

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD
Before Administrative Judges
Louis J. Carter, Chair
Frederick J. Shon
Dr. Oscar H. Paris

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In the Matter of: : Docket Nos.
CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY OF NEW YORK : 50-247 SP
Inc. (Indian Point, Unit No. 2), : 50-286 SP
: July 23, 1982
POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK :
(Indian Point, Unit No. 3) :
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Testimony Submitted on Behalf of
"New York City Council" Intervenors

By

COUNCIL MEMBER CAROL GREITZER

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I am Councilwoman Carol Greitzer and I represent the 3rd Council District. My district extends at some places from the Hudson River to the East River and from Houston Street to 59th Street. At various points along the border, the lines fluctuate, but that should not obscure the fact that my district encompassed neighborhoods of varying demographic characteristics. For example: my district includes Chelsea, parts of Clinton, Murray Hill, Kips Bay, Midtown (the Central Business District) and Greenwich Village, and many other smaller but nonetheless distinct neighborhoods. The average income levels of these neighborhoods range from \$15,000 for a family of four to over \$100,000 for a family of four. There is, in addition, a rich diversity of ethnicity and racial background.

Serving each one of these neighborhoods and communities are scores of small businesses, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, psychiatric treatment centers, drug treatment facilities, manufacturing industries, theatres, museums, and last, but not least, densely populated housing complexes such as Peter Cooper Village, Waterside Plaza, London Terrace, Penn South, Manhattan Plaza, and Kips Bay. Thousands of people live in such apartment complexes, and hundreds of thousands of people travel in the midtown area every day to reach the various social services and cultural institutions mentioned.

Criss-crossing my district are all of the major City

subway and bus lines, with four major transportation intersections, i.e. 14th Street, 34th Street, 42nd Street, and 59th Street. In the normal course of events, a single disruption, either above ground or below ground, such as a water main break, a subway fire or a power "brown-out" will tie up all forms of transportation for hours. Even a large construction project such as the demolition of the Helen Hayes and Morosco Theatres will tie up pedestrian and vehicular traffic for hours and days at a time.

I have composed the above description of my district and some of the transportation problems in the district in order to suggest the devastation resulting from any time-limited evacuation. It is almost impossible to comprehend the grid-lock, accidents and deaths alone which evacuation would necessitate. It is important to note that the now-defunct Broadway Mall plan had to be discarded in part because of the monumental traffic problems that would result from the diversion of midtown traffic around the mall.

Any evacuation procedure would multiply traffic problems a hundred-fold, not only in midtown, but in areas like Murray Hill, Chelsea and Greenwich Village where streets are often narrow, congested and irregular. I stand in firm opposition to continued operation of the Indian Point plant because of the very real dangers presented by the potential for a nuclear "accident" and evacuation procedures.

Another problem I shall only allude to, but which is very real, not only in my district but all over the City,

is the hostility many people feel toward Con Edison. My office receives calls and inquiries constantly from people who contest Con Edison's billing procedures and meter readings. These same people would no doubt tragically distrust any announcement by Con Edison of a nuclear accident, and would refuse to evacuate. Others might push the "panic button" in the event of a minor occurrence at Indian Point.

Lives would be lost in the course of any evacuation procedure. In the context of the Indian Point operation, "Safety Evacuation" is ludicrous. My fear is that a mass exodus would lose many of the lives it is designed to save. As a public official elected to protect the public welfare, I must point out the folly of evacuation planning, and oppose continued operation of the Indian Point plant.