

John White - IPEC status report for Jan. 12

[Ex 6] 01/12/07, 2:55

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Indian Point Energy Center Status Report

January 12, 2007

Operational Status

Unit 2 is operating at 100% and has been on-line for 43 days. Unit 3 is operating at 100% reactor power and has been on-line for 175 days.

Indian Point Fish Sampling Results

As part of the groundwater investigation, Indian Point expanded its Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program to include an analysis of Strontium-90 in aquatic organisms. The REMP samples, which include fish such as bass, perch, sunfish and eel and other organisms such as crab, are taken during the spring and fall. Indian Point collected the fall sample from the Hudson River and had it analyzed to extremely low radiation levels at a vendor laboratory.

Twelve fish samples in all were examined, with four samples taken from the Newburgh area as control samples to be used as background to compare with samples taken from the river next to Indian Point.

Three of the samples from the Newburgh area (control samples) showed very low levels of activity for Strontium-90. A fourth sample taken from the Indian Point area showed activity for strontium at a lower level than the Newburgh area samples. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission also obtained fish samples. The NRC laboratory did not detect any Strontium-90. DEC has not yet obtained results. The samples were also analyzed for gamma emitters such as Cesium-137; however, no detectable activity was found in any of these samples.

Indian Point is working with the vendor laboratory, which is nationally recognized, to understand how such factors as naturally occurring radioactive isotopes and variations in background during the counting could affect the sample results.

These results are believed to be either background levels or a statistical anomaly that produced a false positive. It is not reasonable to expect samples taken many miles upstream from Indian Point

would contain higher levels than those collected at the riverfront. The samples came back negative for other isotopes, another indicator of a possible anomaly.

Analyses for extremely low levels of radioactivity are occasionally prone to produce false-positive results, as the NRC and DEC have experienced.

Indian Point will continue to obtain additional fish samples for comparison.

Educational Outreach

Energy Nuclear Northeast provides customized outreach education programs for schools, youth groups, and civic organizations. The topics we cover include Emergency Planning, Understanding Radiation, Nuclear Fuel and a general overview of the operations of Indian Point Energy Center. If you would like a brochure or are interested in scheduling a program, contact IPEC Communications at 914-271-7441.

If you have any questions or need clarification of the information provided, please contact Kathy McMullin, manager of communications, Indian Point Energy Center, at 914-271-7132.