

League of Saltwater Sportsmen, Inc.

CENTRAL OFFICE

Box 606, City Island, N.Y. 10464

"A NON-PROFIT NON-SALARIED CONSERVATION FEDERATION  
FIGHTING FOR NEW YORK'S COASTAL FISHERMEN"

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July 18, 1970

Mr. Jack Campbell, Chairman  
Atomic Safety & Licensing Board  
Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Campbell:

This in regard to your case "Docket No. 50-322:

Despite the fact that I was ready to appear at your office in Washington on July 16th, as per your notice, unfortunately I was served with a subpoena as a witness in a local court case that kept me in Court both on July 16th and 17th, making it utterly impossible to be in Washing to present material statements I would make in the case in point of the Shoreham or the Sound nuclear plant, in which case I can only ask you kindly accept the enclosed statement I had expected to make when the final Hearing would be held on Long Island, N.Y.

I can only ask that you realize the position I was in that made it impossible for me to be present at your pre-trial conference; that you will accept the enclosed statement I enclose herewith and that you retain my name on the list of speakers when the case comes up on Long Island at a later date.

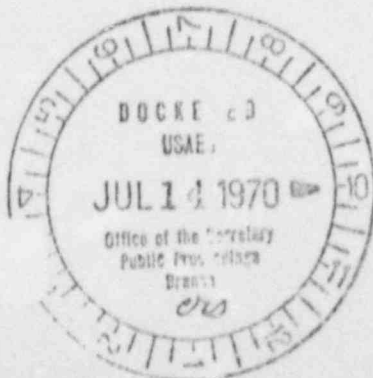
Thanking you for giving this kind attention, I am,

Sincerely,

*Harvey E. Hauptner*  
Harvey E. Hauptner  
Director: Conservation Research

110 Bay Street  
City Island, N.Y. 10464

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GENERAL OFFICE:

P. C. Box 65, Flushing, N. Y. 11365

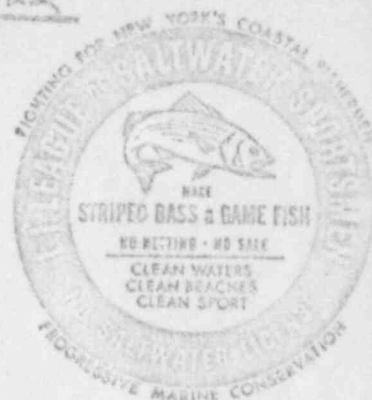
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A STATEMENT BASED ON A STUDY OF NUCLEAR PLANTS

Gentlemen:

This statement is definitely based on the rising; not abating number of questions involving the modern nuclear electric generating plants on our rivers; lakes; bays; sounds, or other important waterways, practically all such waterways now supporting a vast amount of people seeking recreation and incidental food at times, in boating; fishing; bathing etc. However; the increasing amount of nuclear electric generating plants has created an unusual proliferation, and the companies claiming the building of more and more plants, produce a supposed demand for more and more power in the future. This has created many startling; even dangerous situations that, added to the public's concern over the pollution of our air; our land and our waters, and in this case particularly the damage created by nuclear plants in these spheres, to our fish and other natural resources, that have reached gigantic proportions in the past seven years, particularly at the Con Edison nuclear plant at Indian Point on the Hudson, where at times, THAT PLANT HAS BEEN FORCED TO CLOSE DOWN DUE TO THE VAST AMOUNTS OF FISH CLOGGING THE FOUR HUGE WATER INTAKE PUMPS. From this alone; just imagine the staggering damage to our fish populations, AND THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SEVEN YEARS WITH LITTLE LETUP, AND IT WAS JUST SUCH AS THIS THAT CAUSED MY REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO LEAD A FOUR-MAN INVESTIGATING GROUP INTO THAT PLANT ON JUNE 12, 1963, where we witnessed the shocking sight of untold thousands of fish of all sizes and species, all dead or dying under their pier, the sacrifice on the altar of modern technology gone wild for years, while huge sums have been spent by Con Edison on clever publicity that recalls the old saying: "Robbing Peter to pay Paul." And it was such treatment as this that caused the East's two best known and wide awake sportfishermen's associations; the L.I. League of Saltwater Sportsmen and the Hudson River Fishermen's Association, to become the leading groups as the watchdogs and dig deep into these recurring "FISH KILLS," that we demand GO NO FURTHER? WHETHER IT BE AT INDIAN POINT; DAVID'S ISLAND; SHORHAM ON THE SOUND, OR ANYWHERE ELSE. Both our groups have a good idea as to what is going on in this field, AND WE SIMPLY WILL NOT BE MISLED INTO PLAYING THE OK GAME OF ANY SUCH PLANTS UNTIL THE PROPER TECHNOLOGY; NOT GUESSWORK, PROVES BEYOND ANY DOUBT, THAT NUCLEAR PLANTS, WITH ALL THEIR SUPPOSEDLY "GOOD POINTS," ARE STILL NOT GUILTY OF ANY BAD OR DANGEROUS FAULTS. IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THAT.....



