

EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 05/12/05 EDO CONTROL: G20050321
DOC DT: 04/29/05
FINAL REPLY:

Representative Eliot Engel

TO:

Chairman Diaz

FOR SIGNATURE OF :

** PRI **

CRC NO: 05-0248

Chairman Diaz

DESC:

ROUTING:

Express Concerns that Hemyc, A Material Used at
14 Nuclear Reactors Nationwide to Prevent Serious
Damages Caused by Fire, Fails to Deliver These
Stated Protections

Reyes
Virgilio
Kane
Silber
Dean
Collins, RI

DATE: 05/02/05

ASSIGNED TO:

CONTACT:

NRR

Dyer

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Template, SECY-017

E-RMS; SECY-01

ELIOT L. ENGEL
17TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE INTERNET

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
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MIDDLE EAST AND CENTRAL ASIA

VICE CHAIRMAN, DEMOCRATIC
TASK FORCE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3217

April 28, 2005

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Chairman Nils J. Diaz
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Diaz:

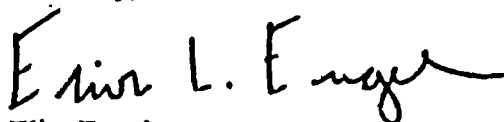
I am writing to express my grave concerns that Hemyc, a material used at 14 nuclear reactors nationwide to prevent serious damages caused by fire, fails to deliver these stated protections.

As the U.S. Representative of the Bronx, Rockland and Westchester County and a member of the Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, I have been a strong advocate for ensuring safety at our nuclear facilities. I was very concerned to learn that NRC sponsored-testing of Hemyc showed that it failed to protect circuits in accordance with regulatory requirements and plant commitments. The use of Hemyc, which may clearly threaten the ability of reactors to safely shutdown in the wake of fire, at Indian Point 2 and 3 is the latest in a long list of serious issues with the operation of Indian Point which continue to compromise the safety of my constituents and twenty million residents in the greater NYC metro area.

While I am pleased that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission will hold a public meeting on April 29, 2005 to focus on the serious concerns associated with the use of Hemyc, I urge you to take swift, corrective action to ensure that nuclear facilities replace this product with one that has repeatedly met clear standards of protection for electrical cabling required under NRC regulations. Until these standards of protection are met, Indian Point 2 and 3 and the other nuclear reactors that use Hemyc should be shut down.

I look forward to hearing back from you on this matter of critical importance.

Sincerely,



Eliot Engel
Member of Congress