Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 4, 2012

The Honorable Greg Jaczko
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Chairman Jaczko:

We write to urge the Commission not to move forward with its decision on whether to issue the twenty-year license extension for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station until there is a final resolution on all related administrative proceedings and judicial appeals. To do otherwise would send an alarming message to all residents living near America's 104 nuclear power plants who are attempting to have an impact on a critical decision that will affect their lives for decades.

We are additionally concerned that the NRC staff, in an April 20 filing to the Commission, requested that it vote to authorize extension of the operating license for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station even though a range of administrative proceedings and judicial appeals related to nuclear reactor and environmental safety are still ongoing.

According to the NRC webpage, "the NRC has a long history of, and commitment to, transparency, participation, and collaboration in our regulatory activities." If the Commission takes the unprecedented step of granting the staff's request to short-circuit these proceedings and appeals, it will be undermining the very spirit of transparency, participation and collaboration to which it claims to be committed. We urge you to deny the staff's current request while issues are still outstanding.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. If you have any questions or concerns, please have your staff contact Michal Freedhoff in Rep. Markey's office at 202-225-2836 or Kerry O'Brien in Rep. Keating's office at 202-225-3111.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey

William R Keating

William R. Keating

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER