

MEMORANDUM TO: File

FROM: Peter W. Eselgroth, Chief /RA by
Projects Branch 2 S. Barber Acting For/
Division of Reactor Projects

DATE: October 30, 2000

SUBJECT: MEETING SUMMARY - REACTOR OVERSIGHT PROCESS -
INDIAN POINT 2 & 3

On October 11, 2000, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a public meeting to discuss the Reactor Oversight Process (ROP) and recent Indian Point 2 plant issues (See Attachment 1, October 11, 2000 Public Meeting Presentation Material). The meeting, which was held at 7 p.m., in the Cortlandt Town Hall in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y., was attended by Con Edison and NYPA employees, local officials, and members of the public. The NRC responded to questions on the ROP and plant issues. During the course of the question and answer session, the NRC stated it would provide more complete answers to certain questions, and post them in the meeting summary on the NRC Indian Point 2 web page. These questions and answers are provided below:

Q. Are there more or fewer meetings and hearings in the revised oversight process in comparison to the old inspection program?

A. The type and number of public meetings to discuss licensee performance issues is essentially unchanged from the previous oversight process to the new (ROP). Under both processes the number of meetings held and the level of NRC and licensee management involvement is directly related to the number and severity of performance issues for each plant. For good performing plants, the number of public meetings to discuss licensee performance has actually increased under the ROP. Under the previous oversight process, a good performing plant might have had a meeting to review the NRC's assessment of licensee performance only once every two years. Under the ROP, all plants regardless of performance, have an annual meeting to review the NRC's assessment results. The number of public meetings held in regard to activities at Indian Point 2 and 3 over the last five years is approximately fourteen (three of these meetings occurred since the start of the new ROP).

The opportunities for and the conduct of hearings has not been affected by any of the changes put in place by the ROP. Over the past five years there have been no hearings concerning Indian Point 2 and 3.

Q. Individuals around IP2 sent a letter to the NRC on 9/26 stating that the 9/11/00 meeting should have been held in a location in the vicinity of the Indian Point site

instead of at the regional office. Why was the meeting held in King of Prussia, Pa.?

- A.** Such regulatory conferences are normally held in the regional office because of the large number of NRC staff members needed to conduct and support the meeting. In the case of the regulatory conference, on September 11, 2000, logistics prevented us from conducting this meeting near the site. However, this meeting was transcribed, and the transcript was posted on the NRC's Indian Point 2 web site.

We have held numerous meetings in Westchester County since the February 15 steam generator tube failure in order to allow the public to observe the discussions between the NRC and Con Edison. On March 1, the NRC and Con Ed met to discuss among other things, the Indian Point 2 steam generator inspection and testing program, the onsite replacement steam generators, and the steam generator tube inspection findings and restart criteria. Following the technical discussion, the NRC held a question and answer session with the public. On March 29, the NRC held another meeting with Con Ed at the Energy Education Center to discuss the findings of the NRC's Augmented Inspection Team, which looked into the steam generator tube failure. On July 28, the NRC and Con Ed met at the Energy Education Center to discuss the company's response to the NRC's request for additional information regarding the steam generators. On September 11, the Agency met with Con Ed at the Energy Education Center to discuss the company's performance improvement plans.

In addition to these meetings with the company, the NRC has held meetings with the public, on March 14 and June 25, to answer questions and receive comments. Most recently, the NRC met with the public on October 11, at the Cortland Town Hall; to discuss the NRC's new Reactor Oversight Program and specific inspection plans at Indian Point 2.

The NRC is aware of the heightened interest of the public in the vicinity of the Indian Point site, and takes into consideration that interest in scheduling proposed meetings. Since the October 11 meeting in the Cortland Town Hall, there was a meeting with Con Edison in the Region I office on October 25 to discuss engineering issues. A meeting to update the public on the status of the facility is planned for November 16 near the Indian Point site (Cortland Town Hall; 7 p.m.)

Q. Any hearing concerning the sale of Indian Point Unit 3?

- A.** Requests for a hearing concerning the sale of Indian Point Unit 3 have been received by the NRC. These requests are presently under review.

