

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
)	Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and
ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC.)	50-286-LR
)	
(Indian Point Nuclear Generating Units 2 and 3))	May 6, 2016
)	

JOINT STATUS REPORT REGARDING TRACK 2 SCHEDULE DEFERRAL

In accordance with the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board’s (“Board”) April 1, 2016 Order,¹ Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. (“Entergy”), the State of New York, Riverkeeper, Inc., and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff (“NRC Staff”) (collectively, “the Parties”) jointly provide the status update below.² The Parties recommend that the Board defer the scheduling of further evidentiary submissions and post-hearing findings of fact and conclusions of law on the pending Track 2 contentions³ for an additional thirty-two days, until June 7, 2016. There is good cause for a continued deferral given the expected availability during that period of further information that may be relevant to the Parties’ testimony on the Track 2 Contentions.

Since the Board’s April 1, 2016 Order, Entergy has begun work at Indian Point Unit 2 (“IP2”) to replace baffle-former bolts following the identification of indications in baffle-former bolts through visual and ultrasonic volumetric examinations conducted pursuant to the IP2 reactor

¹ Licensing Board Order (Adopting Joint Motion for Track 2 Hearing Schedule Deferral) at 2 (Apr. 1, 2016).

² Counsel for the Parties have reviewed this Status Update, have consented to it, and have authorized the undersigned to submit it as a Joint Status Report on behalf of the Parties.

³ The three Track 2 contentions include: (1) NYS-25 (aging management of reactor pressure vessels and internals); (2) NYS-26B/RK-TC-1B (aging management of components subject to environmentally-assisted metal fatigue); and (3) NYS-38/RK-TC-5 (adequacy of certain license renewal safety commitments).

vessel internals (“RVI”) aging management program (“AMP”). Entergy also is conducting a root cause analysis of the IP2 baffle-former bolt findings and preparing related technical analyses in support of IP2’s return to service. It is further considering potential impacts from the IP2 inspection findings on the Indian Point Unit 3 (“IP3”) RVI AMP, including possible acceleration of baffle-former bolt inspections at that unit. Entergy expects to complete (or at least largely complete) these reports and analyses within the next thirty-two days, and will provide copies of potentially relevant final reports and analyses to the parties in accordance with its mandatory disclosure obligations. In addition, the NRC Staff is conducting independent inspections and reviews of the IP2 baffle-former bolt issue, and plans to discuss this matter in its quarterly inspection reports for IP2 and IP3. The next quarterly inspection report, for the period ending March 31, 2016, is expected to be issued in mid-May.

For these reasons, the Parties believe it is reasonable and prudent to revisit the scheduling of further evidentiary submissions and post-hearing findings of fact and conclusions of law in an updated status report to be filed with the Board no later than June 7, 2016.

The Parties recognize the already-extended duration of this contested adjudication. Under the circumstances, however, they believe that continuation of the deferral is appropriate, supported by good cause, and in the best interests of the Parties, the Board, and the public. In this regard, they respectfully assert that the continued deferral will facilitate the Parties’ and Board’s judicious expenditure of legal and adjudicatory resources, and will ensure that the Board’s decision resolving the Parties’ Track 2 contentions addresses all relevant issues and evidence.

Respectfully submitted,

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Executed in accord with 10 C.F.R. § 2.304(d)

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Dated at Washington, DC
this 6th day of May 2016

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