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John T. Herron  
Senior Vice President

August 26, 2002  
IPN-02-069

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Mail Stop O-P1-17  
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

SUBJECT: Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant  
Docket No. 50-286  
**15-Day Response to NRC Bulletin 2002-02**

- References:
1. NRC Bulletin 2002-02; "Reactor Pressure Vessel Head and Vessel Head Penetration Nozzle Inspection Programs," dated August 9, 2002.
  2. ENO letter to NRC, IPN-01-063; "30-day Response to NRC Bulletin 2001-01," dated August 31, 2001.

Dear Sir:

On August 9, 2002, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued NRC Bulletin 2002-02 (Reference 1), which requests licensees to summarize nondestructive examination (NDE) techniques that will be used to supplement current inspection programs or provide justification for continued reliance on visual examinations. The Bulletin provides two options for responding; 1) provide the requested information within 30 days, or 2) provide a response within 15 days addressing an alternative course of action.

Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc (ENO) is providing this 15-day response for Indian Point 3. The next refueling outage for Indian Point 3 is scheduled to begin in March 2003 and ENO will perform inspections of the reactor vessel head and vessel head penetrations during that outage. ENO previously committed in Reference 2 to provide the vessel head penetration inspection plan 90 days prior to the start of the refueling outage. ENO is continuing to monitor industry experience and developments regarding this issue to support development of an inspection strategy. In addition, experience gained by ENO during the vessel head inspection for Indian Point 2 during the Fall 2002 outage will be a consideration in developing the inspection plan for Indian Point 3. Therefore, ENO will include the information requested by Bulletin 2002-02 in the inspection plan for Indian Point 3 due to be submitted in December 2002, as previously committed in Reference 2.

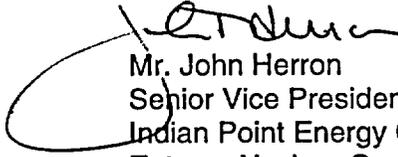
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No new commitments are being made in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. John McCann (914) 734-5074, Licensing Manager.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Very truly yours,

Executed on 8-26-02  
(Date)

  
Mr. John Herron  
Senior Vice President  
Indian Point Energy Center  
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc

cc:

Mr. Hubert J. Miller  
Regional Administrator, Region I  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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Mr. Patrick Milano, Project Manager  
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