To back up and substantiate our reasons for being so adamant in our opinions of any and all nuclear plants, I will quote the damning indictment made by that famous scientist of the atom world; David Lilienthal; the former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, when we see in a new book entitled: "THE PERILS OF THE PEACEFUL ATOM," by Richard Curtis and Elizabeth Hogan, this: "FAR AND AWAY THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE AND



SENSIBLE STATEMENT EVER MADE ABOUT THE HAZARDS AND LIMITATIONS OF ATOMIC POWER. ONCE A BRIGHT HOPE SHARED BY ALL MANKIND, INCLUDING MYSELF, THE RASH PROLIFERATION OF ATOMIC POWER PLANTS HAS BECOME ONE OF THE UGLIEST CLOUDS OVERHANGING AMERICA..... THIS BOOK WILL HAVE TO BE ANSWERED SOBERLY AND PERSUASIVELY BY THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PROLIFERATION." Right here, I myself would suggest that as many as possible read this book and whom but the nuclear plant people did Mr. Lillienthal score?

We believe that the public is entitled to know both sides of this story for we are now being besieged with cleverly written publicity soothing us with references to "Clean Power" in the changing from fossil fuels (oil and coal) to nuclear plants. In this literature, they brag deeply about the sudden and deep interest "in the protection of our natural environment," and what they are doing; and the money they are spending to abate the pollution of our AIR. But quite oddly; NOT ONE SINGLE WORD IS MENTIONED IN THAT ENTIRE PAMPHLET ABOUT THE RECURRING AND ENORMOUS "FISH KILLS" AT THEIR INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR PLANT FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, AND WHAT THEY HAVE OR HAVE NOT DONE ABOUT IT. WHY? Right here, it might be well to mention the fact that New York State Attorney General LeFkowitz has instituted a suit against Con Edison in Court, for some 5 million dollars damage at the price of \$27.50 per fish destroyed at Indian Point, which would be the amount of fine per fish you and I would have to pay if we were caught violating the law in any way by the Conservation Department. If LeFkowitz wins this case and the amount asked is upheld, then would it not seem that this large fine might have been spent to better advantage during the past seven years, by Con Edison in trying to solve this dire problem themselves, perhaps for far less money? We Do.

I will now ask the following questions and I would suggest you ponder each deeply, for they may have an important place in both your lives and mine in the future:

1 - Can the Shoreham plant; if built; guarantee that any and all required and adequate devices be installed to stop any and all fish, large or small, and fish eggs floating, from being sucked up into the huge intake devices and pumps that will supply the "cooling water," in the plant? Deliver the highly heated discharged in a manner and place THAT WILL NOT ATTRACT ANY FISH BY THE CHANGE IN TEMPERATURE? WILL THERE ALSO BE A GUARANTEE THERE WILL BE NO LOSS OF OXYGEN THAT FISH; ANIMALS AND HUMAN BEINGS REQUIRE TO LIVE? This apparently has not been found to be the case at Indian Point as far as we can ascertain.

2 - Will this nuclear plant; if built; be equipped with the "OPEN CIRCUIT OR THE CLOSED CIRCUIT SYSTEM? State reason if for either. Also, will all the personnel of whatever rank, be adequately trained to immediately "PULL THE URANIUM RODS" in the reactor, when a pump stoppage or other incident occurs and shut the plant down to prevent possible

disaster to the plant; surrounding areas, and the population?

3 - Will this proposed plant be equipped with a FAST BREEDER OR NOT?

4 - NUCLEAR "HOT WASTES: HELL ON EARTH: As set forth by the Citizens Committee for the Protection of the Environment, we find that in all nuclear plants the "unburned uranium and the by-product, plutonium," are the dirtiest phase of the nuclear industry," and so deadly, a single gallon released into the environment could kill 2-3 million people." What promise can you grant us here tonight that these deadly high-level wastes will be adequately handled; guarded in transit and safely stored for the future. Also; are there any such wastes now stored anywhere on Long Island, and if so; WHERE????? The entire foregoing portion of this question we regard as especially dangerous, due to possible mistakes; lack of adequate instruction, and particularly, sabotage. We feel WE SHOULD HAVE THESE ANSWERS NOW.

