you're available
16 now. So, if you would, those that are interested,
17 please come up to the microphone and state your name
18 for the record.

19 MR. KLUKAN: So, we actually have a couple
20 who have preregistered with us, and we are going to go
21 down through that list. And then, we'll open it up to
22 those who did not preregister.

23 So, first up, we're going to have Ms.
24 Jessica Wong from the Office of Senator Elizabeth
25 Warren.

1 MS. WONG: Good Evening. Thank you. As
2 Brad said, my name is Jessica. I am from Senator
3 Elizabeth Warren's office, and I'm her Regional
4 Director.

5 So, Senator Warren reiterates her deep
6 concerns with the consistently poor public safety
7 record at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station and the
8 Nuclear Regulatory Commission's pattern of ignoring
9 critical discrepancies in Entergy's safety measures
10 that put Massachusetts residents at risk. This cannot
11 continue, especially as the NRC reviews the license
12 transfer for the decommissioning from Entergy to
13 Holtec International. To date, she has sent six
14 letters to the NRC expressing these concerns, most
15 recently in October, following the reports of
16 unplanned shutdowns due to problems with equipment.

17 Entergy cannot continue to use the
18 summer's planned shutdown as an excuse to avoid much-
19 needed safety upgrades that protect our communities.
20 Senator Warren urges the company to prioritize the
21 people of southeastern Massachusetts over its profits.

22 Similarly, the NRC can no longer shirk its
23 responsibilities to establish and enforce proper
24 safety standards. The Senator, once again, calls on
25 the NRC to require Entergy to immediately comply with

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1 federal safety standards, and if they refuse to do so,
2 then the NRC must take necessary steps to shut down
3 the plant.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

6 Next, we will have Ms. Rory Clark from the
7 Office of Senator Ed Markey.

8 MS. CLARK: Thank you for having me. As
9 you said, I'm Rory Clark. I'm Senator Markey's
10 Regional Director. I'll be reading a statement on
11 Senator Markey's behalf.

12 "I've long been concerned about Pilgrim's
13 safety and operating record and its management's
14 history of cutting corners at the expense of increased
15 risk to Massachusetts residents. As we turn our
16 attention now to the details of the Post-Shutdown
17 Decommissioning Activities Reports submitted by
18 Entergy and Holtec International, I must remind the
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Entergy, and Holtec
20 that the people of Massachusetts will settle for
21 nothing less than the most stringent safety measures.

22 "As the federal regulatory body overseeing
23 the decommissioning process, we all expect the NRC
24 will review both Entergy and Holtec's proposed
25 decommissioning plans with the utmost of care and

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1 caution. The safety of Massachusetts residents
2 demands this thorough review.

3 "Plans for the ownership and
4 decommissioning of Pilgrim must prioritize safety and
5 security. The NRC must evaluate both Entergy and
6 Holtec's PSDARs to ensure that each provides a
7 comprehensive accounting of how that owner will assume
8 responsibility for safe operations, improve upon the
9 abysmal safety record at Pilgrim, and finance the
10 complete decommissioning process.

11 "I understand that it's common practice
12 for the NRC to issue exemptions that would limit the
13 required emergency planning zone when the plant begins
14 the decommissioning process, but I must urge the NRC
15 to require Pilgrim's owner, be it Entergy or Holtec,
16 to work with local communities to maintain and fund
17 the significant emergency planning zone and ensure
18 that local communities are prepared for any
19 eventuality.

20 "Last year I was proud to cosponsor the
21 Safe and Secure Decommissioning Act which would
22 prohibit the NRC from issuing waivers or granting
23 exemptions from complying with safety and emergency
24 preparedness regulations put forth in the Atomic
25 Energy Act of 1954 until nuclear fuel had been

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1 transferred to spent nuclear fuel dry casks. I will
2 continue to push for all parties involved in the
3 decommissioning of Pilgrim to abide by such standards.

4 "As we are all aware, this region is home
5 to fierce nor'easter storms and rising tides, posing
6 safety concerns that other nuclear facilities around
7 the country do not have to contend with. Especially
8 given this region's harsh environmental conditions,
9 the NRC should ensure the completion of a full
10 National Environmental Policy Act analysis that would
11 exam the effect of the proposed decommissioning plans
12 on the environment and allow for additional public
13 involvement.

14 "Furthermore, any Pilgrim licensee should
15 provide thorough plans for communicating regularly
16 with the public and local stakeholders throughout the
17 decommissioning process. This communication is
18 essential to ensure that all members of the community
19 understand how Pilgrim will be safely decommissioned
20 and foster confidence that security measures satisfy
21 federal safety standards and community expectations.

22 "I was proud to be an original cosponsor
23 of additional legislation in 2018 entitled 'The
24 Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Act,' which would ensure
25 the states and local communities have a meaningful

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1 role in the crafting and preparation of
2 decommissioning plans for retired nuclear plants
3 located in our community. This bill also requires the
4 NRC to publicly and transparently approve or reject
5 every proposed decommissioning plan, which it
6 currently is not required to do.

7 "I will be introducing the Dry Cask
8 Storage Act this session, which would ensure every
9 nuclear reactor operator must be compelled to comply
10 with an NRC-approved plan that would require the safe
11 removal of spent nuclear fuel from spent nuclear fuel
12 pools and placed that fuel into dry cask storage
13 within seven years of the time that the plan is
14 submitted to the NRC. This bill would further provide
15 funding to help reactor licensees implement these
16 plans and would expand the emergency planning zone for
17 all noncompliant reactor operators to 50 miles.

18 "As we consider tonight the shutdown
19 process for Pilgrim, Entergy and Holtec must provide
20 conclusive proof that there are sufficient funds
21 available in the Nuclear Decommissioning Trust to
22 decommission Pilgrim in a safe and secure manner. It
23 will be unacceptable for Entergy or Holtec to demand
24 additional money from Massachusetts ratepayers to
25 complete the decommissioning process at Pilgrim.

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1 There can be no second chances here.

2 "Historical data and NRC guidelines
3 indicate that the decommissioning costs are likely to
4 increase faster than inflation. Entergy and Holtec
5 must each account for that fact or find a way to
6 clearly rebut it. Given the amount currently
7 available in the Trust Fund, the NRC must carefully
8 assess if the proposed decommissioning timeline is
9 achievable in a safe and secure manner and require
10 there is reasonable public assurance of available
11 funds for the totality of the process. Additionally,
12 as the proposed license transfer will further strain
13 the NRC's resources, it is imperative that the NRC
14 assign additional staff to work on these issues and
15 charge the licensees for their salaries.

16 "In the recent past, I have also expressed
17 my concerns to the NRC regarding the draft
18 decommissioning rule currently awaiting review, which
19 is intended to provide clear guidelines for all plants
20 that are undergoing the decommissioning process. This
21 proposal falls far short of the NRC's stated goals of
22 providing for a safe, effective, and efficient
23 decommissioning process for nuclear plants. In its
24 current form, this fails to propose a comprehensive
25 set of decommissioning and cleanup regulations, would

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1 result in the automatic approval of facilities'
2 exemptions from safety, security, and emergency
3 planning regulations, and would continue to
4 rubberstamp the industry's Post-Shutdown
5 Decommissioning Activities Report. I continue to urge
6 the NRC to reject this draft and, instead, write a
7 rule that will affirmatively guide plants and
8 communities through the decommissioning process.

9 "Thank you."

10 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

11 Next, we will have Mr. Michael Jackman of
12 the Office of Congressman Bill Keating.

13 MR. JACKMAN: Thank you.

14 I do have a statement from the Congressman
15 I'd like to read, but before I do that, I have just
16 some housekeeping questions. The slide presentations
17 that were made tonight, are those available online or
18 will they be available online?

19 MR. KLUKAN: For the record, yes, they
20 will be available online on the NRC's website.

21 MR. JACKMAN: Okay. Only because I think
22 if people want to make comments both on the PSDAR and
23 the license transfer, there's a lot of good
24 information in there. Thank you.

25 "Thank you for the opportunity to address

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1 you at tonight's public meeting. Unfortunately, the
2 House voting schedule prevents me from being here in
3 person, but I wanted to restate my opinion that, as we
4 draw closer to the cessation of operations at Pilgrim,
5 the rigorous scrutiny of the operations at the plant
6 must continue. Entergy must not be allowed to
7 languish in column 4, representing the minimum level
8 of operational safety for the remainder of its life as
9 a power generating plant.

10 "In addition, the NRC must scrutinize
11 Entergy's and Holtec's Post-Shutdown Decommissioning
12 Activities Reports to ensure that the health and
13 safety of Massachusetts residents is not at risk. The
14 NRC must enforce its regulations and require the
15 licensee to adhere to the most stringent standards for
16 facility security, cybersecurity for all the plant
17 systems, structural integrity of the onsite dry cask
18 storage system, and mitigation of environmental
19 hazards.

20 "In addition, decommissioning activities
21 must be fully funded by the licensee, and the NRC must
22 do all it can to ensure that taxpayers, be they
23 residents of Plymouth, the Commonwealth of
24 Massachusetts, or the United States of America, are
25 not left to shoulder the burden of the cost of the

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1 cleanup of the Pilgrim site.

2 "Given the real prospect of ongoing
3 nuclear waste storage here in Plymouth, it is
4 incumbent upon all levels of government to work
5 together to ensure the safety of our residents. It is
6 imperative that those residents and residents of all
7 affected communities in Plymouth County, the Cape, and
8 the islands are included in the discussion and
9 decisions involved with the decommissioning process.

10 "The Plymouth Town Select Board, the State
11 legislative delegation, the Nuclear Decommissioning
12 Citizens Advisory Panel, private groups like Pilgrim
13 Watch and Cape Downwinders, and many other concerned
14 individuals and groups, all have been engaged in this
15 vital discussion over the years, and they all deserve
16 to have their input heard and incorporated into the
17 decisionmaking process. I am proud to have
18 cosponsored legislation, which I've already referred
19 to, the Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Act, that will
20 do just that.

21 "I applaud all those present tonight for
22 sharing their perspectives, and I will continue to
23 fight to make sure that your voices are heard. Thank
24 you."

25 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

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1 Next, we will have Mr. Seth Schofield from
2 the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

3 MR. SCHOFIELD: Thank you, Brett.

4 Good evening. I'm Seth Schofield, Senior
5 Appellate Counsel and Assistant Attorney General in
6 the Energy and Environment Bureau of the Office of
7 Attorney General Maura Healey.

8 First, I'd like to thank the Nuclear
9 Regulatory Commission for coming to Plymouth tonight,
10 so that the public has an opportunity to voice their
11 thoughts and concerns about the power plant and the
12 proposed plans to decommission the plant following its
13 shutdown this spring.

14 From the Attorney General's perspective,
15 the proposed sale of Pilgrim and the related transfer
16 of Pilgrim's operating license from Entergy to a
17 Holtec subsidiary raise significant health, safety,
18 environmental, and financial concerns for the
19 Commonwealth and its citizens. We appreciate the
20 potential benefits of accelerated decommissioning that
21 forms the basis for the sale and license transfer
22 application, but we currently have serious concerns
23 about whether Pilgrim's Decommissioning Trust Fund
24 contains sufficient funds to cover the performance of
25 all necessary decommissioning, site restoration, and

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1 spent fuel management activities on an indefinite
2 basis.

3 As currently proposed, neither Holtec,
4 Pilgrim, LLC, the proposed licensee, nor Holtec
5 Decommissioning International, LLC, the proposed
6 licensed operator, will generate any revenue or bring
7 with them any new assets that could be used to fund
8 and complete site decommissioning, restoration, and
9 spent fuel management activities at the site.
10 Instead, Holtec-Pilgrim and Holtec Decommissioning
11 International's only planned source of funds are the
12 funds currently existing in the Pilgrim Trust Fund,
13 and as currently proposed, there exists no guaranteed
14 add to the parent company of those two single-purpose
15 limited liability companies to compensate for any
16 funding shortfall in the Trust Funds. If there are
17 insufficient funds in the Trust Fund, Holtec would
18 likely default on its obligation and likely leave the
19 Commonwealth and its taxpayers with those obligations,
20 both as the payer of last resort and the party
21 responsible for protecting public safety and the
22 environment for an indefinite period.

23 Based on our preliminary review of the
24 license transfer application and the revised Post-
25 Shutdown Decommissioning Activities Report, we have

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1 reason to believe that a Trust Fund shortfall could
2 very well occur. For example, Holtec's estimate of
3 what it will cost to decommission, restore, and manage
4 spent fuel at the site is only \$3.615 million less
5 than the total amount of money expected to be in the
6 trust. That means there would be insufficient funds
7 to cover any cost overrun in excess of \$3.6 million.

