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CORR: 00-0075

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COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Response Sheet

Date: May 9, 2000

To: Chairman Meserve
Commissioner Dicus
Commissioner Diaz ✓
Commissioner McGaffigan
Commissioner Merrifield

I concur subject to the attached edits.



Nils J. Diaz

05/10/00

From: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

Subject: Letter to Congressman Gilman concerns coolant pipe rupture at Indian Point II

ACTION: Please comment/concur and respond to the Office of the Secretary by:

Time: C.O.B.
Day: Wednesday
Date: May 17, 2000

Comment:

Contact: Jefferey Harold, EDO/NRR
415-1421

Entered in STARS Tracking System Yes No

W/23

REC'D BY NJD

ORIGINAL

9 MAY 00 11:43



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

The Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3220

Dear Congressman Gilman:

I am responding to your letter of April 12, 2000, concerning the steam generator tube failure at Indian Point 2 (IP2) on February 15, 2000. The Commission appreciates your concerns and we are taking actions to fully assess the issues related to the IP2 steam generators.

The event involved a steam generator tube failure that resulted in a ~~small~~ primary ~~(radioactive)~~ side to secondary ~~(non-radioactive)~~ side leak of reactor coolant. *inside the faulted steam generator. As a result, there was* The leak did result in a minor radiological release to the environment that was well within regulatory limits. However, no Radiation monitoring stations surrounding the plant indicated radioactive water was released inside the plant. ~~It was also noted~~ that no radioactivity was measured off site above normal background levels, and *therefore, the licensee* determined that the event did not impact the public health and safety.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission sets ~~minimum~~ *regulatory* requirements that must be met by the *all licensees, including* licensee for IP2, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (Con Ed), to ensure protection of public health and safety. The NRC is overseeing Con Ed's steam generator tube inspections, repairs, and other corrective actions to ensure these public health and safety requirements are met. Since Con Ed's current steam generator inspections have determined that more than one percent of the tubes inspected are defective, the IP2 license requires NRC approval before plant restart. The plant will not restart before Con Ed demonstrates that NRC requirements have been met and the NRC specifically approves restart.