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NRC SETS PUBLIC MEETING ON INDIAN POINT 1 DECOMMISSIONING

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a meeting Wednesday (October 7) to discuss Consolidated Edison Co.'s decommissioning plans for the permanently shutdown Indian Point 1 nuclear power plant in Buchanan, N.Y.

The meeting, which will be open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 1 Heady Street, Cortlandt Manor, N.Y. State Assemblywoman Sandra Galef of Ossining will preside.

NRC staff will make a presentation on agency oversight of the decommissioning process. Consolidated Edison representatives will discuss the facility's status and decommissioning program. In addition, there will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and make comments relating to the decommissioning of the plant.

Indian Point 1, first licensed to operate in 1962, ceased operations on October 31, 1974. Since January 1976, all of the spent fuel from the reactor has been stored in an on-site storage pool. The spent fuel is expected to remain on site until a federal repository for the permanent storage of spent fuel is available.

NRC approved the Indian Point 1 decommissioning plan in February 1996. That plan calls for the licensee to maintain the Indian Point 1 reactor in long term safe storage (SAFSTOR) until the adjoining Indian Point 2 reactor, also owned by the utility, is permanently shut down. Both units will be dismantled concurrently.

Under NRC regulations the company has 60 years to complete decommissioning and terminate its license.

The regulations also require the company to periodically update its plans for decommissioning. Before any significant dismantlement of Indian Point 1, Con Ed will be required to inform the NRC and public of its plans and provide a schedule.