8 Past experience, however, including
9 decommissioning experience at other sites in New
10 England, demonstrates that the potential discovery of
11 previously unidentified radiological and non-
12 radiological contamination, potential unanticipated
13 work delays, and other potential problematic events
14 could well drive costs significantly beyond
15 preliminary post-shutdown decommissioning cost
16 estimates.

17 For example, the discovery of strontium-90
18 during decommissioning at Connecticut Yankee doubled
19 the anticipated decommissioning cost there. The
20 discovery of highly contaminated groundwater during
21 decommissioning at Maine Yankee also increased costs
22 beyond those anticipated to decommission that site.
23 And the discovery of PCB contamination/radiological
24 groundwater contamination during decommissioning at
25 Yankee Rowe, similarly, caused significant and

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1 unanticipated cost increases.

2 Holtec and its partner, SNC-Lavalin, have
3 poor track records on other projects at other sites
4 around the country, which amplifies the Commonwealth's
5 concerns about the potential for cost overruns,
6 delays, and other issues that will both imperil public
7 safety and our environment, while at the same time
8 enhancing the risk of a Trust Fund shortfall that
9 would make matters even worse. For example, the NRC
10 just recently issued a Notice of Violation related to
11 Holtec's mishandling of dry cask loading and transfer
12 operations at San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station in
13 California, and its failure to timely report that
14 matter to the NRC.

15 Because of the significant risk to the
16 Commonwealth embodied by the pending license transfer
17 proposal, we implore the NRC to join us in closing
18 scrutinizing the proposal's terms and ensure that
19 substantial financial assurances exist to ensure that
20 those risks are fully addressed. To that end, the
21 Attorney General intends, on behalf of the
22 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to intervene in the
23 pending license transfer proceeding to articulate
24 these and other concerns for evaluation by the
25 Commission and the imposition of protective safeguards

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1 and other conditions with respect to any license
2 transfer.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

5 Next up, we have several authorized
6 representatives from the Board of Selectmen of the
7 Town of Duxbury.

8 MS. M. LAMPERT: Good evening. I'm Mary
9 Lampert, speaking tonight on behalf of the Duxbury
10 Board of Selectmen.

11 The town is very concerned the site will
12 not be properly cleaned up due to reliance on a GEIS
13 written in 2002 and an SEIS written in 2006 that are
14 outdated, incomplete, and ignore new and significant
15 information, and the failure of NRC to require a NEPA
16 analysis, as required by federal law and legal
17 precedent, into insufficient funds in the DTF.

18 With respect to the GEIS and SEIS, Duxbury
19 sees no rational basis for NRC to assume that the
20 environmental impacts are bounded by these documents,
21 nor that environmental impacts will be small or that
22 the site is essentially clean. It is not. A few
23 examples:

24 The SEIS incorrectly denies that the
25 National Academy's Biological Effects of Radiation

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1 Report, 2006, denies to provide new and significant
2 information from the 1990 report. The 2006 report
3 found mortality rates for women exposed to radiation
4 was 37.5 percent higher than its 1990 report and the
5 impact of allowable radiation standards on workers was
6 twice that estimated in 1990. Therefore, allowable
7 doses need to be reduced from the 25 millirem a year
8 to less than 10 millirem a year, as the State has
9 requested, and reduction in allowable doses to
10 workers. You are obligated to follow the latest
11 scientific information, not go back to 1990.

12 Second, contamination onsite must be
13 updated. In the GEIS and SEIS, NRC didn't lift a
14 shovel. You just relied on the licensees' reports.
15 Their conclusions cannot be relied upon. Pilgrim
16 opened with bad fuel and no off-gas treatment system,
17 and blew its filters in 1982.

18 Where did the contamination go? Hazardous
19 waste is buried onsite, including on the property off
20 the access road. Construction has occurred at the
21 site and the soil buried. What's in that soil?
22 There's a crack in the reactor's torus floor. Soil
23 outside the reactor, beneath it, must be analyzed.
24 The source of tritium levels of monitoring wells is
25 unknown. Other slower-moving radionuclides also are

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1 likely to be there, not yet picked up by the
2 monitoring wells. Also, what is leaked from seismic
3 gaps and the condensate system? Again, who knows?
4 It's not in the 2002 report. It's not in the SEIS
5 written in 2006.

6 NRC's 2014 continued storage rule that the
7 waste may be stored onsite indefinitely has to be
8 considered. The PSDAR's assumptions that spent fuel
9 will be offsite by 2062 cannot be accepted by NRC.
10 Entergy relied on DOE for its projections, but DOE
11 qualified its projections. Entergy and Holtec did
12 not.

13 PSDAR cost estimates and plans to ensure
14 the long-term integrity of the casks must be revised
15 to provide a contingency fund for long-term storage.
16 NRC's Mark Lombard stated that there is no technology
17 to find cracks in Holtec casks. They're made of steel
18 and subject to corrosion. Dr. Kris Singh, the
19 President of Holtec, said that it's not feasible to
20 repair Holtec's sealed canisters.

21 These facts cannot be ignored. Casks must
22 be better protected, monitored for heat, helium, and
23 temperature, and funds for mitigation included in cost
24 estimates because the fuel, as NRC has said, could
25 remain here indefinitely in an environment subject to

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1 corrosion, moisture, and salt.

2 The GEIS and SEIS found socioeconomic
3 impacts small. Again, not so. A University of
4 Massachusetts Amherst study commissioned by the Town
5 of Plymouth found that the economic impact on Plymouth
6 alone would be almost \$500 million and that there
7 would be more than \$100 million impact on the rest of
8 the region, including Duxbury.

9 Conclusion: therefore, it's clear that
10 the GEIS and SEIS are totally inadequate and do not
11 bound the environmental impact. The NRC must require
12 both a comprehensive environmental analysis that
13 includes shovels and testing, made public, quite
14 obviously, at the beginning of the decommissioning
15 process and a NEPA analysis.

16 This is a major federal reaction. You
17 cannot pretend it is mere oversight to wiggle your way
18 out of the requirement. You gave the license and you
19 will terminate the licenses. That is a major federal
20 action.

21 And thank you very much.

22 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

23 MR. J. LAMPERT: I'm Jim Lampert, and I am
24 also here representing the Duxbury Board of Selectmen.
25 And I'd like to speak briefly on just one aspect.

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1 The Selectmen in the Town of Duxbury have
2 serious concerns about the financial aspects of
3 decommissioning. You heard Senator Markey's
4 representative, Senator Warren's representative,
5 Representative Keating's representative, and the
6 Attorney General's Office refer to these.

7 Holtec's PSDAR, like Entergy's, says there
8 is enough money in the Decommissioning Trust Fund to
9 accomplish the job. Putting aside all of the things
10 the PSDAR doesn't talk about, and Mrs. Lampert just
11 listed, that assumption by Entergy and Holtec rests on
12 a further assumption that future costs in
13 decommissioning will not be more than future increases
14 in general inflation. That assumption is highly
15 questionable.

16 According to Callan Associates that
17 annually puts together a report on decommissioning
18 costs for the nuclear industry, decommissioning costs
19 increased at an annual rate of about 5.8 percent
20 between 2008 and 2016. This increase in cost is about
21 4.5 percent above inflation. For a benchmark, the NRC
22 and the PSDARs assume that the Trust Fund will grow at
23 a rate of only 2 percent of the general inflation.

24 The NRC's own questions and answers on
25 decommissioning financial assurance say that, over a

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1 20-year period, there will be an annual increase in
2 decommissioning costs of between 5 and 9 percent.
3 Again, well over both inflation and 2 percent above
4 inflation. If the NRC's statements are correct, and
5 if Callan's reports of actual past history are
6 correct, it seems highly unlikely that there's going
7 to be enough money in the fund to accomplish the job.

8 Which leads me to a fundamental question
9 of the Board of Selectmen: if there is not enough
10 money, what law or regulation requires a licensee,
11 particularly a limited liability corporation like
12 Holtec-Pilgrim, or any of its parent or associated
13 entities, to pay the shortfall? Can you tell me if
14 there is such a regulation? And if so, tell me what
15 it is. And if you cannot do now, can I ask that you
16 tell us all tomorrow night at the decommissioning
17 panel meeting to give you the time to get the answer?

18 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

19 MS. CHIN: Rebecca Chin for the Town of
20 Duxbury. The Selectmen asked me to speak on public
21 safety this evening.

22 And we urge you to retain the current
23 offsite emergency planning funded by the licensee
24 until the spent fuel pool is emptied and continue
25 licensee-funded offsite emergency planning on a

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1 reduced level until all the fuel leaves the site.

2 Entergy has currently filed for a license
3 exemption to end offsite and reduce onsite funding,
4 and this should be denied by the NRC. You cannot
5 expect mutual aid with no funding.

6 The second is on monitoring. Mass
7 Department of Public Health should continue to expand
8 offsite radiological monitoring and onsite tritium
9 monitoring. The licensee should continue to provide
10 Mass Department of Public Health with its funding. It
11 needs to be required of the licensee.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

14 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Sheila Lynch-
15 Benttinin in Duxbury, speaking on behalf of the Board
16 of Selectmen.

17 I would like to address one issue. Forty
18 years ago when community safety was being addressed,
19 telephone poles and speakers were the technology of
20 the time. Currently, in our Town of Duxbury, which is
21 within the 5-mile zone of Pilgrim, we have an Old
22 Colony network, digital network, of public safety
23 addresses. I would like Holtec, if they are going to
24 start next July, to engage the regional fire
25 departments and the Old Colony system of current

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1 digital notification to be engaged in community safety
2 and planning during the three very important years,
3 especially after what just happened in California with
4 the accident. If there's an accident during the
5 Holtec time, if they're given the license, and you're
6 not up-to-date with the current fire department
7 technologies in the region, it will be a very tragic
8 day. So, I encourage Holtec, if they're given the
9 license in July, to reach out to the regional fire
10 departments and the emergency notification system,
11 which has been greatly upgraded since 40 years ago.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

14 Are there any other elected officials or
15 representatives of elected officials or
16 representatives of federally-recognized tribes who
17 would like to introduce themselves this evening before
18 we move on to the public comment portion?

19 (No response.)

20 All right. Hearing none, I would like to
21 introduce Donna Janda, and we will proceed with the
22 public comment portion.

23 MS. JANDA: Thanks, Brett.

24 Good evening, everyone. As Brett said, my
25 name is Donna Janda, and I'll be facilitating

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1 tonight's meeting along with Brett.

2 For those of you who registered to speak,
3 you should have received a ticket, the other half of
4 which Brett has in a container over here. And the
5 speaking order is going to be determined by the
6 numbers that are pulled from the container. And the
7 intent of this is so that the speaker order is just
8 random.

9 So, I do want to emphasize there is no
10 prohibition against donating your ticket to others.
11 You are free to do so. However, both individuals
12 should be present at the time that number is called,
13 and the donation must be announced at that time.

14 In addition, if an individual has already
15 spoken during the meeting as a result of someone
16 donating their ticket, and then, that individual's
17 ticket is called, that individual may not use that
18 ticket, but they can donate it to someone else. This
19 is just to give opportunity to everyone to be able to
20 speak.

21 So, when your number is called, please
22 queue up to the microphone that's in the aisle, in the
23 center aisle right there. And if you need to have a
24 microphone brought to you, just let us know, and Brett
25 will take care of that for you.

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1 Just so you have some advanced warning of
2 when it's your turn to speak, Brett's posting the
3 numbers right now as I'm speaking, and we're going to
4 just go down them in sequential order there.

5 In an effort to give everybody the
6 opportunity to speak tonight, please limit yourselves
7 to three minutes when we speaking. We do have a clock
8 here on this table in the center here, in front of the
9 podium, and we'll count down those three minutes. And
10 after the three-minute mark, I'll politely ask you to
11 conclude your remarks.

12 For your awareness, the meeting tonight is
13 being recorded, and there is a transcript that will
14 generated after the meeting. Both the audio and the
15 transcript will be posted to the NRC website. So, in
16 light of that, I would ask, when it's your turn to
17 speak, that you please identify yourself. And I would
18 also ask, for the sake of the audio recording, that
19 people not speak over each other.

20 I would also ask that we keep this area
21 clear in front of the stage. If there is something
22 you would like to give to the NRC staff, you can give
23 that to Brett and he'll take care of that.

