

**Official Transcript of Proceedings**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Title: Indian Point License Renewal  
Public Meeting: Evening Session

Docket Number: 50-247  
50-286

Location: Courtlandt Manor, New York

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 2007

Work Order No.: NRC-1775

Pages 1-126

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

+ + + + +

MEETING TO DISCUSS THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
SCOPING PROCESS FOR INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR  
GENERATING UNIT NOS. 2 AND 3,  
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY,

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

+ + + + +

The meeting came to order at 7:00 p.m. in  
The Colonial Terrace, 119 Oregon Road, Cortlandt  
Manor, New York, Lance Rakovan, Facilitator,  
presiding.

PRESENT:

LANCE RAKOVAN, NRC

RICH BARKLEY, NRC

RANI FRANOVICH, NRC

BO PHAM, NRC

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

PAGE

I.	Welcome and Purpose of Meeting	3
II.	Overview of License Renewal and Environmental Review Process	7
III.	Public Comments	24
IV.	Closing Comments	125

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (7:05 p.m.)

3 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: If everyone would be  
4 seated, we'd like to get things started.

5 Good evening. My name is Lance Rakovan.  
6 I am a Communications Assistant at the Nuclear  
7 Regulatory Commission, or NRC. It's my privilege to  
8 facilitate tonight's meeting. The purpose of the  
9 meeting tonight is to receive your comments as to what  
10 environmental issues the NRC should consider during  
11 the review of Indian Point's license renewal  
12 application.

13 Before we get things started, I wanted to  
14 take a few moments to go through what to expect  
15 tonight, lay down a couple ground rules, and just kind  
16 of get things started in general.

17 First of all, the agenda for tonight's  
18 evening is we're going to have a quick presentation.  
19 Well, I hadn't gotten to the point that I was going to  
20 ask you to turn your cell phones off, but --

21 (Laughter.)

22 -- I might as well use that opportunity.  
23 If everyone could please silence your cell phones, put  
24 them on vibrate or turn them off, that will help  
25 moments like that from occurring through the rest of  
26 the meeting. Thank you.

1           Tonight's agenda -- as I was saying, we're  
2 going to have a brief presentation just to kind of  
3 give you some background on the topic tonight, and  
4 then essentially we're going to turn the meeting over  
5 to you. We're hoping to get your comments  
6 specifically in terms of scoping or the environmental  
7 issues that we should take into account for license  
8 renewal.

9           We are transcribing tonight's meeting, so  
10 we ask that if you are going to make a comment that  
11 you come and use a microphone, specifically the one in  
12 the center of the room. If you are going to make a  
13 comment, if you could please identify yourself and any  
14 group that you're with the first time that you speak.  
15 We have got a number of people who have signed up  
16 using the yellow cards that we had on the back sign-up  
17 table.

18           The gentleman who is kind enough to help  
19 me tonight, Rich Barkley, who is from our Region I  
20 office, is going to do his best to put those cards in  
21 order and get everybody up here and get them a chance  
22 to speak. If you haven't signed up to speak yet and  
23 you'd still like to, flag me down and I can give you  
24 one of the cards, and we can get you into the shuffle.

25           I'm told that we have to pretty much end  
26 by 10:00 tonight, so I'm going to ask everyone who is

1 speaking to keep your comments brief, concise, and to  
2 the point -- thank you, sir. I'll take that once --  
3 and please respect everyone's viewpoints.

4           Apparently, there was an incident during  
5 our afternoon meeting today. I did not witness it,  
6 but apparently someone was quite offended in the  
7 behavior that they received. It happened outside, not  
8 during the meeting itself, so I'm going to ask you all  
9 to help me out and realize that there are other people  
10 here who probably don't share your opinion on things,  
11 and to please respect their opinions and act  
12 respectably to them.

13           When you have the microphone and it's your  
14 commenting time, certainly say what you will, but when  
15 someone else is up there, let them speak, let them  
16 have their say.

17           Again, please be patient. We're going to  
18 try to get to everyone. When it gets to about 9:30 or  
19 so, I'm going to try to give a warning, and hopefully  
20 we'll be able to get everybody in. But I can't make  
21 any guarantees.

22           Remember, this is not the only way that  
23 you can get your comments in. If you have it written,  
24 we can take your comments right now and read it into  
25 the transcript for the meeting. The main speaker, Bo,  
26 will be going over the other ways that you can get

1 your comments in for the environmental scoping. But,  
2 again, tonight speaking is not the only way that you  
3 can get your comments in on this process.

4 If you did speak this afternoon, we're  
5 going to try to let people who did not have a chance  
6 to speak go first. Again, I'm going to ask that  
7 everybody try to keep your comments concise, so we can  
8 get through everybody. But we're going to try to let  
9 the new people speak first tonight. So if you were  
10 here this afternoon, we ask for your understanding on  
11 that.

12 I'm going to ask, logistically, if we can  
13 keep the exits open and free of people. That way  
14 people can walk back and forth. And also, there tends  
15 to be a lot of noise in the room outside, so if we  
16 could try to keep the doors closed when people aren't  
17 coming and going, that will help everyone hear what  
18 the speaker is saying.

19 I already said the thing about the cell  
20 phones, so the only other thing that I'd like to say  
21 is there were a stack of meeting feedback forms on the  
22 table outside. If you could take a moment to fill  
23 those out, and either hand them to an NRC employee or  
24 drop them in the mail, they are free, and they will  
25 get to us. And those can give us some ideas as to  
26 what you liked about the meeting, what you didn't

1 like, what we can hopefully fix in the future,  
2 etcetera.

3 So having said that, I will turn things  
4 over to our speaker, Bo, who has a quick presentation,  
5 and then we're going to get to the reason that we're  
6 all here -- to listen to your comments on  
7 environmental scoping.

8 MR. PHAM: Thank you, Lance.

9 Good evening, everyone. My name is Bo  
10 Pham. I am a Senior Project Manager within the  
11 Division of License Renewal at the NRC. I'm also the  
12 Lead Project Manager for conducting the review  
13 associated with the Indian Point License Renewal  
14 Application.

15 Thank you all for taking the time to come  
16 to this meeting. I hope the information we provide  
17 will help you understand the process we're going  
18 through and the role you can play in helping us make  
19 sure that our environmental review considers the  
20 relevant information.

21 In June, we held a meeting here at The  
22 Colonial Terrace to provide an overview of the license  
23 renewal review process, which includes both a safety  
24 review and an environmental review. Tonight we will  
25 describe in more detail the environmental review  
26 process associated with license renewal review.

1           But the most important part of tonight's  
2 meeting is to receive the comments you may have on the  
3 scope of the environmental review. We also will give  
4 you some information about how you can submit comments  
5 outside of this meeting, as Lance had mentioned.

6           At the conclusion of this presentation, we  
7 will be taking comments on the scope of the  
8 environmental review. And as Lance has already  
9 indicated, this meeting is being transcribed, and all  
10 comments recorded from this meeting will be reviewed  
11 and considered.

12           Next slide, please.

13           Before I get into the details of the  
14 environmental review process, I'd like to take a few  
15 minutes to recap some of the information that was  
16 presented here in June. The NRC, as a federal agency,  
17 established, by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974  
18 -- that regulates the civilian use of nuclear  
19 material. The Atomic Energy Act authorizes the NRC to  
20 grant a 40-year operating license for nuclear power  
21 reactors.

22           This 40-year term was based primarily on  
23 economic considerations and antitrust factors, not on  
24 safety or technical limitations. The Atomic Energy  
25 Act also allows for the license renewal.

26           The National Environmental Policy Act of

1 1969, otherwise known as NEPA, establishes a national  
2 policy for considering the impact of federal  
3 decisionmaking on the human environment. As a matter  
4 of policy, the Commission determined that reactor  
5 license renewal constitutes a major federal action for  
6 which an environmental impact statement is warranted.

7 The NRC's regulations governing nuclear  
8 safety, security, and environmental protection are  
9 contained in Title 10 of the Code of Federal  
10 Regulations, which is commonly referred to as 10 CFR.  
11 In exercising its authority, the NRC's mission is  
12 threefold -- to ensure adequate protection of public  
13 health and safety, to promote common defense and  
14 security, and to protect the environment.

15 The NRC accomplishes its mission through  
16 a combination of regulatory programs and processes,  
17 such as establishing rules and regulations, conducting  
18 inspections, issuing enforcement actions, assessing  
19 licensee performance, and evaluating operating  
20 experience from nuclear plants across the country and  
21 internationally.

22 The NRC has resident inspectors at all  
23 operating nuclear powerplants. These inspectors are  
24 considered the eyes and ears of the NRC. They carry  
25 out our safety mission on a daily basis and are on the  
26 front lines of ensuring acceptable safety performance

1 and compliance with regulatory requirements.

2 Next slide, please.

3 Now, turning to license renewal, the  
4 Indian Point reactor units were licensed to operate in  
5 1973 and '75. For Units 2 and 3, the current  
6 operating licenses expire in 2013 and 2015,  
7 respectively. The NRC received Entergy's applications  
8 for license renewal of both units on April 30th of  
9 this year.

10 As part of NRC's review of the Indian  
11 Point license renewal application, we will perform an  
12 environmental review to assess the impacts on the  
13 environment of an additional 20 years of operation.  
14 And I'll explain that process in a few minutes. I'll  
15 also share with you the schedule for the environmental  
16 review.

17 Next slide, please.

18 License renewal involves two parallel  
19 reviews -- a safety review and the environmental  
20 review. These two reviews evaluate two separate  
21 aspects of the license renewal application. The  
22 safety review focuses on the aging of components and  
23 structures that the NRC deems important to plant  
24 safety.

25 The staff's main objective in this review  
26 is to determine that the effects of aging will be

1 adequately managed by the applicant. The results of  
2 the safety review are documented in a safety  
3 evaluation report, or otherwise known as an SER.

4 For the environmental review, the staff  
5 considers, evaluates, and discloses the environmental  
6 impacts of continued operation for an additional 20  
7 years. The staff also evaluates the environmental  
8 impacts of alternatives to license renewal. The  
9 objective of the review is to determine if the  
10 environmental impacts of license renewal are so great  
11 that the license renewal would not be a reasonable  
12 option. The staff prepares an environmental impact  
13 statement, or known as EIS, to document this  
14 environmental review.

15 Next slide.

16 This diagram illustrates the safety and  
17 environmental review processes represented at the top  
18 and bottom of the slide. It also features two other  
19 considerations of the Commission's decision on whether  
20 or not to renew an operating license. The independent  
21 review is performed by the Advisory Committee on  
22 Reactor Safeguards, or ACRS.

23 Statutorily mandated by the Atomic Energy  
24 Act of 1954, the ACRS is a group of scientists and  
25 nuclear experts who serve as a consulting body to the  
26 Commission. The ACRS performs an independent review

1 of the license renewal application, as well as a staff  
2 safety evaluation. They then report their findings  
3 and recommendations directly to the Commission.

4 Hearings may also be conducted concurrent  
5 with the staff's review. Interested stakeholders may  
6 submit concerns or contentions and request a hearing.  
7 If a hearing is granted, the Commission considers the  
8 outcome of the hearing process in its decision of  
9 whether or not to issue a renewed operating license.

10 Now I'm going to describe the  
11 environmental review process in a little bit more  
12 detail. Next slide.

13 The National Environmental Policy Act of  
14 1969 requires that federal agencies follow a  
15 systematic approach in evaluating potential  
16 environmental impacts associated with certain actions.  
17 We are required to consider the impacts of the  
18 proposed action and also any mitigation of those  
19 impacts that we consider to be significant.

20 We're also required to consider  
21 alternatives to the proposed action -- in this case,  
22 license renewal -- and that includes energy  
23 alternatives to proposed action, mitigating  
24 alternatives, and the no-action alternative, which  
25 would examine the environmental impacts associated  
26 with not issuing a renewed license.

1           The NRC has determined that an  
2 environmental impact statement will be prepared for  
3 the proposed license renewal of nuclear powerplants.  
4 In preparing an EIS, the NRC conducts a scoping  
5 process. The purpose of this scoping process is to  
6 identify the significant issues to be analyzed in  
7 depth.

8           We are now gathering information for an  
9 environmental impact statement and are here to collect  
10 public comments on the scope of the review. That is,  
11 what environmental impacts should the staff consider  
12 for the proposed license renewal of Indian Point?

13           The staff has developed a generic  
14 environmental impact statement that addresses a number  
15 of issues common to all nuclear powerplants. The  
16 staff is supplementing that generic EIS with a site-  
17 specific impact statement, which will address issues  
18 that are specific to Indian Point site. The staff  
19 also reexamines the conclusions reached in the generic  
20 EIS to determine if there are any new and significant  
21 information that would change those conclusions.

22           Next slide.

23           For the environmental review, we have  
24 established a team of specialists from the NRC staff  
25 and contractors who are experts in various fields and  
26 disciplines. This slide gives you an idea of the

1 various areas that we look at during the environmental  
2 review. Some of the areas include terrestrial and  
3 aquatic ecology, environmental justice, hydrology, and  
4 radiation protection.

5 Next slide.

6 The scoping period started on August 10th  
7 when the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS and  
8 conduct scoping was published. The NRC will be  
9 accepting comments on the scope of the environmental  
10 review until October 12th. In general, we are looking  
11 for sources of information about the environmental  
12 impact of continued operation at Indian Point that we  
13 should consider as we prepare our environmental impact  
14 statement.

15 You can assist us in that process by  
16 telling us, for example, what aspects of your local  
17 community we should focus on, what local  
18 environmental, social, and economic aspects the NRC  
19 should examine during our environmental review, and  
20 what reasonable alternatives are most appropriate for  
21 this area.

22 These are just some examples of the input  
23 we are looking for, and they represent the kind of  
24 information we are seeking through environmental  
25 scoping process. Your comments tonight should be  
26 helpful in providing insights of this nature.

1 Next slide.

2 This slide illustrates the various  
3 considerations that are factored into a decision to  
4 issue a renewed operating license. How do we use your  
5 input? Public comments are an important part of the  
6 environmental review process. We consider all of the  
7 comments that we receive from the public during the  
8 scoping process, as well as comments received on the  
9 draft environmental impact statement that's due to be  
10 published by next summer.

11 Next slide, please.

12 Now, in addition to providing comments at  
13 this meeting, there are other ways that you can submit  
14 comments for an environmental review process. You can  
15 provide written comments to the Chief of our Rules and  
16 Directive Branch, whose address is above in the slide.  
17 You can also make the comments in person or deliver in  
18 person if you happen to be in the Rockville, Maryland,  
19 area.

