



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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11/18/82

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December 3, 1982

Nunzio Palladino, Chairman
John Ahearne, Commissioner
Victor Gilinsky, Commissioner
James Asselstine, Commissioner
Thomas Roberts, Commissioner
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

DOCKET NUMBER
PRG. & UTIL TAG

50-247 SP
50-286 SP

Dear Commissioners:

We strongly urge that you not permit the Indian Point power plants in Buchanan, New York to return to service at this time. We believe that both reactors, Indian Point 2 and Indian Point 3, should remain closed at least until you, the NRC Commissioners, are able to guarantee that emergency planning and preparedness are adequate to protect public health and safety in the counties around Indian Point, including New York City.

We understand that in December, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will submit to you an evaluation of emergency planning around Indian Point, but that they have informed you that no evaluation of the actual state of emergency preparedness will be possible until some time after another "exercise" (scheduled for March 8, 1983) has been conducted to test emergency response procedures. Further, we are aware that no evaluation of New York City's preparedness to respond to an accident at Indian Point is even contemplated.

The NRC's regulations required that there be adequate emergency planning and preparedness for nuclear plant accidents by April 1, 1981. The fact that emergency preparedness at Indian Point is still in question more than a year and a half later is deeply disturbing to us.

Our concerns are heightened, among other things, by recent reports of equipment degradation at the plants and of possible accident consequences much greater than previously estimated. During the past year the media has reported problems ranging from a 1981 "below average" safety and performance rating for Indian Point 2, to steam generator tube leaks,

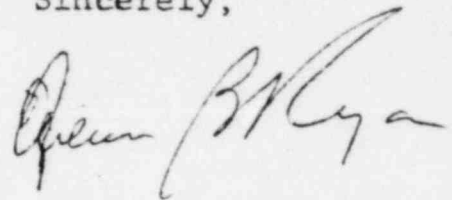
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turbine defects, and possible reactor vessel embrittlement. Most recently, a report for NRC prepared by Sandia National Laboratories estimated that a worst case accident at Indian Point could result in many thousands of fatalities, early injuries, and delayed cancer deaths in the New York metropolitan area, and hundreds of billions of dollars in economic losses.

In light of the above, neither we nor our constituents will feel safe and secure should you allow the Indian Point plants, currently shut down for refueling and repairs, to go back "on line." We urge you to make no decision permitting resumption of operation of the Indian Point plants without thorough consideration of the evidence gathered in the special investigation currently underway before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Aileen B. Ryan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

AILEEN B. RYAN
COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE
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