24 And now, just some basic groundrules to go
25 over. While recognizing many of you have strongly-

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1 held opinions concerning the matters that were
2 discussed tonight, I ask that you, nonetheless, adhere
3 to civil decorum, that you respect each other. So,
4 please do not disrupt each other. Just as you
5 wouldn't want to be interrupted during your three
6 minutes at the microphone, please respect the speaking
7 time of others.

8 Any threatening gestures or statements
9 will under no circumstances be tolerated and will be
10 cause for immediate ejection from the meeting. If you
11 feel you've been threatened, please let me know or
12 please tell one of the NRC security personnel or
13 police officers in the room, and we will try and
14 address that.

15 The one thing that I do want to also
16 note -- and I haven't heard any tonight -- but please
17 make sure you silence your cell phones, so that
18 doesn't disrupt the meeting.

19 And I think we are ready to go at that.
20 So, the first number on the list is No. 2.

21 PARTICIPANT: I've already spoken.

22 MS. JANDA: Okay. Would you like to
23 donate that ticket to somebody else to speak?

24 MR. KLUKAN: Would anyone who didn't sign
25 up yet to speak like to speak right now?

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1 (No response.)

2 All right. So, let's break this down.
3 This system is designed -- I actually just experienced
4 this at a Westinghouse meeting in South Carolina where
5 we didn't have that many numbers. So, this is
6 everyone. This is everyone who signed up to speak.
7 So, we have 14 people who signed up to speak. There
8 will likely be some opportunity at the end, after
9 these individuals have spoken, if you haven't signed
10 up to speak, or if you decide after hearing comments
11 to speak then.

12 So, the plan is just to move through these
13 numbers, and then, again, open it up after that. I'm
14 still going to keep people to the three minutes. And
15 then, if people have additional things to say after
16 that, once we've gotten through the list, and whether
17 there's any additional people who would like to speak,
18 then we can add on a second round, as time permits.
19 Okay?

20 So, did anyone want to use the No. 2
21 ticket?

22 (No response.)

23 If not, we will move on to the No. 12
24 ticket.

25 Pass? All right. Look at the time we are

1 making this evening.

2 (Laughter.)

3 The No. 1 ticket. Do you want to go?

4 MS. LAMPERT: Yes.

5 MR. KLUKAN: All right, go. All right.

6 MS. LAMPERT: Mary Lampert for Pilgrim
7 Watch.

8 I just want to amplify the concern of our
9 town and other speakers of maintaining licensee
10 responsibility for offsite emergency planning in full
11 force, as it is now, whatever it is, until the pool is
12 emptied, and then, ratcheted-down until fuel leaves
13 the site.

14 What is not properly considered by NRC or
15 the licensees is our acts of malice. We know there is
16 a heightened threat environment, and we know that the
17 spent fuel pool is a vulnerable target, as
18 demonstrated by an expert for our Attorney General,
19 Dr. Gordon Thompson, during relicensing.

20 We know, also, that even in a cask they
21 are vulnerable to acts of malice by a shoulder-launch
22 missile, for example, and then, in the hole, putting
23 in an explosive. This is described in excruciating
24 detail, again by Dr. Thompson, both in hearings in the
25 United States, recent ones, and in Canada.

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1 So, you have to consider it. The fact
2 that the probability may be low, you can take an
3 arithmetic view to it because of the consequences
4 being so great as they are.

5 And consider also, we are very glad the
6 ISFSI pad has been moved to higher ground. However,
7 unfortunately, it wasn't moved to the Manomet side.
8 It was moved more towards, I'd say, the Duxbury side.
9 And it is very, very close to Rocky Hill Road.

10 So, we have gained a great deal by not
11 having it subject to climate change effects, but we
12 have lost on security. Therefore, we need a
13 reinforced barrier or some measure, a building or
14 something, to provide the security we need, because
15 the threat is not going away and each cask contains
16 over half the cesium-137 released in Chernobyl.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

19 MS. JANDA: And the next number is No. 3.

20 PARTICIPANT: Pass.

21 PARTICIPANT: I'll take it.

22 MR. KLUKAN: It's important to hold the
23 physical copy of the ticket. I'm just kidding.

24 Could you state your name for the record?

25 MR. WOLFE: My name is Dan Wolfe. I'm

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1 from Harwich on Cape Cod, and I also serve on the
2 Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel. So,
3 I'll see you all tomorrow night, and I appreciate your
4 being here.

5 In case there are people that can't be
6 there tomorrow night that are here tonight, we have
7 heard expressed by numerous folks from our legislative
8 delegation, the Attorney General's Office, a real
9 concern that there isn't sufficient funds. And we
10 could go back and forth on that. It's conjecture.
11 It's based on certain assumptions relative to economic
12 returns on what's in the Trust Fund.

13 So, I guess I have a really specific
14 question. And that is, what happens if there isn't?
15 What happens if there is not specific funds? Where
16 does the burden go?

17 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

18 MR. WATSON: The short answer is the
19 licensee remains responsible for completing the
20 decommissioning and providing the funds that are
21 necessary to do that. So, that would be a
22 responsibility that, if we were to grant the license
23 transfer to Holtec, they would be responsible for and
24 for complying with the requirements.

25 MR. WOLFE: Could I ask a followup

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1 question to that, please?

2 MR. KLUKAN: Sure. You have like two
3 minutes left.

4 MR. WOLFE: Okay. Thanks.

5 So, I guess question would be, is there
6 any precedent or is there an ability to hold the
7 original licensee liable in addition to Holtec? There
8 are layers of sort of corporate creation here that I
9 think limit and insulate from liability. So, I
10 question would be, is there a mechanism, is there a
11 precedent, is there a way to keep Entergy potentially
12 liable or the investors in Entergy potentially liable
13 if the funds are insufficient?

14 Because our concern is it goes to that
15 entity, and, of course, the well is dry. And by the
16 way, that is by design. That is by corporate design
17 as far as how this is being constructed.

18 Thank you very much.

19 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again.

20 MR. WATSON: To the best of knowledge, we
21 don't have any precedent. We have had some sites go
22 bankrupt, and we've worked with the trustee of the
23 Trust Fund to complete the decommissioning. So,
24 there's no -- once we complete our review, and if we
25 were to transfer the license, there would be no going

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1 back to Entergy for the funds. So, it's either
2 they're going to be qualified to do that and accept
3 that responsibility or not.

4 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
5 4.

6 MS. TURCO: Diane Turco with Cape
7 Downwinders.

8 Being a good neighbor means taking care of
9 each other and making decisions for the common good.
10 Entergy has advertised itself as a corporation that is
11 a good neighbor -- as long as there is money to be
12 made. Now the plug will be pulled in June and the
13 coffers will dry up. Entergy is running for the exit
14 door and leaving their legacy mess behind.

15 Entergy's PDSR calls for SAFSTOR, making
16 Pilgrim a radioactive holding tank for 60 years.
17 Holtec for DECON, prompt decommissioning using the
18 Decommissioning Trust Fund with exemptions. What is
19 best for the community should be the priority of both
20 their plans, but it is not.

21 We all agree that prompt decommissioning
22 is the best, but it must be done responsibly and
23 safely. The following are our standards to meet the
24 good neighbor requirements:

25 With the ISFSI holding tons of radioactive

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1 waste, there's still a potential for offsite release.
2 The PSDR must include emergency plans based on low-
3 probability, high-consequence incidents, such as
4 terrorists attacks, and be included in the
5 Environmental Impact Statement.

6 Location of the ISFSI pad must consider a
7 technically-defensible onsite storage location.
8 That's not what we have now.

9 Dry cask must be improved with quality and
10 be able to be inspected, monitored, repaired, and are
11 retrievable.

12 Procedures must be in place for transfer
13 of waste from any cracked or damaged canisters or
14 casks which may mean keeping the pool.

15 Procedures and training for fuel transfer
16 with certification of completion by the NRC prior to
17 moving any fuel from the pool.

18 Residual radiation levels must match EPA
19 standards and inclusion of independent oversight.

20 Finally, we ask for an AGO inspection into
21 Holtec and its subsidiaries before any license
22 transfer. As LLCs, this looks like a house of cards
23 with no guarantee that available funds will be
24 available to complete the job.

25 The citizens of Massachusetts must have

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1 clear assurance that the taxpayers will not be left
2 paying off the mess Entergy has left behind.

3 Looking at Holtec's record from recent
4 events at San Onofre near San Diego, confidence in
5 their ability to make decisions based on protection of
6 the public is questionable. An NRC special inspection
7 report of a near drop of a full canister cited poor
8 training, not following procedures, equipment
9 problems, and mismanagement. Sound familiar? Poor
10 management, poor training, poor procedures, et cetera,
11 has kept Entergy's operation at Pilgrim as the least
12 safe in the U.S. still. This is like going from the
13 frying pan into the fire. We don't need another
14 corporation here with a poor safety culture that puts
15 profit over public safety.

16 We are concerned neighbors and will
17 support a responsible and safe decommissioning plan
18 that protects our communities. If Holtec is setting
19 the standard at SONGS, Cape Downwinders cannot support
20 the transfer of license from Entergy at this time.

21 You need to go back to the drawing board
22 and do better for our communities.

23 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

24 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.

25 9.

1 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Good evening. Richard
2 Rothstein, Town of Plymouth resident and a new member
3 of the State Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory
4 Panel.

5 I asked the question during last week's
6 webinar regarding Entergy's PSDAR for SAFSTOR about
7 the anticipated timeline for when the NRC would allow
8 the onsite meteorological towers to get dismantled
9 during the decommissioning process under SAFSTOR. The
10 NRC couldn't answer that question, only because it's
11 a little bit too early in the process. So, I just
12 wanted to rephrase my question.

13 Why is it important to have the onsite
14 meteorological towers? They're important because of
15 emergency planning purposes. In the event of a
16 radiological emergency with the plant still operating
17 or once the plant is permanently shut down, but spent
18 fuel in the pool, before it gets transferred, and even
19 with the dry casks onsite, if there were a
20 radiological emergency, a release, emergency
21 responders would need to have that information to be
22 able to make determinations of shelter in place versus
23 emergency evacuation determinations there. This need
24 doesn't disappear simply just because the plant is
25 permanently shutting down.

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1 So, to rephrase my question from last
2 week, I'd be interested in learning about other plants
3 that have decommissioned or are in the process of
4 decommissioning, most using SAFSTOR, but some are
5 probably going to use DECON, and when the NRC allowed
6 a licensee to dismantle the onsite meteorological
7 towers. I don't expect you would have an answer
8 tonight, but certainly in the next few weeks I'd be
9 very interested in learning more about that history,
10 so we can see what circumstances did NRC require those
11 towers to stay up longer or other circumstances where
12 they allowed a licensee to dismantle them sooner than
13 later.

14 Thank you.

15 MS. JANDA: All right. Thank you.

16 The next speaker will be No. 10.

17 MR. WALLEN: Hello. My name is Stan
18 Wallen, a resident of the Town of Plymouth. And I'll
19 disclose that I'm a retiree of Pilgrim Nuclear Power
20 Station.

21 I have one simple question for Holtec.
22 Based on the numbers you put up on the board, where
23 are you going to make \$89 million in five years? You
24 need 1.54 billion to decommission in your timeline.
25 You have 105 now. If you're in the business to make

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1 money, where are you going to get an additional almost
2 90 million?

3 MR. KLUKAN: One moment.

4 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis.

5 And the cash flow analysis that are
6 included in both the license transfer application as
7 well as the PSDAR for DECON demonstrate that the costs
8 will be distributed over time, and it does accurately
9 reflect the regulations regarding the Trust Fund
10 increases over time.

11 MR. WALLEN: I see. So, I'll just quote
12 a former presidential candidate, that we're working
13 with, "voodoo economics".

14 Secondly, this whole situation here almost
15 looks like it's down pat that Holtec will get a
16 license transfer. What is the consequence of the NRC
17 not approving a license transfer? We're going to have
18 Entergy try to decommission and take 60 years. Is
19 there a method or order or compulsion that can happen
20 to have Entergy accelerate the process? Are we stuck
21 with that if the license transfer is not approved? An
22 NRC question.

23 MR. WATSON: Okay. Yes, first of all, we
24 are in the process of reviewing the Holtec application
25 and the associated financial and technical information

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1 that has been provided. So, there's been no
2 conclusion on that.

3 Should we deny the application and not
4 allow the transfer to take place, yes, Entergy would
5 remain the licensee and be responsible for maintaining
6 the plant in a safe condition. So, we would continue
7 to inspect as we will if the license were transferred
8 the facility to ensure it's maintained safely, and
9 regardless of the DECON option or SAFSTOR option they
10 choose. But the bottom line here is the licensee
11 would be, continue to be Entergy, and their
12 requirement is that they have to complete the
13 decommissioning in 60 years.

