July 24, 2018

Attorney General Maura Healey
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station Emergency Planning Zone Exemption Request

Dear Attorney General Healey:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), Cape Cod’s leading region-wide nonprofit environmental advocacy and education organization, respectfully encourages you to take a strong position against Entergy’s request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to be exempt from certain emergency planning requirements when the plant is shut down next year, including exemption from the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone around the plant.

APCC believes it is imperative that the Commonwealth oppose any attempts by Entergy to shirk its responsibility for ensuring public safety, regardless of whether it is while the plant is in operation or during the decommissioning process. Although Cape Cod is outside of the 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone, we are concerned that should Entergy be granted an exemption on the Emergency Planning Zone issue, it would establish a precedent that could lead to further compromises that will jeopardize assurances of a safe decommissioning process, plant cleanup, and the appropriate transfer and storage of the spent fuel rods. Given Pilgrim’s dismal performance history to date, we believe our concerns are not unfounded.

While the decision to grant the requested exemption rests with the NRC, a strong response by the Attorney General’s Office opposing the exemption could influence that decision and assist in establishing an appropriate public safety standard for the Pilgrim decommissioning process.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

cc: U.S. Senator Edward Markey
U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren
State Senator Julian Cyr
State Senator Viriato deMacedo
State Rep. Sarah Peake
State Rep. Timothy Whelan
State Rep. William Crocker
State Rep. David Vieira
State Rep. Dylan Fernandes
State Rep. Randy Hunt