20 We have also established a specific e-mail  
21 address at the NRC for the purpose of receiving your  
22 comments on the development of our draft environmental  
23 impact statement, and what you think the scope of our  
24 review should be. That e-mail address is  
25 indianpointeis@nrc.gov. All your comments will be  
26 considered -- reviewed and considered. And as Lance

1 indicated, you can also deliver written comments to us  
2 tonight. We will add it in as part of the transcript.

3 Next slide, please.

4 This slide shows important milestone dates  
5 for the environmental review process. The Notice of  
6 Opportunity for Hearing was published on August 1st,  
7 followed by the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS and  
8 conduct scoping. The opportunity to submit contention  
9 for a hearing closes on November 30th. Previously, it  
10 was October 1st. But in response to congressional  
11 requests, the Commission has extended it to  
12 November 30th.

13 And if you have comments you'd like to  
14 submit outside of today's meeting, you have until  
15 October 12th, as I indicated earlier, and as  
16 highlighted on the slide, to submit those comments.

17 Next slide.

18 This slide identifies the primary points  
19 of contact within the NRC for environmental issues.  
20 It also identifies where documents related to our  
21 review may be found in the local area. The Hendrick  
22 Hudson Free Library, the Field Library, and the White  
23 Plains Public Library have all agreed to make the  
24 license renewal application available for public  
25 review.

26 When it's published for comment, the draft

1 environmental impact statement will also be available  
2 at each library. These documents will also be on the  
3 NRC's website at the website address shown at the  
4 bottom of the page.

5 In addition, as you came in, you were  
6 asked to fill out a registration card at our reception  
7 table. If you've included your address on that card,  
8 we will mail a copy of the draft and final  
9 environmental impact statement to you.

10 This concludes my presentation, and I will  
11 turn it over -- back to Lance. But I did want to make  
12 one note. Joe, could you go back -- two slides back  
13 with the milestone dates? The dates that's indicated  
14 on the handout you may have was a previous version,  
15 and it has been changed to November 30th. On your  
16 handout that you have, it was actually October 1st.

17 Thank you, Lance.

18 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thanks, Bo.

19 Before we go into the comments, I want to  
20 apologize for the heat. We're looking to get some air  
21 conditioning or something, or more of it, turned on,  
22 so that we can cool things down in here. For those of  
23 you who are standing in the back, if you wish to do  
24 so, that's great. But there are a lot of seats still  
25 open towards the front. So if you want to grab a seat  
26 before we start with the commenting, now would be a

1 good time to do it.

2 With that, we'll go to our first speaker,  
3 who is Chris Hogan from New York State, Department of  
4 Environmental Conservation, and after Chris has a  
5 chance to talk Rich will start going through the  
6 yellow cards.

7 Mr. Hogan?

8 MR. HOGAN: Thanks, Lance.

9 Good evening. As Lance indicated, my name  
10 is Chris Hogan, and I am the Project Manager for the  
11 DEC for the relicensing of Indian Point Units 2 and 3.  
12 The purpose of my statement this evening is to clarify  
13 the Department's role in relicensing and other matters  
14 related to the facility.

15 With regard to scoping, Department staff  
16 are currently reviewing Entergy's environmental  
17 report, as well as historical information, and will be  
18 submitting written comments on the scope of the draft  
19 EIS before the close of the comment period on  
20 October 12th.

21 In addition to our participation in  
22 scoping, the Department has been designated by  
23 Governor Spitzer to take the lead for state executive  
24 agencies for the relicensing of Indian Point. Acting  
25 in this role, the Department intends to file a request  
26 for a hearing and a petition for leave to intervene in

1 the relicensing proceeding. And at this time, the  
2 Department would like to thank NRC for extending the  
3 time period to submit those documents.

4 In their comments within scoping,  
5 Department staff will focus on the potential natural  
6 resource and aquatic impacts from the facility during  
7 an additional license term of 20 years. The  
8 Department's primary concern is the potential impacts  
9 of the once-through cooling system at the facility.

10 The two units combined currently withdraw  
11 approximately 2.5 billion gallons of water per day  
12 from the Hudson River. This results in the  
13 impingement of fish on the intake screens and the  
14 entrainment of small fish, fish larvae, and fish eggs  
15 within the cooling system of the plant.

16 In addition, the once-through cooling  
17 system also results in a discharge of heated water,  
18 because the water is used to absorb waste heat from  
19 the operation of the generation equipment. The  
20 discharge of heated wastewater for both units is  
21 through a single discharge canal.

22 The Department is concerned with the  
23 potential thermal impacts from the discharge on the  
24 aquatic resources of the river. This information is  
25 important, because before the NRC can relicense Indian  
26 Point, the Clean Water Act requires that New York

1 State must certify that state water quality standards  
2 will be met during the new license term. This  
3 approval is referred to as a water quality  
4 certification.

5 Based on the schedule established by the  
6 NRC, the Department anticipates receiving Entergy's  
7 application for water quality certification in  
8 approximately May 2008. Pursuant to the New York  
9 State uniform procedures regulations, the water  
10 quality certificate application will be subject to  
11 public review and comment. The Department has one  
12 year to issue, deny, or waive the certificate from the  
13 date of receipt. The Department looks forward to full  
14 participation by the public in that process.

15 In addition to the Department's role in  
16 the NRC relicensing process, there are two other  
17 matters related to the facility in which the  
18 Department has primary responsibility. Under the RCRA  
19 authority -- authority delegated to the Department by  
20 the EPA -- DEC regulates hazards waste management and  
21 remedial efforts at Indian Point, including any  
22 potential groundwater contamination.

23 In addition, as the agency that  
24 administers the environmental side of the NRC  
25 agreement state program, DEC has taken the lead for  
26 the state in the ongoing radiological groundwater

1 investigation. Staff has been actively involved  
2 throughout this process and soon will be reviewing the  
3 completed site hydrology report and any remediation  
4 plans.

5 The Department also has jurisdiction over  
6 the wastewater discharge from the facility through the  
7 State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or  
8 SPDES, Program. Through the SPDES Program, the  
9 Department ensures that all discharge wastewater  
10 meets state water quality standards. In addition, the  
11 SPDES Program also allows the Department to regulate  
12 the withdrawal of water for cooling purposes.

13 The Department issued a draft SPDES permit  
14 in November 2003 and commenced the administrative  
15 process to modify the permit. The draft permit is  
16 currently the subject of an adjudicatory hearing, and  
17 the Department is awaiting a Commissioner's ruling on  
18 the appeals of the issues that should be adjudicated.

19 The draft permit currently requires  
20 Entergy to install cooling towers or equivalent  
21 technology if the facility is relicensed by the NRC.

22 That concludes my statement. If you have  
23 any questions with regard to the Department's  
24 involvement in the groundwater investigation, and the  
25 relicensing and the SPDES process, we have a table out  
26 front with two fax sheets that you can pick up. And

1 we'll be available to answer any questions.

2 Thank you.

3 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Hogan.

5 As one of the NRC's co-regulators, we  
6 wanted to make sure that he had an opportunity to just  
7 kind of outline some of their concerns and some of  
8 their perspective on the situation.

9 So with that, I guess I'll turn things  
10 over to Rich to introduce our first three speakers.  
11 We're going to try to go in blocks of three, just to  
12 give you a heads up as to, you know, that you'll be  
13 coming up or when you'll be coming up. Once you get  
14 to the microphone, if you could introduce yourself and  
15 let us know if there's any group that you're with,  
16 just so we make sure that we know who's talking on the  
17 transcript.

18 Again, I'm going to ask you to stick to  
19 about five minutes as the maximum amount of time, as  
20 we do have a number of people who are signed up. I  
21 believe Rich has a few techniques that he'll be using  
22 if you start going over the five-minute mark, and  
23 hopefully it won't get to that point, though.

24 So, Rich, why don't you go ahead and tell  
25 us who is going to be coming up first.

26 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. And at this point, I

1 have 27 people signed up. If there are any other  
2 people who want to sign up, please let me know.  
3 According to the list here, I have three elected  
4 officials who have expressed an interest in speaking.  
5 If there are any other elected officials, please let  
6 me know. And I'd like to lead off with John Testa,  
7 the Mayor of Peekskill, and then we'll move to Frank  
8 Giancamilli, who is with Congressman John Hall's  
9 office, and then, finally, Dan O'Neill, the Mayor of  
10 the Village of the Buchanan.

11 So, John? Is John here?

12 (No response.)

13 That makes it easy. Okay. I'll say  
14 John's name until later. Maybe --

15 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: We're not batting  
16 very well already.

17 (Laughter.)

18 MR. BARKLEY: All right. Frank, do you  
19 want to come up?

20 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: And I think all of  
21 you heard at one point the air conditioning kick in,  
22 so hopefully that will help with the heat in here.

23 MR. GIANCAMILLI: Thank you. My name is  
24 Frank Giancamilli. I'm from the office of Congressman  
25 John Hall. The Congressman cannot be here tonight, so  
26 I will be reading a statement on his behalf.

1 I'd first like to thank the NRC for  
2 extending the deadline for submittal and for having  
3 this meeting tonight. As I'm sure the Commission can  
4 see from today's turnout, and the passion shown by  
5 Indian Point's neighbors, the environmental impact of  
6 Indian Point is critically important to the Hudson  
7 Valley and must figure prominently in the NRC's  
8 consideration of Entergy's license renewal  
9 application.

10 The environmental impact of Indian Point  
11 on public health, local resources, and water quality  
12 continues to be one of the most serious issues facing  
13 our region. Indian Point already exacts a heavy toll  
14 on our local environment in ways I will elaborate on  
15 in a moment, and presents a constant threat to the  
16 well being of its host communities.

17 When Entergy filed its license renewal  
18 application on April 30th of this year, it raised the  
19 possibility that IP 2 and IP 3 could continue to  
20 operate for another 20 years. If that is to be the  
21 case, then the relicensing process discussed here  
22 today must result in fundamental changes in the way  
23 the plant is operated and the environmental damage  
24 created by the plant is mitigated.

25 It is for that reason that I vehemently  
26 believe that the NRC must keep one fundamental fact in

1 mind throughout this process. The relicensing of  
2 Indian Point cannot be conducted in an environmental  
3 vacuum. This process cannot be subjected to a  
4 regulatory runaround that examines some systems and  
5 excludes others.

6 If there is an incident involving an  
7 operating system, or a spent fuel pool, or another  
8 aspect of the plant, that incident will have an  
9 environmental impact on surrounding communities,  
10 regardless of whether or not the regulatory framework  
11 required them to be studied.

12 The environmental scope of the NRC's  
13 review must reflect that reality by encompassing the  
14 entirety of operations at Indian Point. With that  
15 said, I believe there are several vital issues that  
16 must be considered by the NRC as it goes about the  
17 work of creating its draft environmental impact  
18 statement, or DEIS.

19 The first and perhaps most disturbing of  
20 these issues is the continued existence of  
21 uncontrolled leaks of radioactive material from Indian  
22 Point spent fuel pools. For almost two years, Indian  
23 Point has been leaking tritium and the cancer-causing  
24 strontium-90 into the soil and water surrounding the  
25 plant. Alarmingly, it is possible that some of this  
26 material may even be making its way into the Hudson

1 River.

2 Just two weeks ago, another pinhole-sized  
3 leak was discovered in the fuel transfer canal. The  
4 fact that these leaks have continued to disperse  
5 radioactive material for years, with no sure knowledge  
6 of their source or concrete plan to stop them, should  
7 make it clear that they constitute a significant  
8 environmental threat that must be addressed in this  
9 relicensing process.

10 Specifically, I believe that the spent  
11 fuel pools should be considered within the scope of  
12 the aging management review, that radiological  
13 monitoring in the Hudson should be expanded to more  
14 forms of aquatic life, and that a condition of  
15 relicensing should be a requirement that Entergy find  
16 and stop these leaks.

17 Indian Point's operations also place a  
18 great strain on the Hudson through the introduction of  
19 thermal pollution that has an undeniably negative  
20 impact on the river's ecosystem. As a result of its  
21 cooling process, Indian Point consumes billions of  
22 gallons of water a day and undermines the survival of  
23 several critical species of fish and wildlife.  
24 Clearly, this is a direct environmental impact of the  
25 plant's continued operation and warrants consideration  
26 in the DEIS.

1 Indian Point's location in New York City  
2 metro area, and at the heart of the watershed that  
3 serves New York City and Westchester, makes safety and  
4 security an issue worthy of environmental  
5 consideration as well. An incident at the plant could  
6 have catastrophic impacts on the local environmental  
7 and human wealth by rendering much of the region  
8 uninhabitable in a worst-case scenario.

9 The 2003 Witt Report declared that current  
10 radiological response plans are not adequate to  
11 protect the public, and the plan has been met with  
12 strenuous local government oppositions. Given the  
13 stakes, it is necessary and appropriate for the NRC to  
14 consider the effectiveness of the evacuation plans for  
15 Indian Point in the context of environmental  
16 conditions in human health.

17 Since this is a process with potentially  
18 long-term repercussions, the DEIS must also be  
19 prepared to look into the future. Indian Point spent  
20 fuel pools are rapidly reaching their maximum  
21 capacity. And if the plant is allowed to operate  
22 decades into the future, the impacts of continued  
23 waste storage, the shift from fuel pools to dry cask  
24 storage, and the ability of Indian Point to  
25 accommodate projected volumes of nuclear waste must be  
26 considered in the DEIS.

1           If Indian Point is to receive a license  
2 renewal for another 20 years of operation, the  
3 communities of the Hudson Valley deserve to know that  
4 the NRC relicensing process has been thorough, open,  
5 and has guaranteed that Indian Point will operate in  
6 a more environmentally responsible manner in its next  
7 20 years than it has in its first 30. To do that, the  
8 process must encompass the full environmental impact  
9 of Indian Point on its host communities.

10           Indian Point's reactors do not operate in  
11 a vacuum, and neither should the relicensing process  
12 that will determine their future.

13           Thank you.

14           (Applause.)

15           FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: If people would  
16 rather use the front mic instead of that one, please  
17 feel free.

18           MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Dan, your choice on  
19 mics.

20           MR. O'NEILL: This one is fine. Thank  
21 you. I'll try to speak loud into the microphone. My  
22 name is Dan O'Neill. I am the Mayor of the Village of  
23 Buchanan where the Indian Point nuclear powerplants  
24 are located. I want to thank the NRC for giving  
25 myself and other members of the public to comment on  
26 the environmental impact of Indian Point.

1           It is absolutely necessary that the NRC  
2 relicensing procedure take into account the  
3 environmental impacts that Indian Point does have on  
4 not only Buchanan but the entire Hudson Valley, and,  
5 indeed, the New York City metropolitan area. Let's  
6 face it, any way that electricity is made there are  
7 going to be serious adverse environmental impacts.

