

August 18, 2000

Mr. James Knubel
Chief Nuclear Officer
Power Authority of the State of
New York
123 Main Street
White Plains, NY 10601

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS RELATED TO PERFORMANCE OF THE
BIENNIAL OFFSITE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISES AT THE
JAMES A. FITZPATRICK NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AND THE INDIAN POINT
NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 3

Dear Mr. Knubel:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is engaged in a document search related to the conduct of emergency plan exercises at the Indian Point and FitzPatrick/Nine Mile Point sites. The practice at these sites is for the co-located licensees to alternate their participation in the biennial exercises of the offsite plans that are evaluated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This apparently has been the practice at these two sites since the early 1980's.

The issue has come to our attention as a result of the February 15, 2000, steam generator tube failure at Indian Point Unit 2 (IP2) and the subsequent activities related to the restart of IP2. We are conducting a search of our records for any documentation related to the initiation of the practice of alternating licensee participation in offsite exercises at these sites. In particular, we are seeking correspondence between the licensees, the State of New York, FEMA, and the NRC that is related to this practice and indicates consideration and approval by the NRC and/or FEMA.

To assist us in this matter, we request that the Power Authority of the State of New York perform a search of its records for any documentation related to recognition, acceptance, or approval of the practice of alternating licensee participation in the FEMA evaluated biennial (originally annual) offsite exercises at the James A. FitzPatrick and Indian Point 3 sites. Please contact Guy Vissing at 301-415-1441 regarding FitzPatrick, or George Wunder at 301-415-1494 regarding Indian Point 3 if you have any questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John A. Zwolinski, Director
Division of Licensing Project Management
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Docket Nos. 50-286 and 50-333

cc: See next page

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