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# COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

## Correspondence Response Sheet

*Approved w/ edit  
(G. Harold)  
By [Signature] - [Signature]  
for Comm. N.S. Diaz  
5.16.00  
in Libran*

**Date:** May 12, 2000

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

**From:** Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

**Subject:** Letter to Congressman Maurice Hinchey concerns recent steam generator tube failure at Indian Point 2

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

**Time:** NOON  
**Day:** Monday  
**Date:** May 22, 2000

**Comment:**

**Contact:** Jefferey Harold, EDO/NRR  
415-1421

Entered in STARS Tracking System  Yes  No

*W/27*

- REC'D BY NJD -

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**ORIGINAL**

distribution of potassium iodide under 2.206. The staff plans to issue a supplement to its April 5, 2000, letter describing the results of this reconsideration.

Even if, after reconsideration, we determine that the Petitioners' concerns do not meet the criteria for review under 10 CFR 2.206, the NRC will, nevertheless, review these matters. The

concerns raised by Dr. Hopenfeld will be addressed under the NRC's DPO process. This process provides for the formal review of concerns raised by individual NRC employees who disagree with a position adopted by the NRC staff. The issue of distributing potassium iodide in the vicinity of IP2 is already being considered under the NRC's rulemaking procedure. On June 14, 1999, the Commission published a proposed rule in the Federal Register (64 FR 31737) for a 90-day public comment period. That proposed rule would require that consideration be given to include the use of potassium iodide as a protective measure for the general public as a supplement to sheltering and evacuation. The final rule is currently being considered by the Commission and should be published by mid-2000.

Regarding the emergency plan for Indian Point, you requested an explanation of the roles of the NRC, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and other Federal agencies involved in developing the plan. You also stated that citizen input is crucial to emergency planning and expressed your concern that the emergency plans for the IP area had been developed without such input. Radiological emergency response plans for nuclear power plants are developed in accordance with the requirements and guidance of the NRC and FEMA, the two Federal agencies tasked to evaluate emergency preparedness at and around nuclear power plants. The onsite emergency plan is developed by the plant's licensee, and the offsite emergency plans are developed by the local and state governments. The NRC is responsible for assessing the adequacy of the onsite