

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 04/29/04

EDO CONTROL: G20040257
DOC DT: 03/30/04
FINAL REPLY:

Representative Eliot L. Engel

TO:

Leeds, NRR

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** GRN **

CRC NO: 04-0212

Travers, EDO

DESC:

ROUTING:

Indian Point - Sump Pumps

Travers
Norry
Paperiello
Kane
Collins
Dean
Burns
Miller, RI
Cyr, OGC
Rathbun, OCA

DATE: 04/08/04

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Dyer

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Ref. G20030567, G20030601.

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E-RIDS: SECY-01

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Apr 08, 2004 08:36

PAPER NUMBER: LTR-04-0212 LOGGING DATE: 04/08/2004
ACTION OFFICE: EDO

AUTHOR: Eliot Engel
AFFILIATION: REP
ADDRESSEE: Eric Leeds
SUBJECT: Concerns UCS-Riverkeeper's petition for shutdown of pressurized water reactors at Indian Point

ACTION: Direct Reply
DISTRIBUTION: Cy RF. OCA to Ack.

LETTER DATE: 03/30/2004
ACKNOWLEDGED: No
SPECIAL HANDLING:

NOTES:
FILE LOCATION: ADAMS

DATE DUE: 04/29/2004 DATE SIGNED:

EDO --G20040257

ELIOT L. ENGEL
17TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Washington, DC 20515-3217

March 30, 2004

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Mr. Eric J. Deeds
Deputy Director
Division of Licensing Project Management
U.S. Nuclear regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Leeds:

I am writing to follow up on my letter from last September to NRC Chairman Diaz and to add my support to the appeal being submitted today by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) and Riverkeeper, Inc. This appeal is in response to the NRC's proposed Director's Decision from February 19, 2004 to deny UCS-Riverkeeper's petition from last September, which called for an immediate shutdown of both pressurized water reactors at Indian Point until vital safety systems involving a containment sump pump were repaired.

In my letter to NRC last September, I also requested an immediate shutdown of Indian Point due to the faulty sump pumps. NRC's response to me was that "sump clogging is indeed an issue that merits additional study." Given this response, and your response to UCS-Riverkeeper, I am at a loss to understand how NRC can justify not acting immediately to address this problem.

As you know, the study conducted by Los Alamos National Laboratory pointed out that the chances of a reactor meltdown increase by nearly a factor of 100 at Indian Point because the plant's containment sumps are "almost certain" to be blocked with debris during an accident. Such a blocking could lead to a meltdown and a radioactive release, threatening the lives of the 20 million people who live around the nuclear power plant.

It is far past the time to act on the dangers that Indian Point presents. A positive first step will be to look closely at the comments UCS and Riverkeeper are submitting today. You owe this much to the people who live in the communities surrounding the plant. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Eliot L. Engel
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

From: Margie Kotzalas
To: John Jolicoeur; Thomas Madden
Date: 4/6/04 11:59AM
Subject: Letter from Congressman Engel

Eric Leeds received a letter from Congressman Engel today that comments on a UCS/Riverkeeper 2.206 petition. I can't tell from the letter if OCA, the Commission, or anyone from the EDO's office were copied. This letter should probably be green ticketed to NRR for response. I'll send the original letter to Tom and a copy to John. I'll put them in a holey joe and you should receive it soon.

Margie

CC: Allen Howe; Brian Benney; Donna Skay; Eric Leeds; FAST; Patrick Madden