



December 1, 2015

Ed DeWitt
Executive Director

The Honorable James Timilty, Senate Chair
Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
Room 507, State House
Boston, MA 02133

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Cunningham
President

The Honorable Howard Naughton, Jr., House Chair
Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
Room 167, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Margo Fenn
Vice President

Eliza McClennen
Vice President

RE: Support for An Act Relative to Emergency Planning (House Bill 2167)

Robert Summersgill
Treasurer

Dear Chairman Timilty and Chairman Naughton:

Elizabeth Nill
Clerk

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) writes in strong support of House Bill 2167, An Act Relative to Emergency Planning, and urges the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security to act swiftly in reporting this bill out with a favorable recommendation.

Barbara Brennessel

Elliott Carr

Michael Corrigan

Founded in 1968, APCC is the Cape Cod region's leading nonprofit environmental advocacy and education organization. Representing more than 5,000 members, APCC's mission is to promote policies and programs that protect and enhance the Cape's natural resources. APCC focuses its efforts on the protection of groundwater, surface water and wetland resources, the preservation of open space, the promotion of responsible, planned growth, and the achievement of an environmental ethic.

Anne Ekstrom

Katherine Garofoli

Thomas Huettner

Elizabeth Jenkins

Blue Magruder

H.2167 would provide Barnstable County with a necessary level of preparedness against the possibility of a radiological accident at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. It does so by directing the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to perform an assessment of the need for additional state actions to ensure public safety beyond what is already required by radiological emergency preparedness plans provided for under existing law. Based on that assessment, MEMA would be further directed through H.2167 to make recommendations, including legislation, to address the findings of its assessment.

Maureen O'Shea

Donald Palladino

Charles Sumner

Daniel Webb

In 2014, APCC conducted an analysis of the potential threats from the Pilgrim plant to the Cape's environment and natural systems. The conclusions reached from APCC's environmental analysis were consistent with previous conclusions expressed by other organizations and officials regarding the serious human health and safety threats to Cape Cod resulting from an accident at Pilgrim.

Until Pilgrim is shut down and the decommissioning process is complete, the people and natural environment of Cape Cod will be exposed to the potential threats of an accident at the nuclear plant. H.2167 creates a process for making sure that state and local governments and emergency planning authorities are adequately prepared for any contingency.

APCC thanks the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security for its careful consideration of H.2167. We hope the committee will support this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Ed DeWitt
Executive Director

cc: Rep. Sarah Peake
Rep. Ann-Margaret Ferrante
Sen. Daniel Wolf
Sen. Viriato deMacedo
Rep. Timothy Madden
Rep. Timothy Whelan
Rep. Brian Mannal
Rep. David Vieira
Rep. Randy Hunt