14 MR. WALLEN: Thank you.

15 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

16 Would it be beneficial to people if we put
17 back up the slide with one of the numbers instead of
18 just looking at "Thank you," which I'm sure is very
19 useful to all of you? Maybe either the Pilgrim
20 numbers, or the Entergy numbers or the Holtec number,
21 one of the two? Okay. Thanks for doing that.

22 MS. JANDA: Okay. The next speaker will
23 be No. 14.

24 MS. CONSETINO: Good evening, everybody.
25 I'm Henrietta Consetino, resident of Plymouth and,

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1 also, Chair of the League of Women Voters Nuclear
2 Committee.

3 And I thank you for coming tonight. We
4 appreciate it. It's very important.

5 I also want to say I appreciate greatly
6 the speakers who came from the offices of our elected
7 officials. It was very helpful to have their
8 comments.

9 I have a question, but I'll save it for
10 last. My first is just a comment in total laymen
11 terms. We have two possibilities right now. On the
12 one hand, we have Holtec proposing to decommission in
13 a very short amount of time, and for cheap, and
14 phenomenally. It just sounds too good to be true,
15 particularly if you start to pay attention to the
16 nature of the dry casks that are being proposed and
17 the fact that these very same dry casks have been
18 tremendously troublesome at San Onofre and probably in
19 other places, too, all of them scratched, being
20 subject to erosion from saltwater, being stored on the
21 beach.

22 At least in San Onofre, the plan was it's
23 now suspended for a time, but the plan was to put
24 these faulty casks in a vaulted system. Here in
25 Plymouth, there is no proposal for any kind of

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1 vaulting, any kind of hard cover for these very
2 vulnerable casks that could be subject to terrorism.

3 We appreciate the moving of the ISFSI, and
4 that was important to us, but there is much more that
5 needs to be done if Holtec is to have the license.
6 It's also very disturbing that Holtec is requesting
7 waivers for a certain amount of regulations, just as
8 Entergy has been granted waivers for the computer
9 security that was required for all of their plants in
10 the wake of Fukushima, waiver from the kind of hard
11 valves that would make it safer. So, this is
12 disturbing.

13 On the other hand, if we go with so-
14 called, grotesquely-called SAFSTOR, 60 years of
15 decommissioning, this is surreal. We will all be gone
16 60 years from now, every single one of us in this
17 room, unless there is a very young person. And many
18 of our children will be gone, too. And I wonder who
19 exactly is going to be in charge, what they will have
20 been told, and so forth.

21 Have I reached my limit? Okay. I stop
22 there then.

23 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

24 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.

25 8.

1 MR. GARLEY: Hi. I'm John Garley. I'm
2 from Hingham.

3 I have an NRC Information Notice 2012-20
4 that says that chloride-induced stress corrosion
5 cracking of austenitic -- right? You got the right
6 word? -- stainless steel in dry cask storage systems.
7 And there's a couple of times that it happened in San
8 Onofre, St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant, Turkey Point,
9 and through the wall at Koeberg Nuclear Power Station.
10 Are these casks made out of this austenitic steel?
11 That's a question for Holtec. Austenitic. Are you
12 going to answer the question or?

13 PARTICIPANT: Austenitic.

14 MR. GARLEY: Austenitic? Thank you. Are
15 these casks made out of that? Because this document
16 says that they're cracked from being near saltwater.

17 Do you need to hit a button or something
18 (referring to microphone)?

19 MR. KLUKAN: I'm just going to phrase it.
20 Would someone from either Entergy or Holtec like to
21 answer that question?

22 MR. GARLEY: Well, my concern is that the
23 CEO says that, if there is a crack, you couldn't fix
24 it, right? And you might not be able to find it. But
25 if there's no fuel pool, what do you do with that

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1 cask? So, that's a question for Holtec. Do we have
2 a solution if there's a cask leak, and what are you
3 going to do with it?

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: My name is Joy Russell.
5 I think that Andrea did introduce me at the very
6 beginning.

7 First, I would like to say that your
8 information about canisters is incorrect. There are
9 no leaking canisters in the United States. Holtec's
10 canisters do not leak. There has been no --

11 MR. GARLEY: The steel has corroded.

12 MS. J. RUSSELL: That is incorrect, sir.
13 I have --

14 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Well, that's an NRC
15 information docket number. So, you might want to
16 check with them. I'm just going by what they have.

17 MS. J. RUSSELL: Okay. Holtec's canisters
18 have no evidence of stress corrosion cracking.

19 MR. GARLEY: Really? All right. Well,
20 you might want to talk to them because they're putting
21 stuff online that says they do. All right?

22 And then, the Sierra Club put a letter to
23 the NRC as well -- it's Event No. 51134 -- that Holtec
24 filled the Diablo Canyon canisters incorrectly in half
25 of them. Is that incorrect as well? Because there's

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1 stuff online you might want to cancel.

2 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, I beg to differ with
3 you; that is also incorrect.

4 MR. GARLEY: Again? Okay.

5 MS. J. RUSSELL: The Diablo Canyon
6 canisters, which were loaded by Holtec on behalf of
7 Pacific Gas and Electric, were all loaded correctly in
8 accordance with our Certificate of Compliance.

9 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Well, somebody's got
10 some bad -- and the last thing is with NRC. Are you
11 considering deep isolation technology as well, besides
12 just Holtec's stuff? Because, I mean, we're getting
13 one option here or two that sound pretty bad to me.

14 MR. WATSON: Well, let me just state that
15 there is --

16 MR. GARLEY: It just stopped my number
17 (referring to the tickets for order of speakers).

18 MR. WATSON: There is a need in the
19 country for permanent repository of the spent fuel.

20 MR. GARLEY: Uh-hum.

21 MR. WATSON: The Department of Energy is
22 responsible for developing and finding that site and
23 using the proper technology. So, it's really up to
24 our policymakers in Washington to fund those
25 activities and to allow them to do their work in

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1 identifying and developing a site and what
2 technologies will be used with that.

3 I think everybody is aware that there was
4 some work-in-progress at the Yucca Mountain site in
5 Nevada. And so, that came to a halt. And so now,
6 it's up to the policymakers to reinstate the need or
7 the promise they made for disposing of this material.

8 MR. GARLEY: Okay. And my last question
9 for Holtec is that you have sent an application to the
10 NRC for interim storage in Lea County, New Mexico.
11 Does that mean you want to move this waste to New
12 Mexico? Is that on your plan?

13 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, you're correct,
14 Holtec has submitted a license application to the
15 Nuclear Regulatory Commission to license a
16 consolidated interim storage facility in southeast New
17 Mexico. And if the facility is constructed, it is the
18 possibility of moving the fuel from here to that
19 facility in New Mexico. That is correct.

20 MR. GARLEY: All right. So, the DOE says
21 there's 5,000 train car incidents a year. Do you
22 think that could be dangerous with stuff that's
23 corroded from the ocean?

24 MS. J. RUSSELL: Sir, if I understand your
25 question correctly, you're asking for my opinion --

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1 MR. GARLEY: Yes.

2 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- if I think
3 transportation of spent nuclear fuel is safe. Yes, I
4 do. The industry does it on a regular basis. We have
5 transported more than 1380 shipments by rail, all
6 safely, without any release of radioactive material.

7 MR. GARLEY: Okay. Thank you.

8 MS. JANDA: Thank you.

9 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

10 Before we move, since we do have some
11 time, we kind of left that hanging there, that
12 question. So, just to clarify, so the members of the
13 public don't go away potentially confused on this.

14 Are the casks made out of this kind of
15 steel, or if they're not, could we just state that for
16 the record? Because we kind of moved on to the second
17 question without answering the first. I just want to
18 make sure, because it seemed like there was some
19 confusion about that amongst the crowd.

20 MS. J. RUSSELL: Yes, the canisters are
21 made out of austenitic stainless steel.

22 MR. KLUKAN: All right. Thank you. I
23 appreciate that.

24 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
25 11.

1 MS. MILLER: Hello. My name is Claire
2 Miller. I'm the lead organizer with Toxics Action
3 Center. We're a public health and environmental
4 nonprofit founded in 1987.

5 And while I don't consider myself to be an
6 extremely young person, it is conceivable that I could
7 live to 93.

8 And I'm a community organizer, but I also
9 happened to grow up -- I was born and raised in
10 Duxbury, Massachusetts. And so, I want to speak a
11 little bit more from the heart tonight.

12 At Toxics Action Center we've really seen
13 over our history that corporations go to very great
14 lengths to avoid cleaning up their messes. And as a
15 teenager, I have a lot of memories hearing about
16 Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant. It's not every childhood
17 that you learn your home could be in a nuclear
18 meltdown.

19 My father is a curious man. He took tours
20 of the nuclear power plant before they stopped doing
21 that after 9/11. He told me stories about how the
22 folks would say, "Oh, don't stand there. That spot's
23 hot."

24 We also had a family friend who worked at
25 like a landscaping company. And I remember my father

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1 and them joking about, you know, how the site was --
2 there are hidden mysteries. And my distinct
3 impression was that they weren't kidding, even though
4 they were talking in a funny manner.

5 So, it really disturbs me that this isn't
6 proceeding with extreme care to the data. And I want
7 to say that it's extremely important to me that
8 there's a comprehensive environmental analysis done on
9 the entire site. We have to know really what's there.

10 The second piece here is that, as corny as
11 it may sound, we're in Hotel 1620. I am actually
12 descended from a pilgrim, and that's 15 generations of
13 my family. And I have an intention to do well by this
14 place. You know, my descendants haven't always done
15 well by this land, and I'd like to see 15 more
16 generations. But that's only possible if we do an
17 extremely good job. So, it's very important to me
18 that we honor the Commonwealth's desire for a cleanup
19 standard of no less than 10.

20 And the third thing that I am really
21 sitting on as we're here is really around drinking
22 water. It's so precious. And once it's contaminated,
23 it's extremely difficult to fix.

24 Toxics Action Center is working with
25 countless communities across the region who don't have

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1 access to clean drinking water. And so, as this
2 continues, as the NRC oversees the future of the site,
3 we have to ensure that there's clean drinking water
4 and we must meet the EPA's own standard of no less
5 than 4 for the drinking water.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much.

8 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.
9 7.

10 MS. CORRIGAN: Hi. Joanne Corrigan. I
11 live in Plymouth. I can ride my bike to the power
12 plant.

13 I've got a couple of questions. First of
14 all, that beautiful slide they showed of Yankee Rowe,
15 how pastoral it looked after the decommissioning,
16 where are the spent fuel casks? Is that airbrushed or
17 Photoshopped?

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. WATSON: No, that's an actual picture.
20 The dry fuel storage facility is located above the
21 river there on the hill.

22 MS. CORRIGAN: Because Plymouth will never
23 look like that. First of all, we have that nasty
24 jetty that's ripped the sand off Priscilla Beach. And
25 apparently, that's staying there, even though the

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1 slides are saying how it goes back to the natural
2 state in the environment. Is that right? Isn't
3 Holtec going to leave the jetty there? After the
4 reactor cools, I know --

5 MR. WATSON: I guess Holtec can maybe
6 answer.

7 MS. STERDIS: It is our plan to leave the
8 jetty there.

9 MS. CORRIGAN: Okay. My other question --
10 and I agree 100 percent with Mary Lampert that you're
11 moving the casks now. Finally you figured out it's
12 too close to the ocean. You didn't need a study.
13 Just come down to Priscilla Beach during a full moon
14 when there's a nor'easter, and you'll see the waves
15 come crashing onto the street. Why they put those
16 first ones so close is beyond me.

17 Now where they're going to move them,
18 they're right out in the open of Rocky Hill Road. And
19 what's to prevent, say, a dump truck with about 10
20 terrorists with RPGs or AR-15s with armor-piercing
21 bullets from stopping there, jumping up, and not
22 shooting at 100 casks, shooting at one cask? What's
23 the chance of that being compromised and breached and
24 releasing radiation?

25 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, Joy Russell.

1 In November, we presented at the Citizens
2 Advisory Panel a very lengthy discussion -- I
3 personally did that with one of my colleagues -- about
4 the safety and security that's offered by the Holtec
5 HI-STORM 100 System that's in use at Pilgrim. In that
6 discussion, which you can go back and I believe see it
7 online, I presented a long discussion about the casks'
8 ability to withstand even an aircraft crash. So, the
9 system is very robust and it can withstand what you
10 have just described as beyond-design-basis scenarios.

11 MS. CORRIGAN: I see. Well, my third
12 comment is, when Pilgrim was up and running and
13 actually made money, Entergy still couldn't get them
14 out of the column 4 degraded column, didn't want to
15 spend the money, didn't have the expertise, didn't
16 have the enthusiasm, all of the above.

