

May 24, 2001

Mr. David A. Lochbaum  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
1707 H Street NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20006-3919

SUBJECT: LOSS OF SPENT FUEL POOL COOLING EVENT AT INDIAN POINT 3

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

Thank you for your letter of May 23, 2001 regarding the May 8, 2001 event involving loss of spent fuel pool cooling during refueling operations at the Indian Point 3 facility. Your letter raises a number of valid questions and concerns about this event. You provided useful information regarding your personal experience with refueling operations.

As your letter recognizes, we are conducting a special inspection of the event. We are examining, in detail, the circumstances surrounding the event, its causes and licensee corrective actions. We will determine if any violations of license requirements occurred. Also, we will be looking for any generic implications associated with this event.

It will be some time before our inspection is completed, but we will be pleased to provide you a copy of our inspection report upon its issuance and provide feedback on issues you raise at that time.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Hubert J. Miller  
Regional Administrator

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