

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 07/25/00

EDO CONTROL: G20000339
DOC DT: 07/12/00
FINAL REPLY:

Rep. Sue Kelly

TO:

Chairman Meserve

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 00-0458

Chairman Meserve

DESC:

Request Comm. Briefing on the Proposed Restart of
Indian Point 2 prior to a Final Decision

ROUTING:

Travers
Paperiello
Miraglia
Norry
Craig
Burns/Cyr
Miller, RI

DATE: 07/12/00

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Collins

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Coordinate briefing request with Annette
Vietti-Cook, SECY.

REF: G20000277, G20000322, G20000328

Template Secy-017

E Peds Secy-01

SUE W KELLY
1100 11th St New York

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS, AIRPORTS AND
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY
REFORM AND PAPERWORK REDUCTION

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY
ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3219

July 12, 2000

1100 11th St
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-5443

2100 Main Street, Room 4705
Hesselt, New York 12524
(518) 897-5200

110 Rader Court Drive
Mt. Kisco, New York 10549
(914) 241-6340

Chairman Richard A. Meserve
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Chairman Meserve:

It is my understanding that a decision on the proposal to restart Indian Point 2 nuclear power plant might be made by your agency in the near future. Please accept this letter as a request for your assistance in postponing this decision until the serious issues regarding plant operations still outstanding are appropriately addressed.

A reflection on the recent history of Indian Point 2 brings to light an unfortunate litany of revelations which have significantly eroded the public's confidence in the safety of the plant. Following the incident on the night of February 15 in which a steam generator tube burst, there has been little done to restore the community's sense of safety.

To the contrary, we in the community have been told that the inspections performed on the plant's steam generators were "weak and incomplete." We have been told that deficiencies with plant operations have led the NRC to place it on the "Agency Focus" list. We have been denied by Consolidated Edison access to some of their inspection reports; when some of these reports were discovered by other means, we learned of the serious emergency preparedness problems that occurred on the night of the leak. We have learned that the NRC Inspector General is conducting an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the February 15 incident. Perhaps even more troubling, we have learned that the NRC feels it unnecessary for the decision on the restart proposal to be informed by the Inspector General's final investigation report.

Despite the repeated efforts of both Con Ed and officials with the NRC to assure the community that its safety is somehow still the agency's top priority, I remain unconvinced, as do many of my colleagues in the area Congressional delegation. The haste with which the NRC appears to be considering the restart proposal only serves to further deepen this skepticism, and I must ask for your immediate intervention in this matter to ensure that all of the factors relevant to the safety of the plant are deliberated upon appropriately. I therefore request that a Commission briefing on the proposed restart of Indian Point 2 be convened prior to a final decision.

Your immediate attention to this issue is appreciated.

Sincerely,


Sue W. Kelly
Member of Congress

CC: Commissioner Greta Joy Dicus
Commissioner Nils J. Diaz
Commissioner Edward McGaffigan, Jr.
Commissioner Jeffery S. Merrifield