

CONCERNED NEIGHBORS OF PILGRIM
www.concernedneighborsofpilgrim.org

FACT SHEET
TOWN MEETING ARTICLE 33:
ENSURE NUCLEAR WASTE IS REMOVED FROM WET POOL STORAGE

Contact: Heather Lightner, heather@concernedneighborsofpilgrim.org; 401-578-4189

- Article is advisory only; no cost to Town.
- Recommends that town officials seek to **ensure that nuclear waste is moved from wet pool storage to dry cask storage as soon as technologically possible**. Assemblies more than five years out of reactor can, and should be, moved to dry casks.
- Having a vote on this Article **gives the community a chance to have their voices heard** regarding Entergy plans to store nuclear waste at Pilgrim.
- **Recent poll** shows 4 out of 6 people interviewed listed Entergy's **nuclear waste storage as a top issue** in 2014; 33% of people polled said it was the top issue in 2013. (See Supporting Document #1, *Old Colony* poll)
- **Advantages of dry casks** : (See Supporting Document #3, pages 2-9)
 - Do not require mechanical parts, offsite electrical power, or human intervention to function properly; not as vulnerable to acts of terrorism; safer than wet pool storage.
 - When built in 1967, Pilgrim's wet pool was meant as temporary storage.
 - Reducing the amount of spent fuel in the pool means there will be fewer releases of radioactivity in the event of an accident
- Pilgrim's wet pool was **originally licensed by the U.S. NRC for 880 spent fuel assemblies** (nuclear waste) but they increased the amount allowed to be stored by the license to 3,859. Currently Pilgrim's spent fuel pool is almost full to capacity and is storing 3x the amount originally allowed.
- **Entergy only plans to move the minimum number of spent fuel assemblies** from the wet pool to dry casks needed to keep operating. This means the wet pool storage will continue to be dangerous.