8           And I'm not going to shy away from the  
9 problems that occur when Indian Point -- when nuclear  
10 power is used to make electricity. There are problems  
11 with the spent fuel pools, the leaks should not have  
12 happened, although I do want to assure everybody that  
13 there was absolutely no impact on the local water --  
14 drinking water.

15           In fact, the river water temperature  
16 increases should also be taken into account. I agree  
17 that the NRC should focus on these issues. However,  
18 you cannot look at Indian Point or nuclear power in a  
19 vacuum. You have to compare what would happen if  
20 Indian Point was not in operation. What would happen  
21 would be an increase in burning fossil fuels. This  
22 should be taken into account not only by the NRC but  
23 by the DEC. I was sad that the speaker did not take  
24 that into account, nor did Congressman Hall.

25           Because of Indian Point, there is a  
26 reduction in the amount of fossil fuels which would be

1 burned. That is important. Why? Because of global  
2 warming, because of the greenhouse effect, because of  
3 the impact of burning fossil fuels on fish and  
4 wildlife, because of the effect on human health in  
5 terms of asthma, emphysema, and, yes, even cancer.

6 Without Indian Point, there would be more  
7 fossil fuels burned and more of these adverse  
8 consequences. So if you add up the benefits and  
9 liabilities of nuclear power compared to burning  
10 fossil fuels, it is obvious that nuclear power stands  
11 pretty tall.

12 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I'm sorry. I'm  
13 going to interrupt you at this point. I'll let you  
14 continue in a second.

15 MR. O'NEILL: Sure.

16 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: People should be  
17 free to come up to the mic and express their opinions  
18 without having people take exception to them. That  
19 was one of the things that I asked for prior to this  
20 meeting being started. When someone has the mic, they  
21 should be able to speak freely.

22 If you would like to express your opinion  
23 afterwards and hold up a sign, clap, or make some  
24 other noise if you will, then please go ahead. But  
25 please let the people have the mic, let them have the  
26 floor, and respect their opinions while they are

1 speaking.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. O'NEILL: Thank you. Absolutely.

4 (Applause.)

5 You're right, sir. That is the American  
6 way. Absolutely.

7 Just to continue, Westchester County and  
8 the New York City metropolitan area suffer some of the  
9 worst air pollution in the country if you look at the  
10 EPA studies that are issued periodically. In fact,  
11 there are two coal-burning plants that are directly  
12 across the river from Westchester County, one of them  
13 almost directly across the river from Indian Point.  
14 Those two coal-burning plants have been in constant  
15 violation of EPA emission standards for years, and  
16 there seems to be no end in sight.

17 In addition, the so-called alternative  
18 methods of making electricity may be very viable, but  
19 they also have adverse environmental impacts. For  
20 example, the California branch of the Natural  
21 Resources Defense Council filed suit to stop the  
22 construction of a wind farm. Robert Kennedy, Jr. of  
23 the Riverkeeper opposed the wind farm in  
24 Massachusetts.

25 Solar power -- there is another  
26 alternative energy source that has problems because of

1 the chemicals used in the photoelectric cells. So no  
2 matter what way electricity is made you have to look  
3 at the environmental impact. And I am asking the NRC  
4 and the DEC to take the impact of Indian Point in  
5 benefitting the environment of the Hudson Valley, the  
6 entire area, into account when they conduct the EIS.

7 In fact, I wish there was a federal agency  
8 assigned, like the NRC is assigned, to oversee nuclear  
9 powerplants, to oversee the operations of fossil fuel  
10 burning plants like those right across the river.

11 I thank you. And if there's any  
12 questions, I'll be glad to answer them.

13 (Applause.)

14 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir.

15 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Thank you, Mayor. We  
16 do have three more speakers next -- Mannajo Green of  
17 Clearwater -- and she did correct me -- she is an  
18 elected official, so I apologize for not mentioning  
19 that earlier. Next, Dr. Patrick Moore of Green Spirit  
20 Strategies, and then, finally, Norris McDonald,  
21 President of the Afro-American Environmentalist  
22 Association.

23 MS. GREENE: Thank you. I'm Mannajo  
24 Greene, Environmental Director for Hudson River Sloop  
25 Clearwater, and I serve on the Town Council in the  
26 Town of Rosendale in Ulster County.

1           The NRC's primary mandate is to protect  
2 public health and safety and the environment, and,  
3 further, it is required to incorporate any new and  
4 significant information into its findings. In a  
5 democracy, the role of government, industry, and the  
6 public has to be carefully balanced. And for free  
7 enterprise to work, there have to be checks and  
8 balances, and that demands that our regulatory  
9 agencies exercise the utmost rigor and err on the side  
10 of protection, not on leniency.

11           Everything in our environment is  
12 interconnected. I ask the NRC to maintain as holistic  
13 approach as possible. They have wide discretion and  
14 should use it to be inclusive and not exclude any  
15 relevant information. Just a moment of history, and  
16 that is when these plants all over the country that  
17 have been licensed for 40 years were first licensed,  
18 they were simply licensed for 40 years.

19           About 18 years into the process they  
20 realized that, you know, they could maybe get another  
21 20 years out of their investment and prevailed upon  
22 the NRC to promulgate regulations for relicensing.  
23 However, over the recent past, or over time, the  
24 issues that can be considered in relicensing, and the  
25 public's ability to have input has been systematically  
26 narrowed.

1           This is part of a whole tendency that we  
2 see for individual and community rights to be usurped  
3 by corporate power. And it's a question of where the  
4 most money is to protect interests. But for the NRC  
5 to do its job, the more public input they have, and  
6 the more they listen to it, the more effective they  
7 will be.

8           Clearwater was here originally. We  
9 originally opposed the siting of this plant due to its  
10 location in what was then a relatively dense  
11 population, but the increase in population over the  
12 years has been -- that has exceeded our projections.

13           You can't grandfather in the site. Our  
14 congressional delegates are trying to get the laws  
15 amended, but you can use your discretionary power.  
16 You can tell your attorneys to find out how you can  
17 include information, not how you don't need to include  
18 information. And to ignore the increase in population  
19 density, the lack of viability of the emergency  
20 evacuation plan is an unacceptable form of denial.

21           And then, I think it's urgent -- I lost my  
22 place. Excuse me a second. Also, to say that  
23 radioactive material that is leaking into the  
24 groundwater and into the Hudson River is being handled  
25 by an ongoing monitoring and investigation, which is  
26 definitely necessary, but these are also symptomatic

1 of an aging and deteriorating facility. And the  
2 leaking absolutely must be taken into consideration,  
3 and, further, it must be contained and remediated  
4 before a relicensing is allowed.

5 And then, it's also important to require  
6 that aging infrastructure be repaired and replaced,  
7 and we cannot afford a 20-year extension to be a human  
8 experiment in how far you can allow aging equipment to  
9 go before a plant is closed.

10 Alternative energy has been mentioned over  
11 and over today. Alternative energy is the  
12 alternative. By 2013 and 2015, and during the 20  
13 years thereafter, substantial increases in  
14 infrastructure for alternative energy, for renewable  
15 energy and energy efficiency, will be put into place  
16 in the Hudson Valley, and that must be reliably  
17 estimated.

18 And, finally, I have a comment. Several  
19 groups have made comments about the environmental  
20 justice implications of nuclear power. Not only is it  
21 not a clean source of power, but from its original  
22 manufacture, from the mining, from the processing,  
23 from the enrichment of the uranium, to the waste  
24 disposal, those -- all of those practices have  
25 environmental impacts, and invariably those impacts  
26 are on communities of color and Native American

1 communities.

2 The waste nationally that is planned --  
3 radioactive waste is planned to be moved to Yucca  
4 Mountain. Now, that has never gone through, and it  
5 will be stored onsite. But that environmental justice  
6 issue really works -- definitely works both ways. And  
7 I think it's really important that that point be made.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Thank you.

11 Dr. Moore?

12 DR. MOORE: Thank you for the opportunity  
13 to take part. My name is Patrick Moore. I am a co-  
14 founder and 15-year former Director of Green Peace.  
15 I am now Chair and Chief Scientist, Green Spirit  
16 Strategies, Limited, focused on sustainability. And  
17 I am presently an advisor to New York area.

18 One day when I was doing my Ph.D. in  
19 ecology at the University of British Columbia I read  
20 about a little group of people meeting in a church  
21 basement in Vancouver, planning a protest against U.S.  
22 hydrogen bomb testing. I joined that group and ended  
23 up being in the planning and on the first voyage of  
24 what became Green Peace.

25 We convinced President Nixon at the time  
26 to end those hydrogen bomb tests. As a matter of

1 fact, that was the last time the United States ever  
2 detonated a hydrogen bomb. With that victory behind  
3 us, we went on -- I went on -- to spend the next 15  
4 years full-time in the front lines of the movement  
5 around the world.

6 We got a lot of things right -- stop the  
7 bomb, save the whales, stop toxic discharge, etcetera.  
8 But I think we made one serious error -- in our  
9 enthusiasm, focused on nuclear weapons testing and the  
10 threat of all-out nuclear holocaust between the Soviet  
11 Union and the United States.

12 We made the mistake of lumping nuclear  
13 energy in with nuclear weapons, as if they were all  
14 part of the same holocaust. I think we failed to  
15 differentiate between the peaceful and beneficial uses  
16 of the technology and the destructive and even evil  
17 uses of the technology. If we banned all technologies  
18 that could be used for evil purposes, we would never  
19 have harnessed fire.

20 A car bomb is made with a car, diesel oil,  
21 and fertilizer. Is the best way to stop car bombs to  
22 ban diesel oil, fertilizer, and automobiles? No.  
23 Think of nuclear medicine for a minute. Nuclear  
24 medicine successfully diagnoses and treats millions of  
25 people every year. Many of the isotopes used in  
26 nuclear medicine come from nuclear reactors -- cobalt-

1 60, technetium, and others.

2 I want to talk about the environmental  
3 issues. Climate change is the biggest environmental  
4 issue today. Many people have come up and made the  
5 assertion that nuclear energy is producing a lot of  
6 greenhouse gas and CO2 emissions. This is purposely  
7 misleading the public. There are many independent,  
8 full life cycle analyses of greenhouse gas emissions  
9 from all the different electricity sources.

10 Nuclear plants produce on average five  
11 grams of CO2 per kilowatt hour. Solar panels produce  
12 35 grams of CO2 per kilowatt hour, largely because of  
13 the need to extract silicon, which is a very energy-  
14 intensive process. Gas plants produce 500 grams of  
15 CO2 per kilowatt hour, 100 times as much as nuclear  
16 energy. And coal-fired powerplants produce 1,000  
17 grams of CO2 per kilowatt hour, 200 times as much as  
18 nuclear energy.

19 These are facts -- this is from the Office  
20 of Science and Technology from the Parliament of the  
21 United Kingdom. You can also Google the University of  
22 Madison, Wisconsin, that has done an independent study  
23 of full life cycle CO2 for all power generation  
24 sources.

25 Nuclear and hydroelectric are the two  
26 lowest CO2 emitters of all our technologies. That is

1 partly why New York State is the fifth lowest per  
2 capital CO2 emitter in the country, because 45 percent  
3 of its electricity comes from either nuclear or  
4 hydroelectric. Vermont and Idaho are the lowest,  
5 because even more of their electricity is coming from  
6 either hydroelectric, as in the case of Vermont --  
7 Idaho, I mean, and a combination of hydro and nuclear  
8 in the case of Vermont.

9 I'd like to talk about fish for a sec. We  
10 were told by a member of Riverkeeper that the plant at  
11 Indian Point is killing a billion fish a year. I  
12 don't think there is a billion fish in that river.

13 (Laughter.)

14 That is a ridiculous thing to say.  
15 Meanwhile, their own leader -- Bobby Kennedy -- said  
16 recently, "Today, the Hudson River is the richest body  
17 of water in the North Atlantic Region, producing more  
18 pounds of fish per acre than any other waterway in the  
19 Atlantic Ocean north of the equator."

20 (Laughter.)

21 That plant has been there for 35 years  
22 while the Hudson River has systematically recovered  
23 from a time when 20-mile stretches of it were dead to  
24 where Bobby Kennedy is saying it's the most productive  
25 river north of the equator in the Atlantic Ocean. I  
26 don't understand how those points jive at all.

1           Finally, I'd like to talk about air  
2           quality. The Mayor of Buchanan made it clear, and so  
3           did the National Science study -- National Academy of  
4           Science study. There has to be an alternative to the  
5           energy at Indian Point if it is shut down. It  
6           provides nearly a third of New York's power on some  
7           days, and runs the whole mass transit system. What  
8           are the alternatives to nuclear? Well, I'll tell you  
9           one thing: they're not wind and solar.

10           Wind energy has a very useful application  
11           in that when the wind is blowing you can turn off some  
12           of the gas peaking plants if you're at peak power  
13           requirements. Solar is simply too expensive and will  
14           -- unless it comes down by 10 times in price, will  
15           remain a very minor niche player.

16           But those aren't the reasons that they  
17           can't replace Indian Point. It's because they are  
18           intermittent and unreliable sources of energy by  
19           nature. The sun does not shine at night. the wind  
20           does not blow all the time, and, therefore, they  
21           cannot provide base load electricity to the grid like  
22           nuclear, hydro, and fossil fuels can.

23           The only alternative would be gas-fired  
24           plants producing 10 million tons more CO2, and it  
25           absolutely blows my mind when I hear someone from  
26           Riverkeeper, an environmental group, say the words

1 "clean natural gas." How is 10 million tons of  
2 additional CO2 clean? And how are additional tons of  
3 sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxides, and particulate  
4 matters clean? It's absolutely logically inconsistent  
5 to on one hand say shut down Indian Point, and on the  
6 other hand say we're all worried about air pollution  
7 and climate change.

8 The only way to get -- to keep the air as  
9 clean as it is in this state is to keep Indian Point  
10 operating safely, cost effectively, and clean, just  
11 like it has been for the last 35 years.

12 Thank you very much.

13 (Applause.)

14 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir.  
15 Since he named a few of the groups by name, I wanted  
16 to give a chance for just a 30-second rebuttal.

17 MS. SHAPIRO: Mr. Moore, unfortunately,  
18 has misrepresented himself and lied about his  
19 background, his credentials, and the truth of nuclear  
20 power. Its costs are much higher than anything else.  
21 Its fossil fuel print is equal, if not greater, and he  
22 hasn't addressed the issue of the spent fuel waste,  
23 the radioactive waste, 18,000 tons, sitting in spent  
24 fuel pools right here on the river.

25 (Applause.)

