Four important bills remain in extension in the Joint Committee on Public Health. The deadline for a vote is May 9 so we need one more push.

The Joint Committee on Public Health has been very supportive of Pilgrim related legislation in the past. In 2016 when Entergy reps talked about safety at Pilgrim, Chairman Senator Lewis leaned over in his chair and said (paraphrasing), “I bet that is what the workers at Chernobyl and Fukushima said.” Then dead silence. It was a powerful moment of understanding and support for public health and safety. The bills we supported passed out of committee in that session so let’s move these bills forward.

Cape Downwinders and Boston Downwinders are organizing a lobby day in early May. If you would like to join us at the State House, please contact Susan Carpenter at scarpenter1103@gmail.com or call at 774.268.1695. We will also put out a ‘Call to Action’ on the lobby day for folks to call the Committee members in support of these bills. But please call now, too.

   This bill proposes the emergency planning zone include unique geographical locations like Cape Cod and the Islands and Cape Anne.
   Full text here: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H2472

H. 1131 (Rep. Cantwell) proposes an EPZ (Emergency Planning Zone) expansion to 20 miles INCLUDING Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket Counties and Cape Anne. There is no escape from the Cape and we need comprehensive plans like the 10 mile EPZ.
   Full text here: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H1131

H. 1133 (Rep. Cantwell) would increase radiation monitoring. Currently, funds are insufficient for the DPH could do their job.
   Full text here: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H1133

H. 1147 (Rep. Cutler) calls for emergency plans to remain in place until the spent fuel is moved to dry cask storage. As of now, the NRC will allow Entergy to reduce the EPZ to the site only after Pilgrim closes, ignoring the ongoing spent fuel pool dangers.
   Full text here: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/190/H1147

Contacts for the Joint Committee for Public Health:
https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J16/190