17 What makes you think we are going to
18 believe, after the NRC gives them a pass on the
19 cybersecurity, the everything, that now, all of a
20 sudden, they're offline, they're not making money, and
21 they're going to put in the resource of the money to
22 keep us safe? I don't believe that for a minute.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

25 MS. JANDA: The next speaker will be No.

1 5.

2 MS. CONSETINO: Now I'll finish my
3 comment, but I'll make it very quick.

4 I wanted to follow up on the comments
5 -- I'm sorry. Henrietta Consetino.

6 MS. JANDA: Thank you.

7 MS. CONSETINO: Plymouth resident, League
8 of Women Voters.

9 I wanted to follow up on the many
10 questions about finances, and go back to Jim Lampert's
11 question. Where is the regulation that actually holds
12 the licensee responsible, should the fund, the
13 Decommissioning Trust Fund, be inadequate? And along
14 the way, what happens if the stock market crashes, and
15 1.05 billion turns into 900 million, or something of
16 that sort? What happens then? What is the state of
17 the Trust Fund right now?

18 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

19 MR. TWOMEY: Mike Twomey, on behalf of
20 Entergy.

21 We provide a periodic update on the value
22 of the Trust Fund, and we do not have an up-to-date
23 number available this evening.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Just to follow up, so we
25 don't leave it like that, when do you provide these?

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1 So, October was the last one. When would you provide
2 the next one?

3 MR. TWOMEY: Well, we at least provide a
4 number in March of every year as part of our annual
5 disclosure to the NRC. I don't know if we will be
6 providing one before March. And it's actually a March
7 number. I think it actually comes out in April.

8 MR. KLUKAN: Okay. Thank you.

9 MS. CONSETINO: It's worrisome because
10 we've had some very serious major plummets in the
11 market since October.

12 But I want to go back to the first
13 question and make sure you don't forget that Jim
14 originally asked, is there a regulation that holds the
15 licensee to its financial responsibilities? And if
16 so, what is that regulation?

17 MR. KLUKAN: Again, thank you.

18 MR. WATSON: Let me respond. I'm sorry.
19 The regulations for the decommissioning funding are
20 spelled out in 50.82. The actual requirement, if
21 you're going to accept or apply for a license with the
22 NRC, means that the licensee will be responsible for
23 providing the decommissioning funds to restore the
24 site and have the license terminated. Those are in,
25 I think it's 50.2. When a licensee applies for a

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1 license, there's something called the Common Defense
2 Clause, which means you are accepting that
3 responsibility when you apply for a license, and that
4 you will be radiologically and environmentally
5 responsible for cleaning up the site when you've
6 completed the work.

7 PARTICIPANT: What if they go bankrupt?

8 MR. WATSON: They're still responsible for
9 providing the funding, and that would be part of the
10 process we would go through for getting the assets of
11 the company and continuing the completion of the
12 decommissioning.

13 MR. WATSON: We have two more, and then,
14 we can potentially do a second round. But the
15 question that was posed on the floor, to which Bruce
16 responded, was, what happens if they go bankrupt? I
17 just wanted to make sure we capture that for the
18 transcript.

19 So, next up will be No. 13.

20 MR. GUSTAFSON: Good evening. My name's
21 Scott Gustafson. I'm a Plymouth resident.

22 I'm happy to hear tonight that Holtec is
23 planning on going with the DECON process and the
24 expedited process. I'm here to support the license
25 transfer to Holtec because of their technical

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1 expertise.

2 As a representative of the Laborers'
3 International Union of North America, our union has
4 worked extensively with Holtec and their subsidiaries
5 around the country, successfully, safely, efficiently.

6 I don't know if some of the references to
7 Holtec tonight are accurate, because we've always
8 worked closely with them. It's always been safe.
9 It's always been very efficient.

10 I have a brother and sister who are
11 working down at Pilgrim now, or have worked on the
12 last two projects with Holtec down there. I don't
13 hear anything about unsafe conditions. I hear that
14 the job is going great; they're moving the fuel
15 correctly, and they're very comfortable, and they're
16 making a great living while they're doing it. The
17 plant has always been an economic benefit to our town,
18 and decommissioning this way will also be a strong
19 economic benefit.

20 I also want to say that Holtec works
21 extensively with our International Union and has
22 helped us develop a state-of-the-art rad worker
23 training program, and we train workers in our state-
24 of-the-art facilities here in New England, in
25 Hopkinton, in Pomfret, Connecticut. And over the

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1 years, our members have decommissioned Maine Yankee,
2 Connecticut Yankee, and the Yankee Rowe Plant, which
3 I actually go rafting up there, tubing up there in
4 that river. It's a beautiful site. I go up there
5 every year. It doesn't bother me at all.

6 I'm happy that it's going to be the
7 expedited decommissioning and return that site back to
8 its beauty that it once was for the Town of Plymouth.

9 So, thank you very much.

10 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

11 MS. JANDA: And the last speaker on the
12 list will be No. 6.

13 MS. CARPENTER: My name is Susan Carpenter
14 with the Cape Downwinders, and I live in South Dennis
15 on the Cape.

16 I have a comment, and then, I have two
17 questions. At one of the Nuclear Decommissioning
18 Citizens Advisory Panel meetings, Holtec spoke and
19 said that they have an impeccable safety record. On
20 the other hand, the fact that that near-drop on the
21 West Coast occurred kind of defies their claim that
22 they have an impeccable record. And not only that,
23 but it was a whistleblower that brought this to public
24 attention.

25 My questions are: is it a conflict of

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1 interest for Holtec to buy Holtec casks to store the
2 nuclear waste?

3 MR. WATSON: I guess that's a commercial
4 thing that the NRC would not get into, but I don't see
5 any real issue with it. It is what their product line
6 is and what they're offering. And I assume that they
7 will use that, do the work safely and compliantly with
8 the license requirements for the Certificate of
9 Compliance. And we'll be there to inspect to make
10 sure that they are.

11 MS. CARPENTER: Okay. And my other
12 question was: how many sites has Holtec
13 decommissioned? And by that, I don't mean as a
14 contractor. Excluding that, how many sites has Holtec
15 decommissioned?

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: Holtec International has
17 not decommissioned any sites. However, that said, we
18 have hired Comprehensive Decommissioning
19 International, CDI, which is a company that includes
20 SNC-Lavalin, and they have a rich history of
21 decommissioning nuclear plants and other nuclear
22 facilities.

23 MS. CARPENTER: Thank you.

24 MR. KLUKAN: Again, that was Joy Russell
25 of Holtec, just for the purposes of the transcript.

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1 All right. We've now exhausted, as you
2 can see -- this is really good handwriting for me.
3 I'm going to pat myself on the back for this. We've
4 now opened it up -- whatever, I'll take what I can get
5 -- to people who have not yet spoken this evening.

6 So, we don't have an established order,
7 but I think Pine raised her hand first. And then,
8 we'll just go around. Okay?

9 So, again, we'll do three minutes apiece,
10 and then, if we have enough time left over, people may
11 get to do a second round. But let's go first with
12 people who have not yet had an opportunity to speak.

13 So, I turn it over to you.

14 MS. DUBOIS: Thank you, and thank you all
15 for being here.

16 I want to state clearly that I hope Holtec
17 succeeds. I hope Entergy is happy, and I hope the NRC
18 finally wraps its head around sea-level rise, which
19 you are not doing, and that is pretty plain with your
20 reliance on the SIEC and the GEIR.

21 There is no basis at all for you to accept
22 Entergy's proposal to wait 60 years to clean up the
23 site. That's plainly a fraud.

24 Take a look at the Fourth National Climate
25 Assessment that was released in late October-November.

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1 You will be chapter 18 in the Northeast. You will see
2 that our worst-case scenario is, by 2100, we have sea-
3 level rise of 11.5 feet. That's the new estimate, but
4 daily things are changing so fast and the scientists
5 are learning so much, that that adjustment continues.

6 It is important to the public trust that
7 you regulators and you contractors and Entergy -- oh,
8 Lord -- takes care of us and looks at that. Cleaning
9 up the site does not mean letting it wash into Cape
10 Cod Bay, and in 60 years that's what's going to
11 happen.

12 Even if there's not inundation on the
13 site, the groundwater level will be so high that you
14 will not be able to safely and effectively get the
15 contamination out of the ground. If it goes into the
16 environment, the NRC is failing in its mission to
17 protect the environment and the people. So is Holtec,
18 as a reputable company, I will say. So, is Entergy,
19 as a reputable company. You need to address this.
20 The PSDAR for Entergy does not. The Holtec PSDAR does
21 not. And if they run out of money and the cleanup is
22 delayed, we're all in a stew.

23 So, please, NRC, take another look at your
24 regulations. Give it a try at updating that. Call in
25 those scientists that work for the government that

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1 wrote that report, and get on the reality page. We've
2 living with it here. Stick around on Sunday. Sunday,
3 Monday, Tuesday, stay here. Go down to the plant then
4 and see what happens.

5 Thank you very much.

6 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

7 Again, that was Pine duBois.

8 Just please state your name for the record
9 before you begin.

10 MS. DUBOIS: Pine duBois with NDCAP.

11 MR. KLUKAN: So, Pine duBois with NDCAP.
12 Thank you.

13 MR. E. RUSSELL: I'm Ed Russell, an
14 elected town meeting member in Plymouth.

15 When businesses as well as governmental
16 agencies engage in big contracts, they usually see to
17 it that there's a bond produced that will guarantee
18 the performance of the contract. And so, I'd like to
19 know why that isn't possible here.

20 MR. WATSON: Performance bonds are used
21 frequently. If we deem that there's sufficient funds
22 to do the decommissioning, we have no need to require
23 them. I think in the recent VY transfer, Vermont
24 Yankee sale, asset sale and license transfer, one of
25 the conditions we put on -- or the agreement that we

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1 got from NorthStar was to provide additional financial
2 assurance. I think it was along the lines of \$30
3 million to make sure there was sufficient funds. If
4 it's not required, then they're not required. So,
5 it's up to the agreement between the sales, also, to
6 come up with the proper financial information and
7 guarantees.

8 MR. E. RUSSELL: That's your version of
9 risk assessment, but we citizens here have a different
10 assessment of the risk. And when you do have a
11 contract that's just barely enough to cover, and could
12 well exceed the funds available, I would say a prudent
13 entity would look for a bond. And if there is, as you
14 say, a low risk, then the bond should not be that
15 expensive. So, I'd like to see that happen.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

17 MR. KELLERMAN: So, my name is Bruce
18 Kellerman.

19 I have a question. What happens to the
20 1200-acre site? Who owns it and are there plans for
21 development? And if so, where can we find those and
22 what are their elaborate schemes?

23 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on
24 behalf of Entergy.

25 When you say the 1200 acres, I assume you

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1 mean the 1200 acres of undeveloped property across
2 Rocky Hill Road, correct?

3 MR. KELLERMAN: Yes.

4 MR. TWOMEY: That property currently is
5 owned by Entergy. It is included in the sale to
6 Holtec. And if the license transfer application is
7 approved and the transaction closes, Holtec will
8 become the owner of the 1200 acres. And I have not
9 heard about any specific plans for development of that
10 site at this time, but they would be the owner of the
11 land after the transaction closes, if it closes.

12 MR. KELLERMAN: Does Holtec have plans for
13 the development of the site? It will be paying -- I
14 assume it will be paying property taxes going forward.

15 MS. STERDIS: No specific plans for that
16 property have been defined at this time. And, yes, we
17 will be paying the appropriate property taxes on that
18 site.

19 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you for your questions.

20 MR. DELAFIELD: Yes, I'm Lawrence
21 Delafield. I'm a resident of the Town of Plymouth, a
22 town meeting member, and the President of the Six
23 Ponds Association, which is a local organization very
24 close to the site.

25 And of course, my concern is this: we

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1 live in an area that will be in danger until this
2 material is totally removed from the site. Why do we
3 have to wait that long? How can we possibly get that
4 moved up, so that it's removed quicker, or at least
5 provide a major incentive to remove all items from the
6 site? Because we will not be safe until that happens.

7 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

8 Okay. Is there anyone else who has not
9 yet spoken who would like to speak this evening?

10 (No response.)

11 Going once, going twice. All right.

12 Is there anyone who has spoken this
13 evening who would like to speak again?

14 MR. LAMPERT: Jim Lampert, resident of
15 Duxbury.

16 I'd just like to spend a moment on
17 comments, and if I'm wrong, I would ask that the NRC,
18 Entergy, and Holtec correct me. My understanding of
19 the transaction, as described in the license transfer
20 application, is that Holtec-Pilgrim will be the owner
21 of the site and will be the one who owns the
22 Decommissioning Trust Fund.