5 - Is it true or not, THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A HOME OWNER OR OTHERS IN THIS VICINITY TO BUY OR SECURE PRIVATE INSURANCE TO PROTECT HIS OR HER PROPERTY AGAINST NUCLEAR DANGER OR DAMAGE? We see this as a fair question, as it is of extreme importance to each and every one of us.

6 - RADIATION DISCHARGE FROM STACK RELEASE OR DISCHARGED BOILING WATER OF ALL NUCLEAR PLANTS: A case in point is one now before the Minnesota Court where a company seeking a permit to build a nuclear plant on the Mississippi at Monticello, Minnesota, applied to the Atomic Energy Commission, and was granted a "stack release," of 5 million curies per year, while the Minnesota Nuclear Agency refused to permit more than 300,000 curies per year; certainly a vast difference we all must admit. The case will probably go all the way to the Supreme Court, with eleven (11) other states joining Minnesota in upholding the 300,000 curies per year as a safety measure. (Note) Not too oddly; NEW YORK WAS NOT ONE OF THAT ELEVEN. It is such as this decision that brings up the question we often hear: "Many are skeptical over just how the Atomic Energy Commission arrive at their vital decisions: Whether by fact or fiction. And, while on the question of "stack release; of nuclear plants, we have read where cows grazing in areas adjacent to nuclear plants had laboratory tests made of their milk, it was found to have a startling increase in radiation, at which case, I cannot help but go back Dr. Lienthal's stunning indictment of nuclear plants I quoted earlier in this statement.

We feel the public should be made aware of the grave hazards of "hot wastes" while being transported from nuclear plants to final storage. We feel the public should be made aware of the possibility of nuclear disasters and the damage to our ecology by nuclear plants. We feel the public should be made aware that the building of nuclear plants are costing quite beyond the estimated cost and who will pay this cost? You and I and the rest of us will.

We feel the public should be made aware that dependable monitoring of all operating nuclear plants should be made a must and published.



Some portions of this statement are quotes from the Citizens Committee for the Preservation of the Environment, to which I am indebted.

Back in 1968, when David's Island was purchased from New Rochelle, on Long Island Sound by Gen Edison, a rather singular statement was bandied around "that the enormous amount that Gen Edison would pay in taxes on David's Island, would drastically cut the homeowner's taxes, and become a literal savior to the residents in greatly lowered tax bites, and I am now wondering if such a sweet song as this has now been heard in Sheroham on the Sound? If it has; then think twice before you jump at conclusions. Also, it must be admitted, that the fine artist work on the brochure describing the new proposed nuclear plant at Sheroham, was a masterpiece that most surely goes well with the feminine portion of the local residents, for it is they that delight in such beautiful things as that glorious blue building; the green trees and shrubbery; that wonderfully clouded sky; the quiet waters and modern building design. But; and I repeat, but; in all that beauty of proposed nuclear plant, there might ~~still~~ still lurk a smaller version of the atom bomb that did such tremendous damage to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And right here I would ask: Just why has Indian Point plant been shut down for almost a month??? Can we have the answer to that?

From what we read in the statement of that famous scientist; David Lilienthal, who deeply abhors the proliferation of nuclear plants, "as one of the ugliest clouds to ever hang over America," as well as the vast amounts of concern over what we have already seen occur in present nuclear plants, in various parts of the U.S., is it not possible that a great many of the real answers involving nuclear plants are still unsolved, in which case can we permit ourselves to be enticed to "pull the rabbit out of the bag sight unseen, instead of remembering well the signs on our railroad crossings: STOP - LOOK - LISTEN. AND IN OTHER AREAS: PROCEED WITH CAUTION.

In connection with the part many of us have played in this phase of modern technology, many of us have been branded as "ultra conservationists; guerrillas, and what have you," but actually what we have been trying to accomplish "is the saving of your and our lives and those of our loved ones; control the pollution of our air; our land and our waters; and what flies; walks; swims or lives in all three. WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?

We will anxiously await the TRUE ANSWERS THAT WE FEEL MUST BE FORTHCOMING IN THIS CASE.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

*Harvey E. Hauptner*  
Harvey E. Hauptner  
Director, Conservation Research