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NRC PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCT. 6TH TO DISCUSS INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR PLANT'S ALERT AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Current performance issues involving the Indian Point nuclear power plant's emergency notification system will be the topic of an NRC public meeting scheduled for Friday, Oct. 6. The meeting, which will be between NRC and Entergy management, will begin at 1 p.m. at Crystal Bay on the Hudson – Charles Point Marina, 5 John Walsh Blvd. in Peekskill, N.Y. (Directions are available at: <http://www.crystal-bay.com/location.html> .)

Following the meeting, which will be open to public observation, NRC staff will be available to answer questions regarding the subject.

Entergy Nuclear Northeast operates Indian Point, located in Buchanan, N.Y. Like other U.S. commercial nuclear power plants, Indian Point is required to have an alert and notification system within the 10-mile emergency planning zone around the facility. The system is designed to alert the public in the unlikely event that there is an event at the plant, so that they can listen to the emergency broadcast stations in their area for information and instructions.

In recent years, Indian Point's siren system has experienced a number of failures. More recently, there have been three occasions when the system was unavailable due to hardware and/or human performance problems. The purpose of the Oct. 6th meeting is to discuss the company's corrective actions to address the system's ongoing performance issues; steps being taken by the company to avoid similar problems with the new system it is installing; and the status of the installation of that new system.

In response to an NRC order issued last January that implements requirements in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Entergy is replacing its current emergency notification system. Among other

things, the order requires that the new system feature back-up power. Entergy is required to satisfy the requirements of the order by Jan. 30, 2007.

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