



The Pilgrim nuclear power plant. (Photo: Holtec)

in about 1 million gallons of water that Holtec has proposed discharging into Cape Cod Bay.

The Pilgrim plant, in Plymouth, Mass., shut down in May 2019, and ownership was transferred to Holtec for decommissioning. Holtec faces opposition as it seeks a state permit modification to release treated radioactive water into Cape Cod Bay. While the water would meet federal standards for its low-level contamination, opponents say releasing any pollution into the bay is unacceptable.

Testing by the state in 2023 showed at least five radioactive materials in the water that remain in Pilgrim's spent fuel pool and reactor. Now, officials are asking Holtec to do additional study on metals, volatile organic compounds, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) chemicals in the water.

Holtec representatives told the Nuclear

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