

April 8, 2003

Ms. Erin Madden
57 High St.
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Dear Ms. Madden:

This is in response to your letter of September 28, 2002, regarding security at Indian Point power plant. Your letter was forwarded to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for response on March 14, 2003. Due to the large volume of correspondence, and the need to have your letter transferred from the White House, it has been difficult for the NRC to respond as quickly as we would like. I regret the delay.

The NRC has taken security at nuclear facilities seriously before and after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Before the attacks, nuclear power plants were among the most secure facilities owned and operated by the private sector. In response to these attacks, the Federal government, together with plant owners, have enhanced the protection of nuclear power plants, including Indian Point, in significant ways since September 11, 2001. In addition, the NRC issued orders to nuclear power plant licensees in February 2002 requiring certain specific enhancements. For instance, we now require more security guards, increased patrols, vehicle checkpoints farther from the plant, improved communication with state and local law enforcement, and many other measures.

More recently, we contacted every plant in the nation when the Department of Homeland Security increased the Nation's security posture. In light of these enhancements to security, the NRC concludes that the plants are safe to operate.

Sincerely,

/RA by Michael F. Weber for/

Roy P. Zimmerman, Director
Office of Nuclear Security and Incident Response

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