23 In Holtec's license transfer and PSDAR
24 applications, it says that, quote, "The existing
25 Decommissioning Trust Funds provide the appropriate

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1 basis for the financial qualifications of Holtec-
2 Pilgrim." It also says that Holtec, quote, "Holtec-
3 Pilgrim will be required to pay for HDI's cost of
4 post-shutdown operations, including all
5 decommissioning costs at Pilgrim." Close quote.

6 It seemed very clear from that that the
7 only potential financial responsibility of Holtec-
8 Pilgrim -- and that is the only one we need to focus
9 on because they are the only licensee -- depends
10 entirely on the Decommissioning Trust Fund.

11 It also seems clear, listening to Mr.
12 Watson, that a statement in a regulation that a
13 licensee that, frankly, has no money and is bankrupt
14 is, quote, "responsible," close quote, provides
15 absolutely no assurance that that licensee will pay.
16 It, frankly, doesn't have any money. And that, unless
17 I missed something that Mr. Watson has said -- and I
18 asked the question earlier -- there is absolutely
19 nothing in NRC rules, regulations, or pertinent law
20 that would permit the NRC to enforce the licensees'
21 and their parents' responsibility to pay for what they
22 caused. Am I correct?

23 MR. WATSON: I will try and respond a
24 little bit here. We owe you a response to your
25 question on the ownership. The only comment I can

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1 really make at this point, we will be responsible with
2 the responsible regulations. I have to go to our
3 Office of General Counsel for that.

4 MR. LAMPERT: No, no, I would appreciate
5 your doing that, though.

6 MR. WATSON: Yes. No, we have to do that.

7 The other issue is that we are currently
8 reviewing the license application or plan to start on
9 that very soon. So, we really can't pass any judgment
10 other than the general process we're using and the
11 general requirements for the decommissioning funding
12 and how they would apply to the license transfer.
13 It's we're still doing our review. So, we haven't
14 concluded anything. And so, your comments are valid
15 to that review. And so, I'm sure the staff will take
16 that into account.

17 MR. LAMPERT: Yes, and I would ask that,
18 if in the review or in further conversations with
19 Holtec, the NRC or its staff discovers any way in
20 which there, in fact, is an enforceable commitment or
21 an agreement, that people who have the money will set
22 that money up to pay for the shortfall. I would like
23 to hear about it, and it's quite clear that the
24 Massachusetts Attorney General would also like to hear
25 about it.

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1 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again.

2 MR. TWOMEY: Yes, if I may briefly, Mr.
3 Lampert introduced his remarks by saying that, if we
4 didn't say anything, it meant that we agreed with him.
5 And I can't agree to that, just at least on behalf of
6 Entergy. On behalf of Entergy.

7 MR. KLUKAN: Okay.

8 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Richard Rothstein.

9 Two questions. One for Dr. Watson and one
10 for our Holtec representative, Joy.

11 Dr. Watson, can you qualitatively explain
12 or define, for purposes of releasing the site license,
13 site restoration, what basically is included; what
14 would not be included in the case of the Entergy site?
15 So that people don't get false expectations one way or
16 the other.

17 MR. WATSON: Yes. The Decommissioning
18 Fund requirements from the NRC are for the
19 radiological decommissioning. So, once we would
20 terminate the license after verifying the radiological
21 conditions of the site -- we have an independent
22 contractor we use in many cases to help us with the
23 surveys and verify the radiological residual
24 radioactive levels at the site -- we would terminate
25 the license. If the site restoration is not in the

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1 requirements by NRC, because there's a number of
2 approaches you can take to decommissioning -- many of
3 them take into account removing the buildings and
4 turning it back into greenfield. If they submit that
5 to us in their license termination plan, then that's
6 the plan they follow because it's a license amendment.

7 If they choose to do things which some of
8 the other power plants have done, such as Trojan or
9 Rancho Seco, where they actually terminate the
10 license, but leave buildings and stuff still remaining
11 on the site, that's their choice. And after that,
12 it's up to the owner of the facility or the licensee
13 -- and at that point they're no longer the licensee,
14 but the owner of the property -- and the state, to
15 determine when and where they should do the final
16 decommissioning and site -- I should say final site
17 restoration and what those requirements are.

18 MR. ROTHSTEIN: Okay. Thank you.

19 I had the pleasure of sitting in the
20 Holtec predecisional enforcement conference last
21 Wednesday, I believe it was, the four-hour -- and more
22 nuts and bolts were discussed than I could fit in my
23 car.

24 But I wanted to commend Holtec on its dry
25 cask presentation to the NDCAP last fall. I thought

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1 it was very informative, and I believe it's on the
2 NDCAP website.

3 Just expanding upon Ms. Lampert's comment
4 earlier about cracks not being able to be fixed in the
5 multipurpose canister at this day and age, one thing
6 I was envisioning, given that premise, has Holtec, for
7 purposes of future design considerations to remedy
8 that kind of unsolvable problem at the moment,
9 considered constructing a larger multipurpose cask
10 there to go over the cracked cask? And then, of
11 course, that slightly larger cask could be filled with
12 helium gas as a coolant and sealed. And then, that
13 larger cask would then -- or that larger multipurpose
14 cask with the cracked inside of the other cask,
15 multipurpose cask, getting to a larger overpack, if it
16 need be, with the air vents, too. So, is that a
17 possible design solution that may be on the drawing
18 board from Holtec?

19 MS. J. RUSSELL: That's a very
20 explanation. It's very close to what we've actually
21 designed for recovery of a canister in the event the
22 inspections were to show that there has been a
23 degradation. So, indeed, that is the approach, is to
24 put it into another overpack, but an overpack, not
25 necessarily the canister as you've described. So,

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1 you're on the right track, sir. It is definitely an
2 additional overpack that we are going to use.

3 MR. ROTHSTEIN: I'm glad to hear that.
4 Can you tell me who I write to at Holtec to get some
5 royalties?

6 (Laughter.)

7 MS. J. RUSSELL: Right. Royalties and to
8 get on the patent.

9 MS. M. LAMPERT: Can a canister be shipped
10 under current regulations?

11 MR. KLUKAN: Ma'am, are you asking, just
12 so we get it on the transcript, are you asking whether
13 the current canister or the overpack can be shipped?

14 MS. M. LAMPERT: (Off microphone.)

15 MR. KLUKAN: Okay. I just have just given
16 you the microphone.

17 So, essentially, can a cylinder which has
18 been or a canister which has been compromised or
19 degraded, do the regulations allow it to be shipped,
20 is the question that was posed by Ms. Lampert.

21 MS. J. RUSSELL: The regulation question
22 I defer to the NRC.

23 MR. WATSON: I ask Jason Piotter, who is
24 our Senior Engineer for Spent Fuel Safety, to come up
25 and give you an answer for that.

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1 MR. PIOTTER: The regulations are
2 performance-based. And so, if you had a canister that
3 had a demonstrated flaw like you're talking about,
4 there would have to be an engineering analysis that
5 was done to determine what the best way to mitigate
6 that particular flaw would be. I can't answer the
7 question right now whether or not it would be allowed
8 to be shipped because we don't have any scenarios
9 where there are flaws such as you describe. So, it's
10 a case-by-case basis, depending upon what the
11 situation is for the canister that you're talking
12 about. But it would have to be evaluated prior to
13 transport. I couldn't just be put into a transport
14 overpack and sent. So, it would have to be an
15 engineering analysis prior to that activity.

16 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

17 MS. TURCO: I just want to go back to the
18 Holtec in San Onofre because it could be our future.

19 Diane Turco with Cape Downwinders.

20 At San Onofre, they've been loading,
21 Holtec has been loading canisters in underground
22 vaults on the beach. The sea-level rise is eventually
23 going to leak into the bottom of those vaults. They
24 have been loading them and scratching them. And there
25 was a special inspection by the Nuclear Regulatory

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1 Commission and it sounded almost like Entergy's
2 special inspection report, pretty much the same.

3 So, I want to know. And the people in
4 California have said, "Let them know the public in
5 Southern California is asking the Holtec System to be
6 recalled." It's a lemon, and Holtec is making loading
7 errors due to mismanagement and bad engineering design
8 that the NRC admits it cannot fix. So, that's what's
9 happening out in California.

10 So, I have two questions. No. 1, how can
11 you come to the NDCAP meeting and say that Holtec has
12 an impeccable safety record when this was all exposed
13 by a whistleblower?

14 And No. 2, would you conduct an
15 environmental impact study, including sea-level rise
16 and acts of malfeasance on the spent fuel pad?

17 MS. J. RUSSELL: Can you repeat the first
18 question again?

19 MS. TURCO: Let me try it this way: how
20 could you with a straight face tell the NDCAP that
21 Holtec has an impeccable safety record when we know
22 what's going on at San Onofre?

23 MS. J. RUSSELL: I appreciate the
24 question. I understand your concern.

25 Let me just state, Holtec does have an

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1 impeccable safety record. And the issue that happened
2 at San Onofre, which was reported by the licensee who
3 is the Southern California Edison Nuclear Plant, they
4 went through their process. So, Holtec does have an
5 impeccable safety record. I absolutely can
6 emphatically say that.

7 MS. TURCO: Did Southern Edison report
8 this incident when it happened to the NRC?

9 MS. J. RUSSELL: Those questions are
10 best --

11 MS. TURCO: Okay. No, they did not.

12 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- to the Southern
13 California --

14 MS. TURCO: And you can look up on the
15 record they did not. No. Actually, the NRC initiated
16 the special inspection, right, Mr. Watson?

17 MR. WATSON: From what I understand, the
18 licensee was a little late in responding to --

19 MS. TURCO: Yes.

20 MR. WATSON: -- the requirements. And so,
21 based on that, we escalated our inspections to --

22 MS. TURCO: Thank you.

23 MR. WATSON: -- evaluate the situation.

24 MS. TURCO: Thank you. It was a
25 whistleblower.

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1 MR. WATSON: But it was not a
2 whistleblower that submitted the complaint.

3 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on
4 behalf of Entergy.

5 One thing, I think, just to clear up any
6 confusion for those who don't know as much about the
7 issues as some of the recent speakers. One thing
8 that's important to note here is that, if Entergy
9 remains the owner of the facility, we will be using
10 the Holtec dry fuel storage system. If Holtec becomes
11 the owner, they will be using the Holtec dry fuel
12 storage system. So, the license transfer will have no
13 impact on what system is used at Pilgrim for storing
14 spent nuclear fuel. It will be the Holtec dry fuel
15 storage system that we use or they use.

16 And I don't know how that relates to the
17 scope of this particular proceeding, but I do want to
18 make sure that people understand that it's not an
19 "either/or". It's not like, if Holtec becomes the
20 owner, that's the only circumstance under which the
21 Holtec system will be used. That very same system
22 will be used if we remain the owner.

23 I just wanted to clear that up for
24 anybody who may not understand that.

25 MS. TURCO: Right. Yes. Thank you.

1 Right. Because the point is it's both mismanagement,
2 poor equipment, ongoing problems.

3 But the second question was, would an
4 environmental impact study include sea-level rise and
5 acts of malfeasance on the ISFSI pad?

6 MS. J. RUSSELL: First, I want to
7 emphatically state that the system that's in use at
8 San Onofre is markedly different than the one that's
9 in use at Pilgrim. You're comparing apples to
10 oranges. It is correct. It's an above-ground system
11 versus an underground system.

12 MS. TURCO: Oh, no, no. That's not my
13 question.

14 MS. J. RUSSELL: And not the dry storage
15 system.

16 MS. TURCO: That's not my question.

17 MS. J. RUSSELL: And therefore --

18 MS. TURCO: That's not my question.

19 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- there isn't a
20 probability of an issue as you have at San Onofre with
21 water collection in the bottom of the system.

22 MS. TURCO: Okay.

23 MS. J. RUSSELL: It can't happen because
24 they are two different systems.

25 MS. TURCO: Right. But what I'm asking

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1 is, would you include sea-level rise for the property,
2 as Pine spoke about, and storm surges, and acts of
3 malfeasance? That's my question.

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: So, the dry storage
5 systems are licensed under Part 72, and they're
6 deployed under Part 72 currently. And they're already
7 being deployed in accordance with the regulatory
8 requirements. There's no additional investigation or
9 analyses that need to be performed for the dry storage
10 systems.

