

April 13, 2000

Mr. John J. Rainey
3503 Homestead Court
Peekskill, New York 10566

Dear Mr. Rainey:

I am responding to your letter of March 26, 2000, in which you forwarded concerns regarding the steam generator tube failure at Consolidated Edison Company's (ConEd) Indian Point 2 (IP2) plant.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has initiated two separate, independent reviews of this matter. The NRC sent an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) to IP2 to determine what happened prior to, during, and following the February 15, 2000, steam generator tube failure. The AIT conducted an exit meeting with ConEd on March 29, 2000, that was open to public observation. The slides used at that meeting are available on the NRC Web site (<http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/IP/index.html>). The AIT report will be made available on the NRC Web site when it is completed.

In addition to the AIT, the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR) is conducting a review of the IP2 steam generators which will focus on the analysis of data arising from the steam generator inspections, problem identification, root cause analysis, and corrective actions. This will provide a more detailed assessment of the actions by ConEd to properly maintain steam generator tube integrity, as well as assess the potential generic nature of any problems that are discovered.

The NRC sets minimum requirements that must be met by ConEd to assure protection of public health and safety. The NRC will oversee ConEd's steam generator tube inspections, repairs, and other corrective actions to assure these public health and safety requirements are met. The plant will not restart before ConEd demonstrates these specific requirements have been met and the NRC specifically approves restart.

With respect to your request for the installation of the new steam generators currently on-site at IP2, the Union of Concerned Scientists has submitted a petition to the NRC requesting the steam generators to be replaced. The NRC decision on this request will be made available to the public when it is completed. Information concerning this petition is available on the NRC Web site mentioned above.

Mr. John J. Rainey

The NRC appreciates your concern. If you have any additional questions in this matter, please do not hesitate to call me at (610) 337-5299.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hubert J. Miller
Regional Administrator

Mr. John J. Rainey

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April 13, 2000

Mr. Jerome C. Miller
3902 Hickory Court
Peekskill, New York 10566

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Mr. Jerome C. Miller

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Hubert J. Miller
Regional Administrator

Mr. Jerome C. Miller

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