26 He also -- and I have a question for him

1 that I'd like him to answer -- how much money has he  
2 received from the nuclear industry? He is on the  
3 nuclear payroll. He is on the payroll of the Nuclear  
4 Energy Institute --

5 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Ms. Shapiro?

6 MS. SHAPIRO: -- as well as --

7 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I promised you 30  
8 seconds.

9 MS. SHAPIRO: All right. Please answer  
10 the question.

11 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you.

12 MS. SHAPIRO: How much money are you  
13 making from the nuclear industry?

14 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Rich, who do we have  
15 next?

16 MR. BARKLEY: Norris McDonald is who we'd  
17 call next. Norris?

18 MR. McDONALD: Good evening. My name is  
19 Norris McDonald, and I'm Founder and President of the  
20 African-American Environmentalist Association. And I  
21 have to make an admission here first thing, and that  
22 is that I love Indian Point.

23 (Applause.)

24 We also, obviously, support the license  
25 renewal, but let me get down to business here. We  
26 submitted written -- a written statement for the

1 record. We went through the entire environmental  
2 report and addressed each item. I won't try to do  
3 that now, but I will go over some of the items of  
4 interest to the members of our organization.

5 The Director of our New York office  
6 testified at the afternoon hearing and pointed out  
7 some of the environmental justice considerations that  
8 I'm going to also add to. And we will supplement our  
9 record, probably later we'll submit an electronic  
10 copy.

11 One thing in the environmental report that  
12 we're a little concerned about is the Section 4.22.2,  
13 and that's on environmental justice. It's a little  
14 confusing, and NRC should maybe revisit that.

15 It states that 10 CFR Part 51 -- that  
16 Entergy isn't responsible for conducting an  
17 environmental justice analysis, yet the NRC comes back  
18 around and says that in its environmental justice  
19 review it will rely upon Entergy's environmental  
20 report to base its environmental justice review on  
21 that. That's something that NRC should look at and do  
22 something about.

23 Also, I'd like to revisit the state, the  
24 Department of Environmental Conservation, and the  
25 water permit. The New York State Department of  
26 Environmental Conservation, environmental justice

1 policy, states that it is the general policy of the  
2 DEC to promote environmental justice and incorporate  
3 measures for achieving environmental justice into its  
4 programs, policies, regulations, legislative  
5 proposals, and activities. This policy is  
6 specifically intended to ensure that DEC's  
7 environmental permit process promotes environmental  
8 justice.

9 In order to reduce the levels of  
10 impingement and entrainment of Hudson River fish, the  
11 Department of Environmental Conservation's draft SPDES  
12 permit could substantially limit the ability of Indian  
13 Point 2 and 3 to generate electricity, and may even  
14 lead to the closure of the facilities. And that's our  
15 big concern. I will talk about that a little bit  
16 later.

17 Any substantial reduction in the amount of  
18 electricity generated by Indian Point 2 and 3 will  
19 spark demand for replacement electricity from nearby  
20 powerplants. Unfortunately, these powerplants are,  
21 for the most part, pollution-emitting fossil fuel  
22 plants located in New York's low income and minority  
23 communities.

24 As production of these fossil fuel plants  
25 increases, the air quality in and around these plants  
26 will further deteriorate, causing a spike in the

1 incidences of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases  
2 in the communities where these plants are based. The  
3 draft SPDES permit, therefore, effectively places the  
4 interests of Hudson River fish eggs and larvae over  
5 the health of New York's low income and minority  
6 communities.

7 In the Bronx, which is 35.6 percent  
8 African-American and 88 percent minority, there are  
9 two powerplants. In Brooklyn, which is 36.4 percent  
10 African-American and 64.2 percent minority, there are  
11 seven powerplants. In Queens, which is 20 percent  
12 African-American and 63.2 percent minority, there are  
13 six powerplants. So you get the idea -- and I could  
14 go on for the rest of the night about the  
15 disproportionate impact in minority and African-  
16 American communities.

17 The trash transfer stations, most of the  
18 bus depots, and I'm sure hopefully NRC will look at  
19 those items. But also, within the environmental  
20 report, and in the development of the EIS, I would  
21 hope that you would spend more time looking at the  
22 benefits, the great benefits of Indian Point. That's  
23 what I love -- the great benefits. That is a fact  
24 that it's emission-free.

25 New York State is facing a SIP call, the  
26 state implementation plan, of the Clean Air Act. Most

1 of the non-attainment areas will violate those. I get  
2 frustrated, because I have been working in the  
3 environmental community for 28 years, and the non-  
4 attainment areas, they continue to be non-attainment  
5 areas. We have to do something about that.

6 Well, by its very nature, Indian Point  
7 does something about that. So let's go more into the  
8 benefits. Indian Point will benefit the regional  
9 greenhouse gas initiative. Of course, NRC is required  
10 to conduct an environmental justice analysis due to  
11 the Presidential Executive Order 12898 passed back  
12 January 11, 1994.

13 So let's look at more of the benefits.  
14 Let's look at the benefits in terms of smog, which is  
15 our big issue. I'm a chronic acute asthmatic. I've  
16 almost died twice. Now, many people in this room  
17 would say, "Hey, you're not dead yet?"

18 (Laughter.)

19 Or would like to see me dead, and that's  
20 fine, because let's address hate and its progeny,  
21 prejudice. There's a prejudice against Indian Point.  
22 But I'll tell you what: I love Indian Point. And the  
23 main reason I love Indian Point -- and it's not about  
24 me -- it's about the four-year old child in Harlem in  
25 a high-rise apartment on a non-attainment day without  
26 air conditioning, the suffering of children from smog,

1 and that makes me angry.

2 And I'll stand up to any hate and any  
3 prejudice for this plant, for that issue, for those  
4 children. We will be their representative. I love  
5 Indian Point.

6 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir.

7 (Applause.)

8 I'm going to ask one more time that if  
9 people could please turn your cell phones off or  
10 silence them. There has been about a half a dozen  
11 times that they've gone off, and it's kind of  
12 disruptive. So if you could, please. Thank you.

13 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Our next three  
14 speakers are Lisa Rainwater of Riverkeeper, followed  
15 by Jerry Kremmer of AREA, and then Frank Fraley of the  
16 Mount Vernon Hospital Center.

17 MS. RAINWATER: Thanks, Rich. Lisa  
18 Rainwater, Policy Director at Riverkeeper. And I have  
19 a written statement that I can hand in for the record  
20 after I have completed my talk.

21 I'd like to first thank the NRC for  
22 granting the 60-day extension for the submittal of the  
23 petitions to intervene in Indian Point's relicensing  
24 proceedings. I'm here to address two issues tonight  
25 -- one that remains of great importance to those  
26 living in the shadows of Indian Point evacuation

1 planning, and the other that goes to the heart of our  
2 democratic society -- the right to communicate with  
3 our government agencies without fear of intimidation  
4 and harassment.

5 Neither issue, under current NRC  
6 relicensing regulations, is taken seriously. But,  
7 nonetheless, I use this opportunity to shine a  
8 spotlight on these issues that have been left in the  
9 darkened corners of the NRC's regulatory process.

10 Emergency planning is an issue,  
11 unfortunately, that the NRC refuses to address during  
12 the relicensing process, despite significant changes  
13 in the population, roadways, and infrastructure, since  
14 the plant was originally sited in the agriculture  
15 landscape of Buchanan, New York, nearly half a century  
16 ago.

17 A 2003 report conducted by James Lee Witt,  
18 FEMA Director under President Clinton, and considered  
19 the nation's leading emergency planning expert on  
20 Indian Point's emergency evacuation plans concluded  
21 that "The current radiological response system and  
22 capabilities are not adequate to overcome their  
23 combined weight and protect the people from an  
24 unacceptable dose of radiation in the event of a  
25 release from Indian Point, especially if the release  
26 is faster or larger than the design basis release."

1           Most county officials, emergency  
2 responders, and area residents understand that, given  
3 high population density and congested road networks  
4 that characterize the New York metropolitan area,  
5 Indian Point's emergency plans are patently unworkable  
6 and unfixable. In fact, three of the four counties  
7 and the New York State emergency management office  
8 have refused to submit their annual certification  
9 letters for five years running, and yet the NRC and  
10 FEMA continue to rubber stamp a gravely flawed plan.

11           These are the concerns that I and fellow  
12 New Yorkers submitted to NRC Chairman Dale Klein  
13 beginning on May 29, 2007, in the form of an  
14 electronic action alert issued by Riverkeeper. We  
15 further requested that the NRC include emergency  
16 planning in its relicensing proceedings for Indian  
17 Point.

18           On August 7th, J.E. Dyer, Director for the  
19 Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, wrote a response  
20 back to me and hundreds of others explaining why the  
21 NRC will not look at emergency planning -- a topic I  
22 will return to shortly. This letter was sent to my  
23 home address and subsequently sent as a copy to every  
24 individual person who participated in the first  
25 release of our action alert -- approximately 400  
26 people.

1           It's bad enough that the NRC found it  
2 acceptable to send the letter to my Riverkeeper office  
3 and to my home address not once but four times, and  
4 violated my right to privacy by sharing my home  
5 address with hundreds of people. What's worse,  
6 however, is that the NRC deemed it appropriate to  
7 attach to every response letter a list of names and  
8 addresses of all those private citizens who sent in a  
9 letter of concern.

10           The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is a  
11 federal agency set up by Congress. Your job is to  
12 protect the public. It is not your job to harass and  
13 intimidate concerned citizens from providing you  
14 feedback on your regulatory process. We live in a  
15 democratic society. We are supposed to have a  
16 government that is open, transparent, and concerned  
17 about the public good, on a variety of issues, from  
18 the food we eat to the air we breathe to the  
19 medications we take to the entertainment we receive on  
20 television and the radio.

21           In all my years of actively participating  
22 in our democracy, and the hundreds of action alerts  
23 that I have participated in in a variety of issues --  
24 and believe it or not, just not nuclear -- not once  
25 has a federal agency or a state agency or a federal  
26 bureau or a state bureau publicly distributed the

1 names and addresses of those who contacted them out of  
2 concern over a particular issue.

3           There is a term for the actions taken by  
4 the NRC under Mr. Dyer's direction: citizen  
5 intimidation. If people stop coming to your meetings,  
6 if people stop submitting comments to your federal  
7 agency, if people stop raising concerns about Indian  
8 Point, the only nuclear plant in the country to be  
9 leaking strontium-90 into public waterways, a plant  
10 that has a five- to six-time emergency plant unplanned  
11 shutdown rate than any in the country, a plant that  
12 continues to have incredulous accidents, mishaps, and  
13 breakdowns, it's not because they're not afraid of  
14 Indian Point, it's because they're afraid of you.

15           But it seems that the NRC also has fears  
16 -- fears that if emergency planning were to be  
17 included in the relicensing process for Indian Point,  
18 the plant may fail the test and need to cease  
19 operation at the end of its current license.

20           In his letter to me and hundreds of  
21 others, Mr. Dyer noted, and I quote, "In adopting its  
22 regulations for license renewal, the Commission  
23 determined that the existing regulatory framework for  
24 emergency preparedness at operating reactors is  
25 sufficient, and that the staff need not review the  
26 emergency preparedness again as part of the license

1 renewal process. The NRC generally relies on FEMA's  
2 review of emergency plans and preparedness for areas  
3 surrounding nuclear powerplants."

4 In other words, the NRC refused our  
5 request. But then again, the NRC has refused the  
6 County of Westchester's formal petition requesting  
7 that emergency planning be included. The NRC has  
8 refused the New York State Attorney General's request  
9 that emergency planning be included, and the NRC has  
10 refused the New York Hudson Valley Congressional  
11 Delegation's request that emergency planning be  
12 included.

13 But if, in fact, the NRC relies on FEMA's  
14 review of emergency plans for regions around the  
15 plant, then surely the latest news to come from FEMA  
16 is all the NRC needs to shut down Indian Point until  
17 an adequate emergency siren system is working.

18 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: If you could please  
19 summarize.

20 MS. RAINWATER: On September 12th -- I  
21 have one more thing, and Dr. Moore --

22 (Applause.)

23 -- was able to conclude. I would prefer  
24 -- I have one paragraph. I would like to conclude.

25 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: That's fine. Please  
26 be brief.

1 MS. RAINWATER: I just saw the one minute  
2 remaining light there.

3 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Please.

4 MS. RAINWATER: On September 12th, FEMA  
5 sent a letter to New York State's Emergency Management  
6 Office in which the current emergency sirens at Indian  
7 Point are deemed unworkable. I quote, "The placement  
8 of the new sirens decreases the audibility of the  
9 existing system." Therefore, the new electronic  
10 sirens that were installed and tested by Entergy must  
11 be removed from interfering with the sound path of any  
12 existing co-located rotating siren in order to restore  
13 the existing system to its full functionality.

14 For over two years, the public has waited  
15 for a reliable emergency notification system at Indian  
16 Point. And if one is to read accurately FEMA's  
17 assessment of Entergy's installation proceedings, we  
18 have been waiting while the company has been dilly-  
19 dallying. And what penalties has Entergy faced for  
20 missing not one but three deadlines?

21 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I'm sorry.

22 MS. RAINWATER: A paltry \$130,000.

23 Perhaps the NRC --

24 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I hate -- Miss --

25 MS. RAINWATER: -- should begin --

26 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Miss? Miss? I'm

1       sorry.

2                   MS. RAINWATER:  I have one sentence, and  
3       I need to -- perhaps the NRC --

4                   FACILITATOR RAKOVAN:  All right.  All  
5       right.  All right.

6                   PARTICIPANT:  Give her a minute.

7                   MS. RAINWATER:  -- should begin developing  
8       fear in the entity it is mandated to regulate and stop  
9       intimidating citizens.

10                   Thank you.

11                   (Applause.)

12                   FACILITATOR RAKOVAN:  I'd just like to  
13       remind everyone -- at the beginning of the meeting I  
14       asked people to speak -- stick to a specific  
15       timeframe, so that we could let everyone speak.

16                   (Applause.)

17                   I hope that I'm not being intimidating by  
18       saying this, but if you could please stick to that  
19       timeframe, it will allow us to get through people  
20       faster.

21                   (Applause.)

22                   Thank you.

23                   MR. BARKLEY:  I did -- I understood --

24                   (Inaudible comment from audience member.)

25                   FACILITATOR RAKOVAN:  Miss, please.  I  
26       gave her the same amount of time that I've given

1 everyone else. That's as much as we're discussing  
2 this.

3 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Actually, I gave her  
4 about two minutes extra.