11 MR. KLUKAN: I gave the women a back-and-
12 forth. But, if you know you're going to keep talking,
13 just, for the sake of our poor transcriptionist -- he
14 is not the object of your concern. So, let's make his
15 life easier. So, just speak into the microphone when
16 you're asking questions. Okay?

17 And the question there was, would you
18 include sea-level risk and acts of malfeasance in an
19 environmental assessment or impact statement?

20 MS. J. RUSSELL: We'll meet the
21 regulations. The dry spent fuel storage system is
22 already deployed and it will continue to be deployed,
23 no matter whether this license transfer application
24 occurs or not. I don't understand the question of the
25 need for additional environmental studies related to

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1 dry storage.

2 MS. TURCO: You're building a new storage
3 facility there, a brand-new storage facility. Right
4 now, you can drive onto the property, pass the "no
5 trespassing" signs, and eyeball the dry casks. Now
6 you're moving them closer to Rocky Hill Road. We need
7 to be assured that there's going to be some increased
8 security there. So, that's just a question. Are you
9 going to be looking at acts of malfeasance when you do
10 the new pad?

11 MS. J. RUSSELL: The security that's
12 already at the nuclear plant, I allow Entergy to talk
13 to. The security of the dry storage system, under the
14 license under Part 72, has already been established.
15 There's no additional requirements that need to be
16 addressed.

17 MS. HALTER: This is Mandy Halter, on
18 behalf of Entergy.

19 The independent spent fuel storage
20 installation facilities are required to be secure.
21 And with the newly-located pad, there will continue to
22 be a physical barrier behind an intrusion detection
23 system, and monitored 24/7 by armed security.

24 And that's correct; that's all I can talk
25 about, due to safeguards.

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1 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Sheila Lynch
2 Benttinin, Duxbury.

3 I have a question about regional public
4 safety. In the last 40-plus years, Entergy was
5 required to do a regional public safety plan, and
6 they've applied with their PSDAR to abandon that
7 regional planning. And we are concerned about Holtec
8 taking over. What is your plans for notifying
9 regional safety folks, like firemen, et cetera, on
10 safety, particularly with the expedited four-year plan
11 that you presented tonight?

12 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis.

13 We will continue to comply with all NRC
14 regulation. And I want to emphasize that it is
15 Holtec's top priority to maintain the health and
16 safety of the public.

17 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: But what I'm asking,
18 in particular, is, what is your plan to reach out to
19 regional safety folks, like firemen and regional
20 coordinators, as your expedited four-year plan is
21 ongoing?

22 MS. STERDIS: And again, I will emphasize
23 that we will maintain the health and safety of the
24 public, and we will be complying with all regulations.

25 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: And my second

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1 question is, can NRC add to their PSDAR another level
2 of regional safety outreach to public safety
3 officials?

4 MR. WATSON: If I understand your question
5 correctly, there's no need to add anything. Because
6 the site is still going to maintain an emergency plan
7 and emergency response capabilities, along with
8 security response plans, which have those
9 communication tools in them that they're required to
10 have. So, they're going to continue those things
11 until the decommissioning is complete. So, there's
12 really no need to change those plans.

13 Now I can't specifically talk to the
14 regional plan. I'm not familiar with it. It was not
15 an NRC requirement that I know of. But there are
16 requirements for notification and security/police
17 support; also, fire protection and fire response,
18 medical emergencies and medical responses to the site.
19 And so, those things all stay in place.

20 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: But Entergy has
21 requested that they be discontinued in the regional
22 capacity.

23 MR. WATSON: All I know is they have to
24 meet the minimum requirements for the NRC, which means
25 they will maintain the ability to talk with, get

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1 notification of the response capabilities from local
2 and state law enforcement. They will continue to deal
3 with, communicate with the local fire departments and
4 rescue squads.

5 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Would they be
6 required to coordinate --

7 MR. WATSON: The regional, there's no NRC
8 requirement for a regional response plan.

9 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Okay.

10 MR. WATSON: There is one for the
11 immediate location around the plant.

12 MS. LYNCH-BENTTININ: Thank you.

13 MS. MILLER: Claire Miller from Toxics
14 Action Center.

15 I'm getting really agitated because this
16 really matters a lot to me. And if I understand what
17 Diane is bringing up correctly, and your response, Ms.
18 Russell -- it's kind of hard to read your name tag
19 from here; sorry if I got that wrong -- it's that we
20 have rapidly upchanging data on climate change, the
21 impacts of sea-level rise that are getting worse every
22 time they're updated. We have someone in the White
23 House who's changing world politics and dynamics
24 rapidly, and we are living in an age in which
25 terrorism is ever present. And we want to know, are

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1 you willing to go above and beyond, if necessary, or
2 are you only willing to do as much as -- like the
3 floor of what's required?

4 Because what I hear Diane asking is, are
5 you willing to go above and beyond to protect our
6 health, our community? And what I hear you saying
7 back is, "We're doing with it what's written. We're
8 just going to do what's necessary, what the law is."
9 Am I understanding correctly? You're committing to
10 the floor?

11 MR. WATSON: I just want to respond to
12 that, and that the NRC regulations fully provide for
13 safety for the people working at the plant, the
14 public, and the environment. And so, complying with
15 those is one demonstration that the plant is
16 maintained safe, and we'll continue to inspect that
17 plant against those requirements.

18 MS. MILLER: I have no doubt that the NRC
19 is doing the best that it can to protect the health
20 and safety of my community. I also know that we're in
21 a rapidly-changing world. And I am interested to know
22 if Holtec is committing to the floor of what the NRC
23 -- like where we're at the last time those laws were
24 passed, those statutes, those regulatory processes we
25 went through, those elaborate commenting periods, or

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1 if they're committing to respond to an ever-present,
2 fast-changing world of climate change and terrorism.

3 MS. J. RUSSELL: I think what you're
4 asking me is, am I confident that our dry spent fuel
5 storage system is safe.

6 MS. MILLER: No, that's not what I'm
7 asking you at all. It's not what I'm asking you at
8 all.

9 MS. J. RUSSELL: I am personally convinced
10 -- I am a nuclear engineer. I am part of the design
11 team that designed this dry storage system. And I am
12 confident in its robustness. I'm confident that we
13 have gone above and beyond to ensure that we selected
14 materials --

15 MS. MILLER: I am --

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: -- that we've selected
17 the methodologies, and we have done the absolute
18 utmost we can to ensure the health and safety.

19 MS. MILLER: I have no doubt that you're
20 sincere --

21 MS. J. RUSSELL: May I please finish?

22 I live by these nuclear plants as well,
23 and I am confident that, when I go to visit these
24 plants -- I live by these plants; I live by where our
25 dry storage systems are deployed -- I am personally

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1 confident that my company has done everything it can
2 to go above and beyond. And therefore, I have
3 answered your question.

4 MS. MILLER: That wasn't my question in
5 the slightest. I do believe you're 100 percent
6 sincere when you say that. I also believe that the
7 engineers who worked on Chernobyl, Three Mile Island,
8 and Fukushima were also really sincere in believing
9 that their plants were safe as well.

10 I just want to say for the record you
11 didn't answer my question.

12 MR. KELLERMAN: So, Bruce Kellerman again.

13 My question is to Holtec. As I understand
14 the fund, it can go up and down. It's like a 401(k),
15 right? It's an investment vehicle. What happens if
16 it goes down? And also, could you, would you sue the
17 Department of Energy, as others have done, for failing
18 to take the waste offsite? Would you plan to do that?
19 Are you?

20 MR. WATSON: Well, let me respond to the
21 first part. Yes, there are market changes. The Trust
22 Fund is in an independent trust with an independent
23 trustee. Most of them are with Mellon Bank of New
24 York. So, the trustee has certain requirements on
25 them to make conservative investments to protect the

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1 fund.

2 Secondly, all the licensees that are
3 storing fuel -- I'll say broadly "everyone" -- has the
4 ability to request or sue, if they have to, the
5 Department of Energy to get the cost back for the
6 storage of the nuclear fuel. So, I'm sure Entergy has
7 done that in the past for their plants. I'm sure
8 Holtec will do the same to recoup the costs. Those
9 costs are, then, available for doing other activities
10 at the sites. And so, that's part of the agreement
11 with the federal government.

12 MR. KELLERMAN: Thank you.

13 MS. LAMPERT: Two points. NRC is giving
14 exemptions. So, the DTF can be used for spent fuel
15 management costs. Now go back. The Decommissioning
16 Trust Fund was established when we were a utility
17 structure -- Boston Edison was the owner -- by
18 ratepayers. Since that time, it's grown from
19 investments. Entergy didn't put a dime in it. Holtec
20 won't put a dime in it. Okay?

21 Then, they will sue DOE to recoup what
22 they've spent on spent fuel management costs, okay,
23 what they've spent by taking it out of the
24 Decommissioning Trust Fund. But, then, when they get
25 the money out of DOE, there's no requirement to put it

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1 back. If there is, please correct me and give me the
2 regulation. Instead, they put it in their pocket.
3 And that's, you know, if I were Holtec, I'd say, "I'm
4 going to make a pile of money doing this." And that's
5 part of the incentive to take over the license.

6 It would seem to me that the NRC would get
7 on the stick and make some sort of
8 requirement/regulation that it goes back into the
9 Decommissioning Trust Fund to refurbish what they have
10 taken out. Because there's no requirement? Correct
11 that.

12 And then, I just want to sum up by saying,
13 the points brought forward on sea-level rise, the
14 points brought forward on the increased risk of
15 terrorism, of cyberattack -- now that's a big one when
16 you think of the spent fuel pool. All these new and
17 significant information that you should be
18 responsible, NRC require that they do a NEPA review,
19 and then, not say what is blatant foolish. It's a lie
20 to say the 2002 Generic Environmental Impact Statement
21 and the 2006 Impact Statement done during relicensing
22 bound environmental impact, so we can all skip along
23 and say it's a clean site; we've done our job. So,
24 they really don't have to spend a dime, and all the
25 stuff can go in Cape Cod Bay. Dilution is the

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1 solution.

2 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

3 MR. WATSON: I just want to make one
4 comment, that the Decommissioning Funds that are -- or
5 excuse me -- the spent fuel funds that are recuperated
6 from the Department of Energy, I think it's 50.82,
7 Mike, in the regulations, the fund. The money goes
8 back into the fund. No? It doesn't? Okay.

9 PARTICIPANT: It goes to the company.

10 MS. LAMPERT: No, it's a good thing for
11 them to make money.

12 MR. WATSON: Okay. Well, I'm sorry. I
13 appreciate the comment then. We have to look at that.

14 MR. KLUKAN: Before you begin, is there
15 anyone else in the audience who has not yet had an
16 opportunity to speak who would like to do so?

17 (No response.)

18 Okay, please. Would you mind letting her
19 go first? Okay. Thank you, sir.

20 Your name for the record, please.

21 MS. GARRY: Joanne Garry. I live a mile
22 from the plant. I've been here since I was 16. So,
23 I saw it built by people that shouldn't be building
24 it. But that's not my question.

25 My question is twofold. First of all,

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1 Entergy owns it, correct? Got the license. Owns all
2 the property. How much is it worth? What's the
3 property worth? What did Entergy get or might get
4 from Holtec, the cost, the dollars? Are you selling
5 it for money? So, there's no money exchange? Entergy
6 walks away. Holtec, if it gets the license, walks in,
7 correct?

8 So, why does Holtec want this? Well,
9 that's my question. Why does Holtec want this really
10 horrible thing to fix? We've got thousands of people
11 on the line. So, what's the deal? Why are you doing
12 this? No answer?

13 MS. STERDIS: This is Andrea Sterdis, and
14 I will make this a personal response.

15 As a mother of two children and a
16 grandmother of four children, I am committed to us
17 doing in this industry what is right. And that is to
18 take care of our plants when they're past their
19 operational life expectancy and to turn that property
20 back into a useful piece of property in the community.
21 So, that is my personal reason for being involved in
22 this project.

23 MS. GARRY: But it's in it for the money.
24 So, the money, you're going to own 12,000 acres.
25 Twelve hundred acres. You've got a big hill there

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1 that hasn't been developed. Why not move all this
2 terrible spent fuel to the top of the hill? If you're
3 going to move it; move it, move it away from the ocean
4 or bury it in the hill -- I don't know -- a better
5 solution than moving it next to Rocky Hill Road, which
6 I go by every day. So, I mean, it just seems simple
7 solution. If you can't move it away, move in a safer
8 area.

