Governor Charles Baker

C/O Kristen LePore, Chief of Staff

Massachusetts State House

24 Beacon St. Boston, MA 02133

kristen.lepore@state.ma.us

Dear Governor Baker:

Holtec, the owner of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, threatens to dump more than one (1) million gallons of Pilgrim’s radioac*t*ively contaminated water into Cape Cod Bay.

I am writing to ask that you (1) take a public stand opposing Holtec’s threatened dumping and (2) instruct your Secretaries of Energy and Environmental Affairs and Health and Human Services to enforce Massachusetts regulations that prohibit the dumping.

Massachusetts must prevent what Holtec has threatened to do. Cape Cod Bay, Plymouth Bay, Duxbury Bay, and Kingston Bay are all protected ocean sanctuaries. Cape Cod Bay is a critical habitat for right whales. Dumping Pilgrim’s radioactive water into them is not safe, would cause incalculable economic damage, and would harm both the environment and public health.

The economic harm from Holtec’s threatened dumping cannot be overstated. The fishing and aquaculture industries correctly fear that dumping will contaminate the water, and millions of oysters, lobsters, mussels, clams, and fish. Holtec’s planned dumping will have similar serious impacts on boat and other marine industries, to say nothing of real estate, tourism, and our beaches, on which the livelihoods of our towns depend.

These industries rightfully believe that public perception of radioactive contamination of our waters could destroy their hundreds-of-millions-of-dollars of investments and businesses. There is no justifiable reason to jeopardize the Massachusetts economy to increase the profits of Holtec, a Florida and New Jersey based company that will leave Massachusetts as soon, and with as much money, as it can.

Holtec does not have to dump. It has another option, to ship out of state to a licensed facility just as Vermont Yankee plans to do with its two (2) million gallons of radioactively contaminated water.

In settling its litigation with the Commonwealth, Holtec AGREED to “comply with all applicable environmental and human-health based standards and regulations of the Commonwealth.” To name just one, the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations, prohibit dumping commercial or industrial waste, radioactive or non- radioactive, into our protected Ocean Sanctuaries. MGL ch 131A; 301 CMR 27.05 and 27.06.

We ask that you force Holtec to live up to the Settlement Agreement. Our economy, to say nothing of public health, depend on stopping Holtec’ threatened dumping.

Respectfully,