

RICHARD L. OTTINGER
24TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 27, 1981

REPLY, IF ANY TO:
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Mr. Joseph Hendrie
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Hendrie:

We are writing at the request of Alfred Del Bello, Westchester County (N.Y.) executive, who has written to us expressing his grave concern over the proposed Emergency Radiological Response Plan for the Indian Point nuclear power facility in Buchanan, N.Y.

As you know, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission requires the licensees of Indian Point, Consolidated Edison and the Power Authority of the State of New York, to implement such a plan by April 1, 1981. Mr. Del Bello would be responsible for the implementation of such a plan in his county. He believes that the plan devised by a consultant to Con Ed is unworkable and should not be implemented.

In addition to his concern about the plan itself, Mr. Del Bello has also protested the manner in which it was drawn up.

"In Westchester," Mr. Del Bello wrote in a February 11th letter to us, "emergency response plans required by the NRC have been developed with virtually no local government, emergency service, and citizen group input. County department heads have been consulted, but in some cases, their counsel has been ignored. Thus far, the proposed plans for Indian Point in their present form will not work."

Mr. Del Bello is seeking three things:

- A delay in the April 1st implementation date.
- County input and a series of public hearings on any plan before implementation.
- A sight-specific safety analysis of Indian Point conducted by the NRC and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

We are greatly disturbed by the apparent inability of the concerned parties in the Indian Point region -- the state, the four surrounding counties, and the licensees -- to devise a workable response plan. Under the procedure established, the reactors at Indian Point could be put back in operation without adoption of an emergency response plan deemed workable by all concerned parties. Such an eventuality represents a great risk to the millions of people living in the vicinity of Indian Point.

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It is our understanding that FEMA and the NRC have been providing assistance in the development of a plan, and that both agencies have offered to meet with all concerned parties to address Mr. Del Bello's concerns. We would urge that this meeting take place at the earliest possible date, and that the effort to correct the deficiencies of the plan as devised begin immediately.

Sincerely,

Richard Ottinger
Richard L. Ottinger
Member of Congress

Hamilton Fish Jr.
Hamilton Fish Jr.
Member of Congress