5 Jerry, go ahead.

6 MR. KREMMER: I'd like to thank the NRC  
7 for allowing us to participate in this hearing. My  
8 name is Jerry Kremmer. I'm the Chairman of the  
9 Advisory Board of the New York Affordable Reliable  
10 Electricity Alliance. We have 123 members, including  
11 the Business Council of Westchester County, the  
12 Westchester County Association, the New York City  
13 Partnership, the Building Congress of New York, 21  
14 union organizations, and a variety of community  
15 groups.

16 We were formed some four years ago,  
17 because we felt it was necessary for there to be  
18 another voice on the issue of energy sources here in  
19 this region. I'm a 23-year veteran of the New York  
20 State Legislature and have been involved with power  
21 issues probably since the early 1970s.

22 According to the NRC, this hearing is  
23 designed to give members of the public the chance to  
24 suggest environmental issues that the NRC should  
25 consider. There are many factors that NRC must  
26 consider in making its decision. We believe that air

1 quality has to be one of the key factors in making  
2 your decision, which I noted on your chart.

3 Because Indian Point is located in New  
4 York, which has the dubious distinction of having the  
5 poorest air quality in the nation, the NRC has an even  
6 more daunting challenge. To understand the gravity of  
7 our air quality situation, one has to look no further  
8 than the EPA scorecard on air quality in this region.

9 The following areas in New York State are  
10 in violation of federal ozone standards as well as  
11 federal standards for particulate matter: the five  
12 burroughs of New York City, Long Island, three  
13 counties of the Lower Hudson Valley, including  
14 Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland. Dutchess and  
15 Orange are also in violation of federal ozone  
16 standards.

17 Additionally, the Lung Association's 2007  
18 report shows that New York's air quality continues to  
19 worsen with the New York area continuing to be the  
20 most dangerous place to breathe the air for thousands  
21 and thousands of asthma sufferers, along with many  
22 others who have respiratory illnesses.

23 Indian Point generates 2,000 megawatts of  
24 electricity, enough to power approximately two million  
25 homes. Most important is that it generates this power  
26 without spewing harmful toxins or greenhouse emissions

1 into our atmosphere. Two thousand megawatts is a lot  
2 of power, equal to four or five natural gas or coal  
3 burning plants. So minus Indian Point, we would need  
4 four or five fossil fuel burning plants to replace the  
5 electricity that Indian Point produces.

6 And I must point out to you, there are  
7 none in the pipeline, there's no New York State siting  
8 law, there's nothing going on, there's nothing coming  
9 downline, so we can't be cavalier about the potential  
10 for the fact that a lot of people in this room may  
11 face the possibility one day of hitting that light  
12 switch and nothing happens.

13 However, there are several issues that I  
14 think are more important as you go into this air  
15 quality. There are those who put forth the notion  
16 that we can replace Indian Point with power generated  
17 from wind turbines or solar panels. These renewable  
18 former energies are great, they're terrific, we should  
19 have them in our portfolio.

20 They have just tried to build one in the  
21 ocean off of Jones Beach, and the Long Island Power  
22 Authority has abandoned that wind project because of  
23 cost factors. So people talk about wind; you just  
24 can't do it.

25 Our mass transit system in New York City,  
26 our local hospitals, our emergency rooms, our sporting

1 arenas, can't wait for the wind to blow and the sun to  
2 shine. They need power on demand, and Indian Point  
3 provides that for them.

4 The things that make nuclear the best form  
5 of base load power is the fact that it doesn't emit  
6 harmful pollutants, pollutants like NOX, like SOX. We  
7 hear a lot about it. People don't realize the fact  
8 that nuclear is not one of the criminal elements  
9 involved in producing it.

10 Even if the wind was blowing all the time,  
11 like it does in certain parts of the west, or the sun  
12 was out 24 hours a day, you can't get enough power to  
13 replace 2,000 megawatts. Using calculations of the  
14 amount of electricity produced from the average wind  
15 turbine in New York, it would require 1,300 wind  
16 turbines to replace Indian Point. Ironically, the  
17 same environmentalists that we mentioned earlier who  
18 runs the group that is opposed to Indian Point fought  
19 to kill the wind farm off of Martha's Vineyard. You  
20 can't have it both ways.

21 And that project only proposed to site  
22 one-tenth of the number of turbines. Good luck on  
23 getting their support for that type of project.

24 I don't think there's an elected official  
25 in this room who appeared recently in June when I did,  
26 or who appeared tonight or is going to appear at the

1 next hearing, who is willing to raise their hand and  
2 say, "I will willingly accept one of those five coal  
3 plants in my community, because it's the patriotic  
4 thing to do. It just ain't going to happen."

5 In closing, I request that the NRC give  
6 significant weight to the fact that without Indian  
7 Point producing 2,000 megawatts of emission-free  
8 electricity, the atmosphere in the New York City  
9 region will further degrade as fossil fuel burning  
10 plants are built to replace the enormous levels of  
11 power that Indian Point produces. The replacement  
12 power would generate 14 million tons of CO2 each year.

13 It's a sad fact that should Indian Point's  
14 energy need to be replaced, the replacement power will  
15 be paid for not just in dollars but in the health of  
16 our most vulnerable citizens -- children, senior  
17 citizens, the people we care so much about.

18 Thank you for taking this into account.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. BARKLEY: All right. Our next three  
21 speakers are Andy O'Connell of UWUA Local 1-2, Mark  
22 Jacobs, IBISCG -- IPSEC, I'm sorry, and Mark  
23 Cooperman.

24 MR. O'CONNELL: Good evening, everybody.  
25 My name is Andy O'Connell. I'm the Senior Business  
26 Agent for Utility Workers Union of America Local 1-2.

1 We represent members in all of the fossil fuel SID  
2 plants in the inner city, as well as the members in  
3 the Indian Point plant. We're intimately involved in  
4 generation, transmission, and distribution of  
5 electricity.

6 I'd like to stand up here and give an  
7 eloquent speech, but it's just not my style. I'd like  
8 to -- I've heard a lot of acronyms over the years from  
9 the different agencies and Indian Point itself. Who  
10 out there knows what KISS stands for? Keep It Simple.  
11 Keep It Simple, Stupid, in military terms. That's  
12 what I'd like to do.

13 On behalf of approximately 450 members  
14 that are working at the Indian Point Energy Center --  
15 local residents from the Hudson Valley, mothers,  
16 fathers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters,  
17 taxpayers, and voters. I'm here to offer our support  
18 for the Indian Point Energy Center, which we all know  
19 to be safe, secure, and necessary.

20 Unlike the anti-nuclear, anti-industry,  
21 naysayers who at most have toured the plant, we are  
22 the ones who tighten every bolt. We check every  
23 meter, and we run every wire and every pipe in that  
24 plant. Like my union brothers and sisters, I would  
25 not enter that facility or send other workers into  
26 that facility if it was not safe.

1 I also see that safety on a daily basis.  
2 On behalf the Utility Workers Union of America Local  
3 1-2, I ask that both the NRC and the community at  
4 large not be swayed by well-funded anti-nuclear  
5 groups, but rather look at the facts objectively when  
6 passing judgment on the plant.

7 Now, that's my prepared speech. You know,  
8 it wasn't that bad. One thing I'd like to say, I'd  
9 like to put it in layman's terms for a lot of people  
10 out there that don't fully understand what's going on  
11 and the eloquent speeches that everybody is giving.  
12 Energy or electricity is generated at 60 cycles a  
13 second. That means every 30 seconds, or 30 times a  
14 minute, the lights in this room are going off, and we  
15 don't see it.

16 Without Indian Point and the 20 percent of  
17 power that it produces, I'd like each and every one of  
18 you to go home and turn off the lights and everything  
19 that electricity runs for one out of every 10 minutes  
20 or 2.4 hours a day each and every day, because, like  
21 the gentleman before me said, there is nothing down  
22 the line that's going to replace it.

23 Thank you very much.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. JACOBS: Good evening. My name is  
26 Mark Jacobs. I'm with the Indian Point Safe Energy

1 Coalition. I guess we're one of the supposedly well-  
2 funded groups that is being talked about. But if  
3 anyone wants to see our budget, I think that very  
4 quickly you would see that that just isn't actually  
5 the case.

6 I'm a volunteer. I've worked on this  
7 issue as a volunteer for almost 10 years. And that's  
8 what I'm getting paid for at volunteer pay. That's  
9 nothing.

10 I want to address a number of points. Mr.  
11 McDonald brought up the issue of the environmental  
12 impact of the plant and environmental justice issues.  
13 In order to defend that point, he cited plants solely  
14 within the burroughs of New York City. But what  
15 should be very clear, and I'm sure that if he does a  
16 little more research he'll find this for himself, that  
17 were Indian Point to be shut down it would not impact  
18 at all the running of the powerplants within New York  
19 City.

20 They are still going to be required to  
21 produce 80 percent of the power, and they are still  
22 going to be importing approximately 20 percent of the  
23 power, whether Indian Point is open or closed.

24 (Applause.)

25 Let's talk about the environmental issues.  
26 The environmental impact of Indian Point has to do

1 with the environment of Indian Point itself. What is  
2 the environment at the Indian Point nuclear  
3 powerplant? It's an environment where we have ongoing  
4 leaks, leaks that have been going on for over two  
5 years, that we don't know the source of, we don't know  
6 the extent of, we don't know when they started, we  
7 don't know more -- much more than we do know about  
8 those leaks.

9 We have a guard caught sleeping at the  
10 plant again. We have an incredible number of  
11 unplanned shutdowns. We have an owner-operator who is  
12 not ready for inspectors when they come to do an  
13 inspection at the plant. That's the environmental  
14 impact. The impact of having an environment of a  
15 plant run by Entergy in this way is a danger.

16 Now, we also need to look at the impact by  
17 the plant being regulated by a federal agency like the  
18 Nuclear Regulatory Commission. And Ms. Rainwater  
19 raised some really important issues about how the NRC  
20 has been doing on certain issues. I want to raise  
21 another one. I read an article recently about how the  
22 Nuclear Regulatory Commission was going to deal with  
23 the fact that the sirens still are not functioning,  
24 having missed three deadlines.

25 Well, it isn't actually three deadlines.  
26 It's probably closer to 240 deadlines, because every

1 day after the first deadline is when the sirens should  
2 have been ready. But the Nuclear Regulatory  
3 Commission has the ability to fine hundreds of  
4 thousands of dollars -- the owner-operator of the  
5 plant hundreds of thousands of dollars each day.

6 Now, what was -- the quote in the recent  
7 AP article about the approach of the NRC for the  
8 sirens, Mr. Sheehan was quoted as saying that "We're  
9 going to decide about what fines to impose after they  
10 get the sirens up and running." And I called him up  
11 right away. I actually called him up as soon as I  
12 read that and got him on the phone and said, "Neil,  
13 this has got to be a mistake, because your job is to  
14 impose fines in order to get Entergy to get the sirens  
15 working. If you wait until afterwards, what incentive  
16 do they have?" And they said, "No, no, we talked  
17 about it. We know we could fine -- impose fines every  
18 day, from now until the time that the sirens are  
19 working."

20 And we all know if that were done the  
21 sirens would be up and running right away. But no,  
22 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission yet again has  
23 decided not to do its job of regulating and,  
24 therefore, the siren may be up and running in some  
25 unspecified future.

26 The issues that I want to talk about with

1 -- directly with respect to the environment --  
2 environmental impact has to do with two or three  
3 things. First of all, the leaks -- the problem of the  
4 leaks have to be solved. It is absolutely  
5 irresponsible to consider relicensing this plant until  
6 the leaks -- the sources of the leaks are identified,  
7 they are stopped, and it's all cleaned up. That's  
8 absolutely clear.

9 In order to make sure that we don't have  
10 more leaks, you need to inspect all of the pipes at  
11 the plant. Now that's difficult. There are tens of  
12 thousands of feet of piping at that plant. But in  
13 order for the plant to be safely run, it would need to  
14 be fully inspected.

15 Now, we've heard a lot tonight about -- we  
16 heard Mr. McDonald say that Indian Point is emission-  
17 free. We've heard a number of people speaking in  
18 support of Indian Point talk about how the fossil fuel  
19 plants produce so much greater environmental impact.  
20 And in certain ways fossil fuel plants do produce more  
21 environmental impact. But what we didn't hear any of  
22 them -- these people talk about is the environmental  
23 impact of the radiation released from the plant.

24 And I'm just going to read an excerpt of  
25 a statement that Joe Mangano and myself put together,  
26 and I'm going to be submitting this part of the

1 statement in writing, and it's fairly brief.

2 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Yes. Please keep it  
3 brief. You've got about half a minute left.

4 MR. JACOBS: Yes. I'll go the same seven  
5 minutes that Mr. Moore went, but then I won't go  
6 beyond that. I think that's only fair.

7 Reactors routinely release radioactivity.  
8 Persons living near Indian Point would be exposed to  
9 more of these radioactive chemicals were Indian Point  
10 to be relicensed. Historically, Indian Point has a  
11 checkered record of contaminating the local  
12 environment.

13 Do people realize this? It released the  
14 fifth-most airborne radioactivity of 72 U.S. nuclear  
15 powerplants. Radioactivity levels in the Hudson River  
16 are over 10 times greater in this area than they are  
17 in Albany. Levels of strontium-90 in local baby teeth  
18 are the highest in any area near seven U.S. nuclear  
19 powerplants, and this amount of strontium-90, which is  
20 supposed to just have come from the bomb testing, has  
21 risen 38 percent -- 38 percent since the late 1980s  
22 after the bomb testing had long stopped.

23 This record of contamination raises health  
24 concerns, which are heightened when considering that  
25 since 2000, in the four counties closest to Indian  
26 Point, childhood cancer incidence is 22 percent above

1 the U.S. rate. Thyroid cancer incidence is 70 percent  
2 above the U.S. rate. And cancer incidence in the six  
3 towns within five miles of Indian Point is 20 percent  
4 greater than the rest of Rockland and Westchester  
5 Counties.

6 If closing Indian Point results in  
7 decreases in cancer mortality in a way parallel to the  
8 closure of the Rancho Seco plant in California, 5,000  
9 fewer cancer deaths would occur in the next 20 years  
10 in Westchester, Rockland, Orange, and Putnam Counties.  
11 While many factors contribute to cancer risk, evidence  
12 suggests that more detailed study on Indian Point is  
13 warranted, and that the public be informed of any  
14 health risks.

15 The prudent policy would be not to grant  
16 license extension until the public better understands  
17 the extent of the threat that Indian Point presents to  
18 local public health.

19 Thank you.

20 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you, Mark.

