

August 15, 2011

Barry D. Leemann, Chairman  
Oswego County Legislature  
County Office Building  
46 East Bridge Street  
Oswego, New York 13126

Dear Mr. Leemann:

On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Chairman, Gregory B. Jaczko, I am responding to your letter of July 12, 2011, regarding the planned strike by International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 97 at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station (NMPNS) operated by Constellation Energy Nuclear Group (CENG). As you know, a strike commenced at 12:01 a.m. on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

In advance of the strike, the NRC completed an inspection of the facility's strike contingency plan, in accordance with established inspection procedures, to evaluate the plan's adequacy and to ensure that public health, safety, and security would be maintained during the strike. This inspection verified that Constellation had properly trained operators and other personnel, including the emergency response organization (ERO), who would safely perform replacement functions during the strike. The inspectors also reviewed the plan to ensure site staffing would be sufficient and qualified to implement the site emergency plan by comparing the contingency ERO staffing plan to the normal ERO staffing plan.

On July 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 p.m., two hours prior to the strike commencing, the NRC resident inspectors, supplemented by regional inspectors, implemented 24-hour coverage at the site. This around-the-clock coverage continued for two weeks, at which time it was determined that this degree of oversight was no longer warranted. The regional branch chief responsible for NMPNS also was on site for the initial days of the strike to manage resident and regional inspection resources, to interface with site senior management and union representatives to reinforce the importance of continued safe operation of the facility, and to assess NMPNS's contingency plan implementation to ensure that CENG met its regulatory requirements.

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, the members of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 97 voted to approve the new contract. The NRC continued to provide enhanced oversight and closely monitored the situation following the return of the workers to the site.

B. Leemann

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During the period of the strike, the NRC inspectors observed that both plants were operated safely and in compliance with NRC regulations. No deficiencies were identified that were determined to be more than minor. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Glenn Dentel, Branch Chief, at (610) 337-5233.

Sincerely,

*/RA/ Original Signed by David C. Lew for*

William M. Dean  
Regional Administrator

B. Leemann

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William M. Dean  
Regional Administrator

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DATE	08/10/2011	08/10/2011	08/15/2011	08/15/2011	

\*See Previous Concurrence

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