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Committee on
Corporations, Authorities
and Commissions

September 15, 2004

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Christopher M. Long
U.S. NRC Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Dear Mr. Long:

This letter is regarding your telephone conversation with my counsel, Richard Berkley, about the potential for a strike and walkout of the security force at Entergy Indian Point Nuclear Facility ("Indian Point") on October 1, 2004.

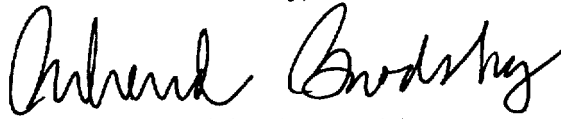
During your briefing of my counsel, you stated that Entergy is training a "replacement force" for Indian Point in case of walkout. In response to a direct question however, you admitted that the replacement force would not possess the collective years of experience and training of Indian Point's unionized security force. When questioned about the NRC's role in testing the sufficiency of the practical knowledge and skills of the replacements, you asserted that NRC policy did not require that the replacement workers have levels of experience and skills equivalent to Indian Point's regular security force. Instead, you stated that it was only necessary that the replacement security personnel have sufficient knowledge of the security plan to follow it properly in an emergency.

I do not agree that if the "replacement" security force reaches an NRC-mandated level of familiarity with the site's security plan and contingencies, the plant and its locale will be secure. No matter the quality of Indian Point's security plan(s) and contingencies, if the force entrusted with implementing that plan is insufficiently trained and experienced, it will not be able to guarantee the safety and security of Indian Point and its neighboring communities in an emergency. Even the best security plan is ineffective if the personnel entrusted with implementing it lack the practical knowledge and experience to succeed.

Finally, although you noted that the "force-on-force" exercises only test for knowledge of the facility's security plans and not for actual level of security and counter-terrorist expertise of the security force, I cannot help but feel that the inability to hold such force-on-force exercises for the replacement security force is another major contributor to what will almost certainly be a vastly lowered level of security for the twenty million people living within the New York Metropolitan Region.

Thank you for briefing my office on the status of the security force's contract talks, and on Entergy and the NRC's plans concerning any security complications from a strike and walkout. I will contact you when we have further questions about this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard Brodsky". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Richard L Brodsky