21 Thanks.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. BARKLEY: Mark Cooperman?

24 MR. COOPERMAN: My name is Mark Cooperman.

25 I'm a resident of Cortlandt Manor, have been a  
26 resident for nearly 20 years.

1 I'd like to consider myself just an  
2 average citizen of the community, and I want to kind  
3 of speak up for us average citizens who kind of get  
4 pushed out of the way by special interest groups.

5 I support the plant. My background is an  
6 architectural background. I understand about the  
7 viability of facilities, the need for proper  
8 inspection of facilities as they age, buildings  
9 throughout New York City. I hear things about aging  
10 pipes in the nuclear plant.

11 I would hope that the NRC does inspect the  
12 pipes and make sure that the facility is safe. My  
13 only concern is that to shut the plant down right now  
14 is going to be a big hardship on the region itself.  
15 There are no viable energy substitutions. I think  
16 back to my days coming out of college when they were  
17 building the Shoreham plant out in Long Island.

18 Long Island didn't build that plant, and  
19 now kind of they're suffering for power shortages, and  
20 don't want to let them lay cables across the Sound,  
21 nor do they want to be able to bring cables from New  
22 Jersey. So what are we going to do if we shut down  
23 the plant?

24 I have also seen, you know, people saying,  
25 "You shut down the plant, because the facilities are  
26 aging." Well, about a month ago in New York City

1 there was a steam pipe explosion. Are we to shut down  
2 the streets of New York to guard against future steam  
3 pipe explosions? There's a certain of risk we're all  
4 going to live with.

5 I know the special interest groups try to  
6 say that they're looking out for my interest, my  
7 family's interest, my son's interest, but I'll tell  
8 you right now, without this plant, there's going to be  
9 big hardship in the area, yes.

10 Evacuation route, issues to be raised with  
11 our other officials in Washington -- specifically, if  
12 it's not with NRC, then it will have to be with FEMA.  
13 But shutting down the plant is not going to be the  
14 answer. There is nothing at this point to replace it.

15 We -- you know, serving on local boards  
16 here in the community, we had a natural gas line that  
17 wanted to come through this pretty area -- very close  
18 to here. We had groups against it. Our homes run  
19 either on oil or gas or electric. There is no other  
20 substitution at this point. You have people that say,  
21 "Put hydrogen fuel cells" -- well, there's a problem  
22 with that at this point, and it may be a problem in  
23 the near future as well.

24 The only solution that we have in this  
25 community, in the region itself, is this plant. Close  
26 it down; you're going to be left with a gap. I've

1 heard people say, "Gee, other facilities will fill the  
2 gap." Come here on a hundred-degree day, and most of  
3 your businesses are draining power from our grid, and  
4 so where are you going to find that extra power?

5 So basically, in conclusion, again, as a  
6 citizen of this community, for the average citizen who  
7 probably won't get up and have a voice, at least in a  
8 forum like this, listen to us as the average citizen  
9 and not as a special interest party. You turn out  
10 that plant, you're going to wind up turning out the  
11 lights on a lot of us.

12 Good night.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. BARKLEY: All right. Our next three  
15 speakers, Maureen Ritter, Melvin Burruss of the Afro-  
16 American Men of Westchester, and then Audrey Roberts  
17 of Raging Grannies.

18 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I'm sorry. What was  
19 the first -- who was the first speaker?

20 MR. BARKLEY: I believe we're going to  
21 just -- I believe we're going to skip the first  
22 speaker.

23 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Okay. Who was the  
24 second speaker, then?

25 MR. BARKLEY: Melvin Burruss.

26 MR. BURRUSS: Again, I'm Melvin Burruss,

1 President of the African-American Men of Westchester.  
2 I want to thank you for giving us the opportunity to  
3 voice our views also.

4 What we believe in is we want to make sure  
5 that NRC does the best job possible when they are  
6 reviewing the Indian Point and nuclear energy and how  
7 it affects our community. And there's a couple of  
8 points I just want to make.

9 One is that, as the gentleman said  
10 earlier, that the demand for electricity has always  
11 grown, will continue to grow, even as efficiencies  
12 increases and new technologies are brought online.  
13 Right now, 50 percent of our electricity comes from  
14 coal, which results in billions of tons of greenhouse  
15 gas emissions annually.

16 Now, I'm looking at two issues here. One  
17 is the health issues, because, again, I'm a diabetic  
18 victim, I'm also a cancer victim, I'm also an asthma  
19 victim. So I have a lot here. I have a real concern  
20 myself.

21 But replacing Indian Point with coal or  
22 natural gas will significantly increase airborne  
23 pollutants and toxins that are truly harmful,  
24 especially for our children, especially for our older  
25 people, especially for folks like myself.

26 The second part is Homeland Security.

1 Nuclear power helps reduce our dependence on foreign  
2 sources of energy. Right now, gas controlled by  
3 Russia is \$6. By reducing our need to buy natural gas  
4 from abroad at expensive market rates, domestic  
5 nuclear power helps reduce our dependence on foreign  
6 energy sources and currency.

7           Jobs and employment -- you take away the  
8 jobs at Indian Point, we will be suffering here. You  
9 know, they pay one of the highest dollar per hour in  
10 the area. And I can look around the room here today  
11 and see how many people will be affected, how many  
12 children will be affected. You talk about educating  
13 your children and sending them to college, and making  
14 a better life for them.

15           Jobs -- you know, I would be -- and I wish  
16 the NRC would look at the diversity at Indian Point.  
17 Are African-Americans getting their fair share of jobs  
18 in Indian Point? So we should realize how fortunate  
19 we are to have Indian Point, because it serves our  
20 needs, not only our electrical needs but our  
21 employment needs, taxes. Can you imagine how much  
22 taxes would be in the area if we weren't being  
23 subsidized by Indian Point?

24           Indian Point and nuclear power -- nuclear  
25 power is one of the fastest-growing energy sources in  
26 the world. Why do you think Switzerland is all

1 nuclear power? Why do you think France is all nuclear  
2 power? Why do you think China, which is one of the  
3 most pollutant countries in the world, is now with a  
4 revolution to go towards nuclear? There's a reason.  
5 It saves lives. It saves the environment. It saves  
6 our future, our world. And, of course, we always --  
7 we know about global warming and what is happening  
8 with the greenhouse effect.

9           The Arctic Ocean now -- the Arctic is  
10 depleting. We're having more floods in the coastal  
11 area, because of global warming, and that's because of  
12 more pollutants from coal. We have this plant over  
13 here in Haverscrol that's just spitting out  
14 pollutants, and Texans to come back across the river  
15 to this area.

16           You know, I wish some of these groups  
17 would go over there and tell them to shut down their  
18 coal plant or at least get it into regulation or get  
19 into requirements to help us all out.

20           So thank you for having us here, and I  
21 hope the NRC does really take a look at all of those  
22 areas, the health issues, the Homeland Security  
23 issues, and come up and do a good job as far as  
24 relicensing Indian Point, because we want it to be  
25 safe.

26           (Applause.)

1 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Thank you.

2 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you for allowing us to  
3 come and speak with you tonight. We are the Raging  
4 Grannies and their friends of Westchester. We believe  
5 in the saying that we don't own the Earth; we are only  
6 borrowing it for our children.

7 We want to leave this area in good shape  
8 for them. Now, you can ask us what it's like to get  
9 old, and we can tell you. But there are some issues,  
10 a lot of them.

11 We have pollution, we have leaks, we have  
12 the chance of a terrorist attack, we have air quality,  
13 we have its site, we have the fact that so many people  
14 live so close, we have an evacuation plan that cannot  
15 work.

16 So as grannies, because we know about what  
17 happens when we get old, we believe that Indian Point  
18 is too old, has too many problems to keep going. We  
19 hope the NRC will be very careful with the world we  
20 will leave to our kids and to our grandkids. And now  
21 we'd like to sing a song that one of our grannies has  
22 written about Indian Point. Thank you for your  
23 tolerance.

24 PARTICIPANT: And we have copies for  
25 anyone who would like to learn the lyrics.

26 (Whereupon, a song was sung by the Raging

1                   Grannies. Sung to the tune of "My Bonnie  
2                   Lies Over the Ocean.")

3                   RAGING GRANNIES SINGING: Thank you, NRC,  
4                   for this meeting, we know what you don't want to hear.  
5                   Don't dare to extend this plant's license by even as  
6                   much as one year. Yes, Entergy promises safety, but  
7                   sometimes their sirens don't blow. And strontium  
8                   leaks are polluting, so Indian Point has to go.

9                   No nukes, no nukes, Indian Point has to go  
10                  right now. No nukes, no nukes, yes, Indian Point has  
11                  to go.

12                  This plant is unsafe for employees, but we  
13                  don't want anyone fired. Retrain them for alternate  
14                  energy, and make sure that they get rehired. This  
15                  plant is a terrorist target, why not use much less  
16                  toxic fuels. Convert to a natural gas plant; secure  
17                  those nuclear waste pools.

18                  No nukes, no nukes, Indian Point has to go  
19                  right now. No nukes, no nukes, yes, Indian Point has  
20                  to go.

21                  Once Indian Point was reviewed by an  
22                  expert whose name was James Witt. He proved that  
23                  evacuation by Entergy's plan was worth... nada.

24                  (Laughter.)

25                  Thanks, NRC, for your attention, we're  
26                  glad that you all stayed awake. We care about our

1 environment; please care for others' sake.

2 (Applause.)

3 Shut it down, shut it down, Indian Point  
4 is unsafe, we know. Shut it down, shut it down,  
5 Indian Point has to go.

6 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Very nice. Thank  
9 you, ladies. I think this is the first time that  
10 we're going to have lyrics read into a meeting for the  
11 transcript.

12 (Laughter.)

13 MR. BARKLEY: All right. Maureen Ritter,  
14 you get the pleasure of going after that act.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MS. RITTER: My name is Maureen Ritter.  
17 I'm a resident of Rockland County, a mother of two  
18 children, and a founding member of Friends United for  
19 Sustainable Energy. And that was a tough act to  
20 follow.

21 I come here tonight as a former member of  
22 the Electrical Workers Union in Rockland County and a  
23 current member of the Teachers Union. And my reason  
24 for being here tonight, there are many things that are  
25 being sited among -- which are several things that  
26 fall out of the scope of the environmental siting.

1           I have two children who I feel, along with  
2           the other children of the Hudson Valley, are very  
3           vulnerable to the fallout that occurs from Indian  
4           Point. I know that there is radiation released as a  
5           normal functioning of the plant, and that these  
6           releases used to be posted, which is now difficult  
7           information to get.

8           But the NRC seems to, in my very unlegal  
9           mind and very simple mind, seems to change the rules  
10          to fit the relicensing of this plant and others. Very  
11          frankly, this plant is my prime concern as opposed to  
12          others across the nation, but I do feel it's time to  
13          look beyond nuclear. I do feel that many of the  
14          representatives of neighborhoods of color tonight, and  
15          different organizations, have been sold in addition a  
16          false set of goods.

17          I know that Entergy does pour a lot of  
18          money into the communities, and I would like you to  
19          examine your feelings on how you will feel when  
20          Entergy wants to come in and set up maybe a nuclear  
21          storage site in your community and see how you feel  
22          about having that. I think what we're experiencing is  
23          kind of reverse racism here. So I don't think that  
24          you should buy this -- the bill of goods you're being  
25          sold.

26          Just some other things that I think that

1 need to be looked at are the seismic issues, the fault  
2 that runs under the plant, and which has been I think  
3 entered into the record today, the security of the  
4 spent fuel pools, the -- I do believe there has to be  
5 eventual cancer studies that are done in the areas,  
6 put that to rest, and, no, environmental groups do not  
7 have the endless money that the industry and the  
8 government has.

9 We need to depend on our government and  
10 the NRC to conduct these studies. More sampling has  
11 to take place of the bones of the wildlife surrounding  
12 the plant. There are many issues to talk on that will  
13 be entered into the record, but as a mother I -- just  
14 coming here tonight, just like the gentleman who spoke  
15 from Cortlandt Manor, that I don't want Indian Point  
16 in my backyard.

17 I feel that you need to open up your -- I  
18 think you need to open up other considerations when  
19 reconsidering the relicensing. It's not something I  
20 want until I'm 90.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. BARKLEY: Our next three speakers --  
24 Tom Johnson, the President of the Cortland Engine  
25 Company, Ms. Kahn, and then, finally, Victor Tufur of  
26 Riverkeeper. Tom, are you here? Okay, great.

1                   MR. JOHNSON: Good evening. I want to  
2 talk to you and share with you briefly why I came here  
3 tonight. I'd like to thank the NRC for giving this  
4 opportunity to talk about environmental impacts as  
5 well as just the plant in general and what it means to  
6 us in greater society here in the Hudson Valley.

7                   I originally come from Long Island, and a  
8 few people have -- one of my neighbors was talking  
9 about the Shoreham plant. I lived in Culmac, which  
10 was pretty far from it, but all of Long Island was  
11 averse -- very adversely impacted by the mistakes and  
12 the mishandling, weighing in by the fearmongers, of  
13 what could happen in the worst-case scenarios.

14                  And when I went to college in 1987, Long  
15 Island was a vibrant place with rising home prices, a  
16 beautiful place to raise a family. And what happened  
17 in that four years, when I came home it was just a  
18 different world. The State of New York and the  
19 Governor at the time decided the best way to deal with  
20 this would be to close the plant -- it was open for a  
21 day -- and would raise everybody's rates seven percent  
22 a year for 10 years. Now, any mathematician will tell  
23 you that's about doubling your rates.

24                  As soon as that deal was inked, the  
25 largest employer on Long Island, which was in Nassau  
26 County -- Grumman, Grumman made fighter planes and a

1 lot of our fleet in the military -- they looked at the  
2 State and the Governor and said, "Sorry, we're out of  
3 here."

4 So that didn't do too well for the  
5 environment. And when I came home looking for a job  
6 from college, all my father's friends were out of  
7 work. And Long Island -- unemployment was high  
8 nationally and real estate values were dropping  
9 nationally. It was twice as bad on Long Island.  
10 There was just no opportunity. You had to hit the  
11 road. People were putting illegal basements --  
12 illegal apartments in their basements to pay their  
13 taxes. I mean, it was just not the thing to do.

14 I moved up here and a lot of my friends  
15 would come up and visit me, and I would say, "Yes, you  
16 know" -- they'd say, "What are your property taxes?"  
17 and I'd say, "Well, they're this." They'd say, "Oh,  
18 my God, we pay twice that." And I said, "Well, I have  
19 a nuclear powerplant about two miles from my house,  
20 and I'm not going to close it."

21 You see, it's more than just money. It's  
22 more than just affordability. It's safety. I am a  
23 volunteer firefighter with the Cortland Engine  
24 Company. I moved up here, and I noticed a lot of  
25 people in this community who are good, hardworking,  
26 blue collar people, much like the area I grew up in.

