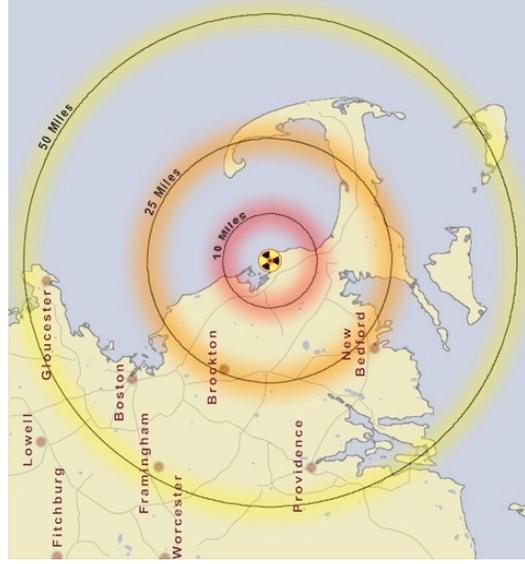


# CLOSE PILGRIM NUCLEAR PLANT NOW

1. **Pilgrim's design was terrible from the get-go:** Back in 1972, Steven Hanauer, an Atomic Energy Commission safety official, recommended that this design, the GE Mark 1 Boiling Water Reactor, "be discontinued because it presented unacceptable safety risks."<sup>(1)</sup>
2. **Pilgrim is now old and fragile and unsafe:** It is 3 years beyond the 40 years it was designed for, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rated it as one of the 3 least safe in the country, because of the frequency of its emergency shutdowns.<sup>(2)</sup>
3. **Pilgrim is vulnerable to attack:** A Pentagon-commissioned report rated it as one of the 8 most vulnerable to terror attack because its cooling water intake from the ocean is unprotected.<sup>(3)</sup>
4. **Pilgrim emits radiation daily:** In Plymouth County, home of Pilgrim, the thyroid cancer rate is 22% above MA avg., highest in the state. In Suffolk County, containing Boston, the rate is 16% above MA avg.<sup>(4)</sup>
5. **Pilgrim's spent fuel pool is an unreinforced high-level nuclear waste dump:** A loss of cooling for any reason would generate a fire that would, according to a Mass. Attorney General's report, result in an estimated 24,000 eventual cancers, and a devastating \$582 billion in losses. Pilgrim would pay for almost none of the damages, and homeowners insurance covers none of this.<sup>(5)</sup>
6. **Evacuation from a major Pilgrim nuclear emergency is impossible:** In Fukushima, the NRC repeatedly advised a 50-mile radius evacuation for Americans. In a major emergency, the Sagamore and Bourne Bridges will be shut to allow the evacuation of Plymouth, cutting off all escape from the Cape.<sup>(6)</sup> If the wind blows toward Boston, the radioactive plume could arrive in 35 minutes. Imagine evacuating Boston in 35 minutes!
7. **Pilgrim is not even needed:** It supplies only 2% of capacity to the regional ISO New England electrical pool, which has a reserve capacity of 12% to 20% projected over the next 10 years.<sup>(7)</sup>
8. **Pilgrim causes massive marine destruction and pollution of Cape Cod Bay:** The plant sucks over 500 million gallons of water daily from Cape Cod Bay, returning it hotter and polluted.<sup>(8)</sup>



In 2011 the State Department recommended that all US citizens within 50 miles of Fukushima evacuate. This map shows a 50-mile radius from Pilgrim Nuclear Plant.

## WE CANNOT WAIT THREE YEARS

**Energy plans to shut down Pilgrim in 2019 for financial reasons.** The NRC has found this corporation consistently derelict in following corrective action plans with little or no consequences. **Can we trust them to make this plant safe for the next three years?**

## GUARANTEE SAFE DECOMMISSIONING

Once the plant closes there will be many issues of concern including safe removal of the overloaded spent fuel pool. **Energy has 60 years to decommission. Let's make sure they set aside sufficient funds to clean it up safely.**

# NUCLEAR POWER IS NOT SAFE OR SUSTAINABLE

Though Pilgrim's shortcomings may be exacerbated due to age and design, they are shared by all nuclear power plants. The articles and websites cited below contain reams of information about the danger of accidents, monetary and environmental costs, health and storage risks.

Some concerned activists believe that a new generation of plants (including nuclear fusion and recycling of nuclear waste) will alleviate these issues. However, the sources listed below confirm that none of these promises have come to fruition after many years of research.

*"In short, the notion that different or smaller reactors plus wholly new fuel cycles ...could overcome nuclear energy's inherent problems is not just decades too late, but fundamentally a fantasy."* (9)

*"Nuclear power plants are cancer factories. They make waste that lasts a million years and will eventually release and get into people's bodies and the food chain"* (10)



## SOURCES

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4. [statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/incidencrates](http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/incidencrates)
5. Google nuclear regulatory commission, into the search box type [pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1112/ML111220356.pdf](http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1112/ML111220356.pdf), click, and scroll down to Dr. Beyea's report. (See p.18 and 19.)
6. [japan.usembassy.gov/e/acs/tacs-20110331-travel-warning.html](http://japan.usembassy.gov/e/acs/tacs-20110331-travel-warning.html)
7. [iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/2015/05/2015\\_celt\\_report.pdf](http://iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/2015/05/2015_celt_report.pdf) (p. 1.1.1)
8. [capecodbaywatch.org/2015-water-pollution-report/#toc9](http://capecodbaywatch.org/2015-water-pollution-report/#toc9).
9. Amory B. Lovins, Rocky Mountain Institute. *Creek Road*, Reprinted from Nuclear Monitor #690, June 26, 2009 Available on NIRS.org/factsheets
10. Dr. Helen Caldicott " [http://www.ecoshock.net/downloads/ES\\_Caldicott16.mp3](http://www.ecoshock.net/downloads/ES_Caldicott16.mp3) (5:22)

## MORE INFORMATION

[MADownwinders.org](http://MADownwinders.org)  
[beyondnuclear.org/fact-sheets](http://beyondnuclear.org/fact-sheets)  
[NIRS.org/factsheets](http://NIRS.org/factsheets)  
[capedownwinders.info](http://capedownwinders.info)  
[pilgrimcoalition.org](http://pilgrimcoalition.org)  
[www.beyondnuclear.org](http://www.beyondnuclear.org)  
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[fukushimaresponse.org](http://fukushimaresponse.org)  
[capecodbaywatch.org](http://capecodbaywatch.org)

On Behalf of Planet Earth (on facebook)



  
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[masspeaceaction.org](http://masspeaceaction.org)