April 11, 2018

Dear Co-Chairmen Mullin, Schwartz and members of the Commonwealth’s Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel:

Thank you for inviting us to participate in the March 2018 meeting of the Commonwealth’s Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel (NDCAP). We appreciate the hard work and research that you have done up to this point. Some of the information you have reported so far is certainly enlightening and has provided us with a new perspective on this process. In light of these discoveries we would like to share some of our recommendations based on our perspective as legislators that we hope will provide guidance in your deliberations as to what recommendations you would like to make prior to the decommissioning of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Generating Station.

We, the legislative delegation representing Plymouth, the South Shore, Cape Cod, and the Islands, respectfully recommend the following five actions:

1. The Commonwealth should have specific legislation to expand and specify the Commonwealth’s role and authority in the decommissioning process. This legislation should include, but not be limited to, establishing the following: decommissioning oversight authority, radiological standards, emergency zone definition, preparedness requirements and funding, site restoration and on-going monitoring standards and reporting, environmental protection requirements, and comprehensive financial standards and requirements. We are prepared to file this legislation during this session in consultation with the NDCAP and the executive branch.

2. The Commonwealth should have specific legislation to establish bill-back payments from Entergy, and its successors, to reimburse the Commonwealth for expenses required to monitor post-shutdown, closure and decommissioning activities. We are prepared to file this legislation during this session in consultation with the NDCAP and the executive branch.

3. The Commonwealth should have specific legislation to establish a radiological cleanup standard not to exceed a 10 millirem annual public dose for the PNPS site. We are prepared to file this legislation during this session in consultation with the NDCAP and the executive branch.

4. In order to coordinate the activities contemplated by the previously mentioned legislation, we recommend that the Governor issue an executive order creating an interagency working group to liaise between executive office agencies that currently interact with PNPS. This working group should serve as the designated point of contact between the Commonwealth and Entergy and the Commonwealth and the NRC. We
recommend that the interagency work group designate and assign a member to act as this liaison. As part of its duties, the interagency work group should be authorized to negotiate on behalf of the Commonwealth with Entergy and the NRC to achieve any or all of the recommendations outlined previously.

5. In order to continue to protect the safety and interests of the Commonwealth and its residents, the interagency working group should receive funding for its operation, technical and administrative support, and management of the decommissioning process at PNPS during FY 2019. We are prepared to file and advocate for an amendment to the FY 2019 budget to appropriate money sufficient for operations to be expended by the Executive Office of Administration and Finance for these purposes.

We appreciate the work you have done and continue to do on behalf of the Commonwealth. We look forward to working with you on these recommendations to achieve the best possible result for the Commonwealth, our communities, and their residents. Thank you again for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Vinny M. deMacedo
State Senator
Plymouth & Barnstable District

Mathew J. Muratore
State Representative
1st Plymouth District

Julian Cyr
State Senator
Cape and Islands District

Thomas J. Calter
State Representative
12th Plymouth District

Sarah Peake
State Representative
4th Barnstable

Randy Hunt
State Representative
5th Barnstable

Patrick O’Connor
State Senator
Plymouth & Norfolk District

Josh Cutler
State Representative
6th Plymouth
Timothy Whelan  
State Representative  
1st Barnstable

William Crocker  
State Representative  
2nd Barnstable

David Vieira  
State Representative  
3rd Barnstable

Joan Meschino  
State Representative  
3rd Plymouth District

Dylan Fernandes  
State Representative  
Barnstable, Nantucket, and Dukes District