1 And they can afford to live here, and, you know, in  
2 Westchester County affordable housing is -- it's kind  
3 of like jumbo shrimp. It doesn't -- you know, it's  
4 one of those words that really doesn't mean anything.  
5 But in our area, because of reasonable property taxes,  
6 working class families can afford to live here and  
7 raise a family and thrive here.

8           You know, Entergy has been very good to a  
9 lot of people in the First Responders. Not just did  
10 they help buy us equipment, equipment that was used at  
11 -- that helped on 9/11, like a cascade system, but  
12 they -- we train there on hazardous material training.  
13 And when you realize that the hazard of what's going  
14 on underneath that dome pales in comparison to most of  
15 the environmental hazards that are out there, like  
16 chlorine and mercury and all of these other things  
17 that don't have a half-life, they live forever and  
18 ever and ever and never go away.

19           The safeties that are at Indian Point are  
20 not just looked over by the government. They're not  
21 just looked over by the community. But the people who  
22 work there live in this community.

23           One of the operators, one of the licensed  
24 operators of that plant, is the Chief of the Verplank  
25 Fire Department. They are first do if there's ever an  
26 incident on that scene. They have a fire brigade

1 there. We all train together. They talk about  
2 inadequate emergency response. Well, I could tell  
3 you, we've trained there plenty of times. It's not  
4 inadequate.

5 We've gone over a lot of different  
6 details. We've gone through tabletops. We've looked  
7 at a lot of different scenarios to protect the public.  
8 The reality is the reaction that goes underneath that  
9 dome -- and the good doctor was talking about it  
10 earlier.

11 A lot of people didn't want to accept what  
12 he had to say, but I can tell you this. I'm not a  
13 scientist, but when I went to college I went for a  
14 biochemistry degree. And a lot of things that are  
15 done in that plant on a scale of one to -- you can't  
16 compare a nuclear bomb to a nuclear plant. There's  
17 just no basis of comparison. It's like comparing an  
18 apple to a pineapple. Yes, they're both fruit, but  
19 you wouldn't want to pick them both up and take a bite  
20 out of them.

21 What goes on in that plant is so low  
22 level, and the people that are around it, it's so low  
23 level that if they go get an X-ray, they can't go to  
24 work for two days because they'll set off all the  
25 sensors. Now, what does that tell you? That there is  
26 more radiation in a tobacco plant than there is in any

1 of the equipment that's at Indian Point, and people  
2 smoke all the time.

3 What goes on there is not a public safety  
4 hazard. It's a steam generator. Steam is generated  
5 at 212 degrees Fahrenheit, not 20,000 degrees. The  
6 reaction that is there is safe. Yes, there are some  
7 environmental concerns, but you have to weigh out the  
8 whole preponderance of the evidence and not focus on  
9 this one leak or that one situation. You have to look  
10 at the whole picture.

11 And when you look at the whole picture,  
12 Indian Point is -- you know, people have worked there  
13 their entire adult lives. They haven't gotten sick,  
14 and they haven't died from working there. That speaks  
15 a lot more volumes than what could be. Thirty-five  
16 years is a pretty long test period for a health  
17 situation. And if people can work there, union men,  
18 carpenters, steamfitters, everybody, and they can  
19 spend their entire life there, their entire working  
20 career, and not get sick, then what are we talking  
21 about?

22 You know, in the First Responders Corps  
23 when we -- we gauge --

24 MR. BARKLEY: I'm going to have to ask you  
25 to wrap up here.

26 MR. JOHNSON: I'm wrapping up in two -- in

1 less than a minute, in less than 30 seconds. We  
2 gauge --

3 MR. BARKLEY: Less than 30 seconds.

4 MR. JOHNSON: We gauge health and safety  
5 by sickness and death. Sickness and death at all the  
6 nuclear powerplants combined is zero, and that's the  
7 real number.

8 Thank you very much, and thank you for  
9 listening.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Ms. Kahn?

12 MS. KAHN: Good evening. My name is Karen  
13 Kahn. I've been a resident of Westchester my entire  
14 life, and have lived in this area since 1973. My  
15 concerns are, like everybody else's, to live in a  
16 healthy environment.

17 The nuclear plant is a hot topic. It has  
18 spewn or leaked contaminated material into bedrock,  
19 which cannot be cleaned up, therefore leaving it a  
20 site that's contaminated and half-lives, as we know,  
21 forever.

22 Locally, it is also a concern for the  
23 economic situation in the community. If the plant  
24 were to move, it would definitely cause a lot of  
25 financial hardship. I don't think anybody could  
26 afford to live in this area.

1           That being said, we need to make a  
2 reasonable alternative to place -- find a plant that  
3 is in a less populated area, and make it economically  
4 worthwhile to -- since this is a business proposition,  
5 to place a plant in a less populated area, make it  
6 economically advantageous for a company to invest in  
7 transmission wires from a more isolated area, to  
8 provide us with the electricity we need.

9           We need to keep ourselves safe. Nobody  
10 here wants to have to move. We couldn't move in an  
11 emergency. Let's find some economic way to put this  
12 plant in a less populated area.

13           Thank you.

14           (Applause.)

15           MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Victor?

16           FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I'm sorry. What was  
17 the name, Rich?

18           MR. BARKLEY: Richard Tufur from  
19 Riverkeeper. I don't think I saw Victor earlier.  
20 Okay. Let me call another person.

21           FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Do we -- yes, let's  
22 go ahead, and then Victor can go after -- who do we  
23 have up next?

24           MR. BARKLEY: Actually, a gentleman we  
25 called earlier who wasn't available, Frank Fraley,  
26 Mount Vernon Hospital Center.

1 MR. FRALEY: Good evening. My name is  
2 Frank Fraley. I'm from Mount Vernon Hospital. I'm  
3 the Vice President for Advancement. The hospital is  
4 located in Mount Vernon, New York. Our core patient  
5 population comes from the Mount Vernon area and the  
6 surrounding communities, Yonkers, Bronx, New Rochelle.

7 Our hospital has many challenges, and we  
8 are honored to be associated with Entergy. We  
9 approached them many months ago and explained the need  
10 for a new emergency department there at the hospital  
11 in lower Westchester, and they were gracious and  
12 stepped to the plate and helped us a great deal.

13 Our emergency department serves over  
14 20,000 visits a year. It is the primary care for many  
15 in that population, and the assistance of Entergy will  
16 help us a great deal.

17 There's another reason why I'm here  
18 tonight. The city of Mount Vernon is not unlike many  
19 major cities, major mid-sized cities. It's the eighth  
20 largest city in the State of New York. It has a great  
21 deal of affluence, and scattered among it are deep  
22 economic challenges.

23 Living in a modern city like that comes  
24 with the opportunity -- many opportunities and many  
25 conveniences. It also comes with significant health  
26 care challenges. The city has multiple highways

1 running through it, alongside it. There's the Bronx  
2 River Parkway, Hutchison River Parkway, Interstate 95,  
3 Cross County Parkway, to name a few. And the city is  
4 home to a very large industrial and manufacturing  
5 population.

6 The region of this country has already  
7 been recognized by the EPA as having some of the worst  
8 air quality in the nation. It is, in fact -- it is a  
9 fact that many suffer from it -- poor air quality, and  
10 working -- our working relationship with the  
11 institution, we treat many individuals in emergency  
12 situations as a result of that poor air quality.

13 I can attest to the fact that asthma and  
14 other respiratory illnesses are very real and a very  
15 real result of fossil fuel sources. Without Indian  
16 Point, many other fossil fuel sources in the region  
17 would increase, as would the problems that I've  
18 outlined in these areas.

19 I'm proud to be a representative of Mount  
20 Vernon Hospital, and I'm proud to partner with this  
21 fine corporation. Partnering with Entergy is the --  
22 is in the best interest of the residents of Mount  
23 Vernon, and in the best interest of the patients that  
24 we serve.

25 Thank you very much.

26 (Applause.)

1 MR. BARKLEY: Thank you, sir.

2 One housekeeping item to go over.

3 Unfortunately, someone with New York license plate NY  
4 22 is double-parked and is blocking some cars. So if  
5 you have a vehicle with NY 22 for your license plate,  
6 please move your car. Thanks very much.

7 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I'd like to point  
8 out that it's about 9:00, so we've got about an hour  
9 left. I think that we may be able to get through the  
10 number of yellow cards that we have left, so I'm going  
11 to ask people, again, try to keep to the five minutes  
12 or under rule, and that will allow everyone hopefully  
13 to get up and speak that we have left.

14 Rich, can you give us the next couple of  
15 people?

16 MR. BARKLEY: Yes. And we actually have  
17 10 cards for 60 minutes.

18 Next two people, Margo Schepart of the  
19 Westchester Citizens Awareness Network, and then  
20 Marcia Gordon of the Business Council of Westchester.

21 MS. SCHEPART: Regarding relicensing, if  
22 it is the NRC's role as regulators to protect public  
23 safety, it really defies reason for them to hide  
24 behind this toilet paper roll of regulations in order  
25 to avoid considering the multitude of features  
26 surrounding Indian Point that make it totally



1 work out the kinks of the alternate forms of power and  
2 put the resources there and get some really good  
3 results. The resources have not gone there. The  
4 resources have gone into nuclear.

5 More nuclear reactors cannot halt climate  
6 change. We would need 300 reactors in the United  
7 States to make any impact, and reactors take a long  
8 time to build -- seven to 10 years. Fossil fueled  
9 vehicles, not electricity, are the biggest problem for  
10 global warming.

11 Taking away the nuclear -- adding more  
12 nuclear power is not going to reduce the fossil fuel  
13 vehicle pollution that's adding to the asthma and  
14 other things that are creating health problems in  
15 communities. Nobody here wants filthy coal plants.  
16 Nobody. That's silly to even talk about filthy coal  
17 plants that nobody wants.

18 I've been coming to these meetings for a  
19 really long time, and this is really my point I want  
20 to make for the record. I've been coming to these  
21 meetings for a really long time, but tonight I think,  
22 with the statements of some of the speakers, I  
23 witnessed a unique event in the history of nuclear  
24 technology. I really think that as a result of some  
25 of the statements of tonight's speakers that a new  
26 radioactive isotope, in amounts clearly above

1 regulatory concern, has been released into the  
2 environment. Bullshittium.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. BARKLEY: All right. Again, Marcia  
6 Gordon was called. Somebody was going to act and read  
7 her statement in her absence. Sir, if you could give  
8 us your name, please.

9 MR. LAWRENCE: Not a problem. Good  
10 afternoon. I'm sorry, good evening, been here for a  
11 while. I'm Laurent Lawrence. I'm Executive Director  
12 of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Lines.  
13 I'm reading on behalf of our member, the Westchester  
14 Business Council, and I'll just go ahead and read  
15 this.

16 The Westchester Business -- the Business  
17 Council of Westchester is the county's largest  
18 business organization, representing nearly 1,400  
19 members ranging in size from multi-national  
20 corporations and mid-sized business to professional  
21 firms, not-for-profit organizations, and small  
22 business owners in every sector of the county's  
23 diverse economy.

24 The Business Council of Westchester  
25 advocates for Westchester's business community at a  
26 local, state, and federal level, and works to enhance

1 economic opportunity in Westchester by addressing a  
2 broad range of public affairs and area development,  
3 economic, and business development issues that affect  
4 the growth and -- the growth of business in the  
5 community.

6 With 34,000 businesses in Westchester  
7 County, employing over 400,000 -- I'm sorry, 408,700  
8 workers with a total annual payroll of more than  
9 \$19 billion, we feel the permanent closure of the  
10 Indian Point Energy Center will cause irreparable  
11 damage to the regional economy due to the large amount  
12 of electricity, jobs, and tax -- that the site  
13 provides.

14 From Indian Point's generation of 2,000  
15 megawatts of much-needed electricity to its  
16 distribution of 356 million in payroll and local  
17 purchases to the over 50,000 -- \$50 million paid in  
18 local taxes, including sales tax, payroll tax,  
19 property tax, and state and local income tax, the site  
20 is a major economic engine that drives business to  
21 Westchester County and keeps business from running to  
22 other counties across the country.

23 We have been the economic -- we have been  
24 the economic devastation -- we have seen -- I'm sorry.  
25 We have seen the economic devastation caused by the  
26 dramatic disruption of electricity supply both in

1 recent memory -- the blackout of 2003 -- as well as  
2 the continued hardship faced by thousands of Long  
3 Island residents who pay some of the highest utility  
4 bills in the United States because of the infamous  
5 Shoreham nuclear plant debacle.

6 Shoreham was a clear example of the needs  
7 of the few outweighing the ongoing needs of the many,  
8 and the Council does not wish to see Indian Point, to  
9 the residents running the facility, suffer the same  
10 fate.

11 In addition, as owner and operator of  
12 Indian Point, the Entergy corporation remains a  
13 critical major employer and corporate philanthropist,  
14 donating millions of dollars to a myriad of worthy  
15 causes -- hospitals, educational institutions,  
16 regional associations, and municipalities.

17 Without their continuing service to the  
18 community, the vital investments in nonprofit programs  
19 and projects, we will see a dramatic decrease in the  
20 number of non-governmental groups and associations  
21 serving a wide variety of constituents -- hungry,  
22 homeless, elderly, children in need, sick, infirmed,  
23 etcetera.

24 For the aforementioned reasons, the  
25 Business Council of Westchester hereby supports the  
26 petition for the relicensing of the Indian Point

1 Energy Center. We look forward to the hearing from --  
2 we look forward to hearing from you regarding this  
3 matter.

4 Sincerely, Marcia Gordon, President, The  
5 Business Council of Westchester.

6 Thank you very much.

7 (Applause.)

8 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Sir, did we get a  
9 copy of that, so we could include it? Okay. Thank  
10 you.

11 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Our next three  
12 speakers -- Tom Klein of the Boilermakers  
13 Local Number 5 --

14 (Applause.)

15 Very good. Secondly, I understood a  
16 statement was going to be read on behalf of Katie  
17 Dunlap of Clearwater, and then, finally, Doris  
18 Mandolero of the Rockland County Conservation  
19 Association.

20 So, Tom, do you want to come up?

21 MR. KLEIN: Good evening. My name is Tom  
22 Klein. I represent Boilermakers Local 5. We cover a  
23 jurisdiction from Kingston, New York, to New York City  
24 and Long Island. We work in the powerplants. What we  
25 do is we built from new construction, we do  
26 maintenance work, and we do emergency repair work.

