

CORR: 00-0114

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Diaz

COMMISSION CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence Response Sheet

Date: July 3, 2000

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

I concur, with attached edit.


Nils J. Diaz 07/10/00

From: Annette Vietti-Cook, Secretary

Subject: Letter to Benjamin A. Gilman concerns notifications associated with a recent plant shutdown and steam generator integrity issues at Indian Point

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

Time: NOON
Day: Wednesday
Date: July 12, 2000

Comment:

Contact: Tracy Walker, EDO/RI
610/337-5381

Entered in STARS Tracking System Yes No

W/48

ORIGINAL



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

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

Dear Congressman Gilman:

This letter is in response to your June 13, 2000, letter regarding notifications associated with a recent plant shutdown at Indian Point Unit 3, as well as steam generator integrity issues at Indian Point Unit 2. You requested that an additional public meeting be held to provide a forum for public input on issues at Indian Point.

First, regarding the event at Indian Point Unit 3 on June 9, the unexpected shutdown was caused by a defective wire associated with the plant's output generator protective relay circuitry. The defective wire was replaced and the plant was safely restarted. Automatic shutdowns are preventive in nature and are part of the basic power plant design to limit risks to public health and safety.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations require that licensees notify us in certain events, including unexpected plant shutdowns such as the one that occurred at Indian Point 3. The NRC reviews and assesses events at nuclear power plants on a continuing basis. These assessments consider the potential health and safety effects on the public. In this case, there was no undue risk to public health and safety. Thus, no special notifications were warranted for this event.

[the automatic shutdown systems at Indian Point Unit 3
functioned as designed and