9 But, again, you're going to be making big
10 bucks here. So, we want to be safe.

11 That's all I have to say.

12 MR. KLUKAN: Before we begin, because we
13 do have -- I'm sorry for interrupting you again, sir.
14 Just because we do have extra time -- I don't usually
15 intervene like this, but I think there's some
16 confusion out there regarding what's the financial
17 arrangement between -- and I'm not asking in specific
18 terms -- but what's the financial relationship between
19 Holtec and Entergy?

20 And I think the question was asked like,
21 how would Holtec benefit from this transaction? And
22 I think if we could answer that, that would go a long
23 way to clearing up some of the confusion in the
24 audience.

25 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey for

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1 Entergy. I'll address the specific question of the
2 way the transaction is structured.

3 Entergy is receiving only nominal
4 consideration. And I have to say I don't have the
5 number in front of me. We just recently closed the
6 Vermont Yankee transaction, and the nominal
7 consideration there was a thousand dollars.

8 And we receive nominal consideration.
9 Holtec receives title to the plant or they're actually
10 buying Entergy Nuclear Generation Company through an
11 equity sale. They get that company which owns the
12 plant, has the Decommissioning Trust Fund and the
13 liability for the decommissioning.

14 So, what Entergy gets out of the
15 transaction is a thousand dollars. And we are no
16 longer involved in the decommissioning of the plant,
17 in the same way that Boston Edison is not involved in
18 the decommissioning of the plant. All right. We're
19 going to transfer that responsibility to Holtec, and
20 Holtec will receive the project, the plant, the
21 Decommissioning Trust Fund, and the work associated
22 with it.

23 And I'll let Holtec describe why they
24 would be willing to take this work on, as other
25 companies have taken it on in other parts of the

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1 country.

2 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, this is Joy
3 Russell from Holtec.

4 Holtec is, and has been for 30 years, an
5 industry leader in safe and secure storage of spent
6 nuclear fuel. We also have other business endeavors
7 such as designing a small modular reactor. And as
8 we've pointed out this evening, we also have submitted
9 an application to establish a consolidated interim
10 storage facility in southeast New Mexico.

11 Holtec is committed to the nuclear
12 industry. And unfortunately, part of that also
13 includes the safe decommissioning of nuclear power
14 plants.

15 We recently built our third manufacturing
16 facility here in the United States. We now have 1.4
17 million square feet of manufacturing here in the
18 United States. We're the largest exporter of nuclear
19 products. And again, that's a demonstration of our
20 commitment to the nuclear industry.

21 So, that is Holtec's reason for taking the
22 next step and to acquire shuttered nuclear plants and
23 to safely decommission those; and to take the
24 ownership of the spent nuclear fuel, which is also our
25 core expertise, and to manage that as it remains

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1 either onsite or is moved to New Mexico.

2 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

3 And thank you, sir, for indulging me for
4 that minute.

5 MR. ROTHSTEIN: I've got all the time in
6 the world.

7 A final question for Dr. Watson. I was
8 hoping that NRC's proposed revised decommissioning
9 regulations were going to come out last November, as
10 originally envisioned, and that final promulgation
11 would have taken place sometime in the first half of
12 this year. Notwithstanding the current government
13 shutdown, what is NRC's ETA for when it was
14 envisioning getting these proposed and final
15 regulations out?

16 And a second question is, licensees who
17 have submitted their PSDARs, even if they're in the
18 process of being evaluated, or the NRC said, okay,
19 they're good enough, so you can start the
20 decommissioning process once the plant is permanently
21 shut down, would existing licensees in those
22 circumstances get grandfathered separate from the new
23 regulations for decommissioning? Or would it be like,
24 for example, a post-Fukushima, where the NRC says,
25 okay, we've come up with this and the new regulations;

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1 therefore, all licensees must do blank, blank, blank
2 for decommissioning, regardless of what was in your
3 PSDAR?

4 MR. WATSON: Let me respond to the
5 rulemaking schedule. The proposed decommissioning
6 rulemaking that's been in progress over the last few
7 years, the staff made its scheduled requirement to
8 submit to the Commission the proposed rules and the
9 basis for those proposed rules back in May. As many
10 of you may know, we also had two new Commissioners
11 appointed by the Administration. And based on that,
12 they've been taking care of the backlog of information
13 or voting issues that they have on their plate.

14 So, the staff is waiting for the
15 Commission to do their job. So, it's the Commission's
16 priority to address their work at their own schedule.
17 So, the staff is waiting for the Commission to vote on
18 it. We have not received a schedule of when that vote
19 is to take place. And so, we are basically at the
20 mercy of the Commission for meeting the time limit
21 requirements they had originally placed on us to have
22 these rules in place by the end of 2019.

23 So, we will, hopefully, resolve the issue
24 with a Commission vote. That will give us the
25 direction on how we are to proceed with the proposed

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1 rules.

2 One of the proposed evaluations was
3 looking at the PSDARs. If there is a change in the
4 regulations that the Commission wants concerning the
5 PSDARs, then we will issue the regulations and the
6 guidance with that. And anybody that would come out
7 in the future would have to comply with the new
8 regulations. Since the plants that are already in
9 decommission have submitted their PSDAR, if they were
10 to revise that, we would believe they would have to,
11 at least I would believe that they would have to
12 comply with the new requirements.

13 So, I think I answered both questions.
14 But we're at the mercy of the Commission and their
15 vote scheduling. And apparently, they have more
16 pressing issues than the decommissioning rulemaking.

17 MR. LAMPERT: Jim Lampert, Duxbury.

18 I've spent a lot of time thinking and
19 trying to figure out the answer to the question why
20 would Holtec get into this. And in addition to the
21 fact that it's your business, I think the obvious
22 answer is they expect to make a profit.

23 And if you ask yourself on what basis do
24 they expect to make this profit, a number of things
25 that I think are fairly clear, if you look at the

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1 whole picture, come to mind. And to the extent
2 anybody, Holtec disagrees with me, and you think you
3 can, consistent with the limitations of what you can
4 say, correct me; please do so.

5 The first is they obviously think they're
6 a great deal more efficient at doing this type of
7 thing than Entergy ever will be.

8 The second is they want to get the
9 decommissioning done early to avoid the risk of
10 drastically-increasing costs that could be --
11 "destructive" is a nice word -- if they waited the
12 period of that Entergy was planning to wait.

13 The third is that I was told by a Holtec
14 representative that their profit is included in the
15 costs you see in their PSDAR.

16 And last, just talking to various people
17 in the industry, my understanding is that, before
18 someone will get into something like this, they really
19 need a fairly clear path to what they see as a 25- to
20 35-percent profit.

21 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

22 MS. CARPENTER: Susan Carpenter with Cape
23 Downwinders.

24 This has nothing to do with money, but it
25 has to do with ethics. Recently, I know that Holtec

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1 changed the design of its casks for San Onofre and did
2 not notify anyone, and that it really took Southern
3 California Edison and Entergy by surprise. And I'm
4 wondering if Holtec, having basically gotten away with
5 it because it was eventually approved, if they feel
6 that they can do that here or if there's a likelihood
7 they'll do that in the future, and we'll end up with
8 something different than what we've negotiated for.

9 MS. J. RUSSELL: The statements that you
10 just made I need to disagree with. They're incorrect.
11 I'll correct them.

12 The design of the system was not changed
13 for San Onofre.

14 Actually, the amount of time it would take
15 me to actually correct all of your statements is going
16 to exceed the time we have, and I would hate to do
17 that, so that other speakers to have an opportunity to
18 speak.

19 I'd recommend that you go and listen to
20 the NRC's PEC Conference that was held last Wednesday,
21 the 9th of January. It explains the entire process.
22 But you've incorrectly characterized that.

23 MS. CARPENTER: May I send you the article
24 where I got the information?

25 MS. J. RUSSELL: I didn't hear what she

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1 said.

2 MR. KLUKAN: May she send you the article
3 where she learned of this information?

4 MS. J. RUSSELL: Absolutely.

5 MS. JANDA: Just to clarify for the
6 transcript, the PEC video -- I hope I'm not restating
7 this -- is available on the NRC website. I think it's
8 video.nrc.gov, will be the quickest way of getting
9 there.

10 MS. CARPENTER: This is the Orange County
11 Register. The title is, "NRC and Holtec to Face Off
12 Publicly Over Redesign of Spent Fuel Canisters at San
13 Onofre Plant".

14 I wonder if, are they wrong in their
15 headline?

16 MS. J. RUSSELL: I'm sorry, re-read the
17 headline again?

18 MS. CARPENTER: "NRC and Holtec to Face
19 Off Publicly Over Redesign of Spent Fuel Canisters at
20 San Onofre Plant".

21 MS. J. RUSSELL: The headline is
22 misleading. We didn't redesign the canister for San
23 Onofre. And again, it's a lengthy discussion, and
24 it's all captured in a video from the PEC Conference
25 on January 9th, where Holtec had a meeting at the NRC

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1 Headquarters.

2 MS. CARPENTER: From what I understood,
3 they have a difference in the canisters. But it was
4 aware of, down at the bottom there were bolts added,
5 and that design was only discovered when one of the
6 bolts was loose in the canister.

7 MS. J. RUSSELL: Again, you're making
8 misstatements, and we could go back and forth all
9 evening on this. I recommend that you get your facts
10 from this PEC video from the January 9th meeting.

11 MS. CARPENTER: Okay. And I will recheck
12 with the newspaper as well.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. KLUKAN: Thank you.

15 MR. DELAFIELD: This is Lawrence Delafield
16 again.

17 I didn't really get an answer to my
18 question. So, I'd like to restate it in a slightly
19 different way.

20 The question -- and it was a question --
21 is there any way at this point in this process that we
22 could require that the material be removed and put in
23 a secure facility someplace else, such as you're
24 talking about doing in New Mexico, and get it away
25 from the community? Because we will not be safe until

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1 that happens. Or, if that's not the case, is there
2 any way to give an incentive so that it gets removed
3 faster and moved to another location? I did not
4 receive an answer to that. So, I'd appreciate getting
5 an answer.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. TWOMEY: This is Mike Twomey, on
8 behalf of Entergy. I'll answer that because we're the
9 current owner of the facility.

10 I believe what your question is when you
11 talk about the material, you're referring to the spent
12 nuclear fuel. And the answer to that is, the United
13 States Federal Government is responsible for removing
14 the spent nuclear fuels from the Pilgrim site and
15 every other nuclear site in the country. And the
16 federal government has repeatedly breached its
17 obligation to do so. And many of us have been
18 required, not personally, but Entergy has been
19 required to sue the federal government for failing to
20 fulfill its obligation.

21 So, the only answer I can give you is that
22 -- I know there were some representatives of some
23 federal Congressmen here tonight -- it is to talk to
24 them about when the federal government is going to
25 fulfill its obligation to remove spent nuclear fuel

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1 from the Pilgrim site as well as the other sites in
2 the U.S.

3 MR. KLUKAN: All right. So, it's 8:47.
4 We're scheduled to go to 9:00 p.m.

5 Is there anyone who would like, who has
6 not yet spoken who would like to make any additional
7 comments before we close this out?

8 (No response.)

9 Going once, going twice. All right.

10 Before I turn it over to Bruce to close
11 out the meeting, I would just like to thank all of you
12 for attending, personally from the facilitators, and
13 to say, out on the registration table there are
14 feedback forms. Donna and I would greatly appreciate
15 you filling those out. We use your feedback in trying
16 to make these meetings better in terms of public
17 process. So, please take a couple of minutes to do so.

18 And with that, I'll turn it over to Bruce.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. WATSON: Well, the first thing I want
21 to thank you for is coming out tonight. I know this
22 is an important issue to many of you.

23 Your comments will inform the staff on the
24 NRC's review of the PSDAR. I heard some very good
25 comments for our consideration. And then, when we

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1 look at the license transfer request and the
2 application and its PSDAR, those comments can also be
3 taken into account there.

4 As a reminder, you could provide written
5 comments, I believe it's through March 21st. We will
6 be publishing The Federal Register notice on the
7 license transfer when the rest of the federal
8 government goes back to work. The comment period,
9 again, is going to be 30 days for that and 20 days for
10 hearings. So, you're hearing about it early before
11 the notice is published. So, we look forward to your
12 comments.

13 Again, I want to thank you for your
14 comments and questions. We will be, at least I will
15 be, and a couple of the other NRC will be, at the
16 Massachusetts Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens
17 Advisory Panel tomorrow evening. So, I'm sure we'll
18 be having some more discussions on the topic.

19 So, with that, I would thank our panelists
20 and our presenters for their presentations and in
21 answering questions where we could.

22 With that, I would adjourn the meeting.
23 Thank you very much.

24 (Whereupon, at 8:49 p.m., the meeting was
25 adjourned.)