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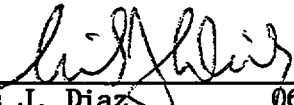
COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Response Sheet

Date: June 5, 2000

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

I approve with attached edits.


Nils J. Diaz 06/12/00

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: 10:00 A.M.
Day: Tuesday
Date: June 13, 2000

Comment:

Contact: Jefferey Harold, EDO/NRR
415-1421

Entered in STARS Tracking System Yes No

W/28

ORIGINAL

Insert (A)

- 5 -

The NRC Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) identified weaknesses at IP in the area of onsite emergency preparedness in the licensee's response to the recent steam generator tube failure event. While some of the problems identified during this event such as emergency response facility activation and accountability of onsite personnel were new, other problems such as emergency response organization performance were similar to previously identified problems.

→ As a result, the NRC conducted an onsite AIT follow-up inspection of the licensee's emergency preparedness program from May 15 to May 26, 2000. In addition, the NRC evaluated an onsite exercise conducted by the licensee on June 1, 2000, to demonstrate that these weaknesses have been successfully addressed and that the licensee's emergency preparedness program continues to meet regulatory requirements. FEMA has found that the offsite emergency plans and preparedness for Indian Point provide reasonable assurance that appropriate measures can be taken off site to protect the health and safety of the public in the event of a radiological emergency. FEMA provided its most recent confirmation of reasonable assurance to the NRC on February 28, 2000, following the ingestion exposure pathway exercise that was conducted by the State of New York on May 25-27, 1999.

In regard to your request that the NRC and Con Ed hold a public meeting to provide information to citizens in the surrounding communities, senior NRC management and staff held a meeting with Con Ed on March 1, 2000, at the IP2 site to discuss a number of issues related to the steam generator tube failure. The NRC staff responded to questions from the public at the conclusion of this meeting. On March 14, 2000, the senior NRC Region I and Headquarters staff conducted a public meeting at the Peekskill Armory in Peekskill, New York. The purpose of this meeting was to provide the public with information regarding the event at IP2 and to answer their questions and concerns. The NRC is planning to hold another meeting at the IP2 site to discuss the readiness of IP2 to restart. This meeting will be held shortly before the

A summary of the AIT's findings was presented at a public exit meeting on March 29, 2000.

(A)

Following the steam generator tube failure at IP2, the NRC dispatched an Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) to review the sequence of events, safety implications, and licensee's actions associated with the event. A copy of the AIT's report is enclosed for your information. The team noted that no radioactivity was measured off-site above normal background levels, and determined that the event did not impact the public health and safety. However, the AIT identified....