



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1  
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100  
BOSTON, MA 02109-3912

February 27, 2014

Margaret E. Sheehan, Esq.  
Cape Cod Bay Watch  
58C Main Street  
Plymouth, MA 02360

Re: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (No. MA0003557), Request for Permit Termination

Dear Ms. Sheehan:

In a letter dated January 28, 2014, you wrote to the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Gina McCarthy, on behalf of Cape Cod Bay Watch, to request that EPA "immediately take steps to terminate" Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station's (PNPS) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit (No. MA0003557).

Since EPA Region 1 currently issues NPDES permits in Massachusetts, your request has been forwarded to Region 1.

In your letter, you cite 40 C.F.R. § 122.64(a)(3) as a cause for terminating the permit. This regulation provides that a cause for termination is "[a] determination that the permitted activity endangers human health or the environment and can only be regulated to acceptable levels by permit modification or termination." 40 C.F.R. § 122.64(a)(3).

You further state that Pilgrim has "... killed and harmed billions of marine organisms (primarily through impingement and entrainment) and has done unquantifiable damage to Cape Cod Bay's ecosystem," and that "[t]he Bay has been irretrievably harmed by Pilgrim's operations over the last 40 years, and those harms continue every day the plant uses its obsolete 'once-through' CWIS under its expired permit."

EPA Region 1 is writing to you now simply to inform you that we are in the process of evaluating your request and are not yet in a position to provide a substantive response to it.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact David Webster, Chief, Water Permits Branch at (617) 918-1791.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Moraff".

Ken Moraff, Director  
Office of Ecosystem Protection

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