

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 08/15/06 EDO CONTROL: G20060684  
DOC DT: 08/02/06  
FINAL REPLY:

Representative Sue W. Kelly

TO:

Chairman Diaz

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

\*\* PRI \*\*

CRC NO: 06-0375

Chairman Klein

DESC:

ROUTING:

Concerns with the Operability Failure of the  
Emergency Notification Sirens that Occurred at  
Indian Point (EDATS: SECY-2006-0124)

Reyes  
Virgilio  
Kane  
Silber  
Dean  
Burns  
Dyer, NRR  
Collins, RI  
Cyr, OGC

DATE: 08/04/06

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NSIR

Zimmerman

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

*Template: SECY-017*

*C-RDS: SECY-01*

# EDATS

Electronic Document and Action Tracking System

**EDATS Number:** SECY-2006-0124

**Initiating Office:** SECY

## General Information

**Assigned To:** NSIR

**OEDO Due Date:** 8/15/2006 5:00 PM

**Other Assignees:**

**SECY Due Date:** 8/17/2006 5:00 PM

**Subject:** Concerns with the Operability Failure of the Emergency Notifications Sirens that Occurred at Indian Point  
**Description:**

**ADAMS Accession Numbers**

**Incoming:**

**Response:**

**Package:**

## Document Information

**Originating Organization:** Congress

**Originator Name:** Representative Sue Kelly

**Incoming Task Received:** Letter

**Date of Incoming Document:** 8/2/2006

**Document Received by OEDO Date:** 8/4/2006

**Date Response Requested by Originator:** NONE

**Addressee:** Chairman Diaz

## Process Information

**Action Type:** Letter

**Priority:** Medium

**Sensitivity:** None

**Signature Level:** Chairman ~~Diaz~~ Klein

**Urgency:** NO

**OEDO Concurrence:** YES

**OCM Concurrence:** YES

**Special Instructions:**

## Other Information

**Cross Reference Number:** G20060684,LTR-06-0375

**Related Task:**

**File Routing:** EDATS

**Agency Lesson Learned:** NO

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

*Date Printed: Aug 03, 2006 16:20*

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PAPER NUMBER: LTR-06-0375      LOGGING DATE: 08/02/2006  
ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: REP Sue Kelly  
AFFILIATION: CONG  
ADDRESSEE: CHRM Chairman  
SUBJECT: Concerns with the operability failure of the emergency notifications sirens that occurred at Indian Point

ACTION: Signature of Chairman  
DISTRIBUTION: RF, OCA to Ack

LETTER DATE: 08/02/2006  
ACKNOWLEDGED No  
SPECIAL HANDLING:

NOTES: Commission Correspondence  
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE: 08/17/2006      DATE SIGNED:

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EDO --G20060684

SUE W. KELLY  
19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, VICE CHAIR  
CHAIRWOMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
AND CONSUMER CREDIT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS, INSURANCE  
AND GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTERPRISES  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS, TRANSIT AND PIPELINES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY  
REFORM AND OVERSIGHT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAX, FINANCE AND EXPORTS

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-3219

August 2, 2006

- PLEASE REPLY TO:
- ☐ 2192 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5441
  - ☐ 21 OLD MAIN STREET, ROOM #107  
FISHKILL, NEW YORK 12524  
(845) 897-5200
  - ☐ ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
255 MAIN STREET, 3RD FLOOR  
GOSHEN, NEW YORK 10924  
(845) 291-4100
  - ☐ 2025 CROMBOND ROAD  
YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NEW YORK 10593  
(914) 962-0761

The Honorable Dr. Nils J. Diaz  
Chairman  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Diaz,

My purpose in writing is to convey my displeasure with the operability failure of all of the emergency notification sirens that occurred at Indian Point early this morning.

Today's siren malfunction is an obvious risk to public safety, and I am writing to encourage you take all necessary actions to prevent any such failure from occurring in the future. There must be a thorough accounting for how this occurred, and how similar problems will be averted with both the current system and the new siren system that is slated for installation in the upcoming months.

It is my understanding that the hard drive of the siren-controlling computer system caused the failure. Why is a backup for the hard drive not in place to prevent such a breakdown of the notification system? If this singular power source is lost, the entire emergency notification system is rendered useless.

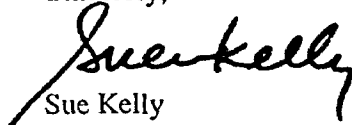
While I understand that a new siren system will soon be put in place at the plant, it is imperative that residents and local officials have confidence that the new system will be better than the current system. The new notification system will maintain a backup power source, but it is unclear if it will maintain an adequate backup for the hard drive for the computer system that will operate the siren. How can my constituents be confident that this system will work in the event of a real emergency?

I was also disappointed to see that local emergency response officials were not notified of the failure until several hours after the hard drive's initial dysfunction. This compels me to reiterate yet again the need to improve communication with local communities. The implications of poor communications with local emergency response officials could be extremely negative in the event of an incident at Indian Point, and I urge you once again to improve the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's efforts on this matter.

With the new notification system scheduled to come online in January, I respectfully request that the NRC address the concerns that I and other local officials have raised to ensure the new system will be a sufficient upgrade from the current siren system, and that NRC and Indian Point officials will contact local officials promptly when such incidents arise.

I look forward to your prompt response to my concerns on this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Sue Kelly  
Member of Congress