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December 9, 2003 (4:10PM)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY RULEMAKINGS AND ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

DRAFT POLICY STATEMENT

68FR62642

Lisa Cohen 179 Old Post Road North Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520

Dear Ms. Cohen:

I am responding to your November 21, 2003, e-mail request for additional time to respond to the November 5, 2003, Federal Register Notice (68 FR 62642) that provided a 60-day period to comment on the Commission's draft Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions. You requested an extension of time for an unstated period.

A 60-day comment period provided in the November notice is twice the 30-day time period that is required by the Administrative Procedure Act for a formal rulemaking. The Commission is satisfied that the 60-day period is appropriate to air the issues associated with this policy statement. However, the Commission has no objection to an extension of time for an additional 30 days. A Federal Register notice will be issued to announce the extension.

We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Annette L. Vietti-Cook

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We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

Annette L. Vietti-Cook Secretary

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