1           I really don't have too much prepared for  
2 tonight for this speech, but what I'd like to mention  
3 is that Indian Point is the safest and cleanest plant  
4 we work in, that all of the other powerhouses that  
5 we've been in are much more pollutant type and that --  
6 no, I haven't heard anyone mention tonight about the  
7 plant that's right next door, Charles Point -- it's a  
8 garbage burner. And I don't see where that's, as a  
9 pollutant -- I'm sorry, I think there's more pollution  
10 from that plant than comes from Indian Point.

11           I know the restrictions are different, but  
12 I think that the scrutiny should be both the same on  
13 them both.

14           Thank you.

15           (Applause.)

16           MR. BARKLEY: Okay. I believe you --

17           MS. MADRONERO: (Inaudible comment from an  
18 unmiked location.)

19           MR. BARKLEY: All right. We'll pass on  
20 that, then. Doris Mandolero.

21           MS. MADRONERO: Close.

22           MR. BARKLEY: Mandolero?

23           MS. MADRONERO: Dorice.

24           MR. BARKLEY: Dorice.

25           MS. MADRONERO: Madronero.

26           MR. BARKLEY: All right.

1 MS. MADRONERO: Good evening, and thank  
2 you for the opportunity to speak. I'm with the  
3 Rockland County Conservation Association, one of those  
4 very ill-funded organizations. We're all volunteers,  
5 founded in 1930.

6 Before I read the comment, I just have an  
7 observation. In a de-regulated electricity market,  
8 I'm wondering, with all these subsidies that we're  
9 hearing about going to the community, we understand  
10 that the government has great subsidies going to the  
11 nuclear industry, and I wonder how that is affected  
12 and what the considerations are in a free trade open  
13 commerce market, what the implications are, where  
14 these great subsidies are going, and why the nuclear  
15 industry seems to be getting a leg up.

16 Further, the money that we hear being  
17 passed through offered to the communities to willing  
18 takers, I wonder, is this money that is just being  
19 passed through from government subsidies than then  
20 Entergy can come out looking like the great community  
21 hero, actually using federal funding. That's  
22 something I would hope that someone is going to pursue  
23 the financial implications of a free trade,  
24 deregulated electricity market where there is fair and  
25 balanced commerce.

26 The Rockland County Conservation

1 Association has opposed Indian Point facilities since  
2 Indian 1 was first proposed. Throughout the years of  
3 reviews and assurances of compliance and safety, our  
4 confidence in the safety of this facility has been  
5 greatly challenged by radioactive leaks, personnel  
6 literally sleeping at the switch, and failed promises  
7 to meet deadlines of a fully functioning siren system.

8 Now, we were called upon again to believe  
9 that all is safe and well with a facility that is  
10 leaking strontium-90 and tritium and has unplanned  
11 shutdowns -- otherwise, I guess accidents.

12 As recent as September 11, 2007, The  
13 Journal News reported "Feds suspend inspection at  
14 Indian Point." The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has  
15 suspended an inspection at Indian Point 3 after  
16 federal experts found plant officials unprepared to  
17 answer questions about a series of unplanned shutdowns  
18 that led the agency to lower the reactor's safety  
19 rating in April.

20 "They just didn't have the documentation  
21 we needed," said NRC regional spokesman Neil Sheehan,  
22 noting that "such suspensions are rare, but also the  
23 types of questions we were asking they did not have  
24 the answers for at this point." Again, public  
25 confidence for the safety of this facility is  
26 marginalized.

1           Further, the article reports Kathy  
2 McMullin, an Indian Point spokeswoman, said the matter  
3 was "really much ado about nothing" and wouldn't have  
4 reached the level of public notification without the  
5 current regulatory climate surrounding the plant. So  
6 she is getting a little Shakespearean on us.

7           In this particular environment, the NRC --  
8 or the abundance of caution side, as we have done on  
9 issues that on their face may not seem all that  
10 significant, she said, "It's not necessarily routine  
11 that an inspection would be postponed, but it's not  
12 that unusual either."

13           So we are to understand that the NRC has  
14 made an error in judgment, and that the postponement  
15 of an inspection because the operator of a nuclear  
16 facility was unprepared to answer questions about the  
17 operation of its own facility would not have been  
18 revealed if it were not for the regulatory climate  
19 surrounding the plant.

20           Does this infer "out of sight out of mind"  
21 is an acceptable position for a nuclear facility  
22 operator? The residents in the Hudson Valley have  
23 just been advised of the FAA's decision to increase  
24 air traffic in the region. Rockland County residents  
25 were not advised until just a few weeks before the  
26 closing period.

1           Were the FAA -- okay. Where there were  
2           few to no aircraft flying over Rockland County, we can  
3           now expect up to 600 flights per day, increasing the  
4           noise level. On average, every two to three minutes,  
5           the noise of aircraft flying overhead will be heard.  
6           Entergy's environmental review reports no foreseeable  
7           related federal projects were identified.

8           As the FAA redesigned project is a federal  
9           project, we ask that the effect of the background  
10          noise of increased air traffic might have -- what it  
11          might have on the efficacy of the emergency alert  
12          system. Specifically, was the system designed to be  
13          heard over the increased noise coming from the  
14          increased noise levels of the projected air traffic in  
15          Rockland County? That is a federal project that's  
16          approved.

17          And then, the other one is we have a  
18          desalination plant that has been proposed by United  
19          Water New York that will be placed either in Stony  
20          Point or Haverscroll, exact location yet to be  
21          determined. And we ask that, although it doesn't  
22          exist now, that it be considered in the review process  
23          because that is intended to be drinking water for over  
24          260,000 people.

25          Additionally, if at this point you suggest  
26          it's not appropriate, if it's not built, when it is

1 built, if it is built, we would ask that there be some  
2 caveat in the system that would require an assessment  
3 of the impacts of this fugitive leakage of strontium-  
4 90 and tritium and other radionuclides that are in the  
5 Hudson River, and what the impacts would be, because  
6 the ratepayers of United Water certainly should not be  
7 paying for the reclamation of radionuclides coming  
8 from -- potentially coming from Indian Point 2 or 3.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. BARKLEY: Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I just wanted to  
13 make one comment. I had a gentleman pull me aside and  
14 he had already spoken, and he asked if it was okay  
15 that he would write something down to be included into  
16 the transcript, and that's definitely allowed. You  
17 can definitely do that.

18 So if you're sitting in the audience and  
19 you don't want to speak, or you've already spoken, or  
20 you just come up with an idea and you want to jot it  
21 down, we will include that as part of the transcript,  
22 just like we're doing with any of the statements that  
23 people are reading that they are submitting as written  
24 comments as well.

25 So I just wanted to get that out there.

26 Rich, who is next?

1 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Al Samuels of  
2 Rockland Business Alliance is first, followed by Bob  
3 Seeger, the No Rights in Machinery Erectors Local  
4 1740, and then, finally, Patrick Canino of NYPIRG.

5 Mr. Samuels?

6 PARTICIPANT: Thanks, Rich. I am not Mr.  
7 Samuels.

8 MR. BARKLEY: All right. You are speaking  
9 on behalf of him.

10 PARTICIPANT: Al is up in Albany this  
11 evening for a New York State Business Council event,  
12 but he asked me to read his statement into the record.

13 The Rockland Business Association is the  
14 county's largest business organization, representing  
15 991 corporate, mid-sized, and small businesses. We  
16 are the advocates for Rockland's business community at  
17 the local, state, and federal levels, and work to  
18 enhance economic opportunities in Rockland by  
19 addressing a broad range of public affairs and area  
20 development, economic and business development issues  
21 that affect the growth of business in the county.

22 Recently, the Business Council of New York  
23 State, of which the RBA is a member, surveyed almost  
24 1,100 council members to identify top priorities for  
25 action in 2007. These members ranked the cost of  
26 doing business as their greatest concern in New York,

1 with a special focus on energy costs. Electric rates  
2 in New York run 70 percent above the national average,  
3 and there is a clear need for more generating capacity  
4 to keep cost down, as well as a great demand to direct  
5 low cost power to employers and growth industries  
6 throughout the state.

7           Given this business climate of an ever-  
8 increasing demand for affordable, reliable, and  
9 environmentally sound power generation, the RBA  
10 believes the closure of Indian Point Energy Center  
11 would create a dramatically adverse effect on the  
12 state's energy grid and impose undue hardship upon  
13 thousands of businesses and millions of residents  
14 throughout the state.

15           Indian Point generates 2,000 megawatts of  
16 critical electricity, over \$356 million in payroll and  
17 local purchases, in addition to over \$50 million paid  
18 in local taxes. Overall, Indian Point produces over  
19 \$700 million in economic activity through the five  
20 counties surrounding the site, as well as over a  
21 billion dollars in economic activity in New York  
22 State.

23           For these reasons, we believe the facility  
24 should be relicensed. Having stated the above, we  
25 feel we would be remiss to not acknowledge that there  
26 are those in our community who oppose this action.

1 While we sympathize with their concerns, we note that  
2 Entergy has an ongoing program to address safety -- to  
3 address issues of safety and potential terrorist  
4 threat. We encourage the company to maintain those  
5 efforts in the most aggressive manner.

6 Sincerely, Al Samuels, President, Rockland  
7 Business Association.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. SCHEPART: And we have -- and for him  
10 to speak on our behalf, there was never a vote for the  
11 Rockland Business Association. That's his personal  
12 statement. Let the record show that.

13 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Okay. Let the  
14 record show that that was his own personal statement.

15 Rich, who do we have next?

16 MR. BARKLEY: Bob Seeger. There we go.

17 MR. SEEGER: Good evening. My name is Bob  
18 Seeger. I'm the Business Manager from  
19 Millwright Local 740. We are the group of people that  
20 does the steam turbines and generators that create the  
21 lights that are now blinding me.

22 The first thing I'd like to say is that  
23 I'm not a shell for anyone. I get no money from  
24 Entergy. It costs me money to belong to New York  
25 Area. I happen to believe in nuclear power, and I  
26 also believe in what New York Area does, and they are

1 not just limited to Indian Point.

2           They are a diverse group of people that  
3 are interested in an energy plan for New York State,  
4 one that differs quite a bit with the Governor's. I  
5 don't have a prepared statement. I don't know how  
6 people find the time to have one. But I did make some  
7 notes listening to people.

8           I would like to thank the NRC for the  
9 opportunity to come up here and speak. With regard to  
10 Indian Point closing -- and I'll get this out of the  
11 way real quick -- yes, my members get jobs from Indian  
12 Point. They get paid very good salaries for working  
13 at Indian Point for approximately 43 days out of every  
14 year. Then, they go on to another powerhouse that  
15 we've probably built and do the maintenance on.

16           If Indian Point was closed, I would  
17 probably get more work out of it, because they'd have  
18 to build powerhouses to replace the 2,000 megawatts of  
19 power that come from there.

20           I have worked in Indian Point myself for  
21 the first 28 years. I worked -- the first time I  
22 worked at Indian Point was as an apprentice in 1972.  
23 Because of my size and the fact that I used to be 40  
24 pounds smaller, I could get into areas in those  
25 machines that other people couldn't get into, which  
26 meant I was right in the middle of the steam path.

1 I get a physical every year. So far, they  
2 tell me that I am perfect physical condition, other  
3 than the ice cream that I eat.

4 I think there's a great many  
5 misconceptions about Indian Point and about nuclear  
6 power. And I sit here and I sit in the back of the  
7 room, and I watch people that look like they're ready  
8 to leap at somebody that should speak positively about  
9 nuclear power. It's a very emotional issue, and I  
10 don't that emotions are going to get the job done.  
11 And I'm sure that the NRC is going to see, on an  
12 unemotional level, that Indian Point is necessary.

13 With regards to the environment, I don't  
14 think that it's just the air and the water that you  
15 have to be concerned with. If you take a look at part  
16 of the environment -- I think it's if you walk down  
17 the street, and take a look at the businesses that are  
18 supported by Indian Point, there is a delicatessen on  
19 the corner of Bleakley Avenue and 9A that has been  
20 there since the first time I came up here in 1972.

21 I'm willing to bet that if you close  
22 Indian Point you will close that delicatessen and  
23 several of the other businesses that are around the  
24 area -- machine shops, bars, restaurants, diners, that  
25 get the majority of their funding from the businesses  
26 that work with Entergy.

1 I've heard some pretty, I think, careless  
2 statements about what go on -- goes on in Indian Point  
3 as far as it being safe. I've stated here once before  
4 that the members of my local are like family to me,  
5 and I wouldn't put my family in an unsafe environment  
6 to work. To say that that place is an unsafe place to  
7 work is to tell several hundred people that work there  
8 on a daily basis that they are suicidal.

9 There are many families that have been  
10 born and raised throughout that plant. I've seen many  
11 women in that plant that were pregnant, carried their  
12 kids to term, and have very healthy children, that  
13 have gone to college, all from that one plant.

14 With regards to the coal-fired plants that  
15 are on the other side of the river that we also work  
16 in, there is a plant for those plants over there. And  
17 the plan is to close them down by the end of this  
18 year. And if you think that's a positive thing, try  
19 and think of where you're going to get the lights,  
20 where are you going to get the electric, because the  
21 same thing will happen over here. And as hot as this  
22 room was when we first started this meeting, I'm sure  
23 everybody appreciates the fact that there's electric.

24 I came up here because I'm part of the  
25 building trades of Westchester County and New York  
26 City. I'm also a resident of Dutchess County that

1 lives 19 miles from here. I would just like to see  
2 the conversation and the dialogue take a little bit of  
3 a different turn where people talk level-headed,  
4 unemotional, and about the facts.

5 Thank you for the time.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Thank you, Bob.

8 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: By my watch, we're  
9 coming up on 9:30. I'd like to thank everyone who has  
10 stuck it out to this point. We're going to try to get  
11 through -- how many more speakers, Rich?

12 MR. BARKLEY: Five.

13 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Fire more speakers.  
14 So hopefully we can get through those within, you  
15 know, five minutes apiece or less, and get out of here  
16 on time, if not maybe even a little early.

17 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. Patrick Canino,  
18 NYPIRG?

19 MR. CANINO: Good evening. My name is  
20 Patrick Canino. I'm a member of NYPIRG, and a student  
21 at SUNY New Palz. I'm within 30 miles of Indian  
22 Point.

23 In the NRC's review of Indian Point, they  
24 must include the safety and security issues facing us  
25 today. They must use data from 2007, not the data or  
26 analysis taken from 30 years ago. The population,

1 density, and political climate of 30 years ago has  
2 changed dramatically, and the Review Board must  
3 address these changes before considering the relicense  
4 of this plant with such an abysmal safety record.

5 I hope the Review Board takes all of these  
6 things into consideration and makes the proper choice.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Thank you.

10 Rich, do you want to give us the next  
11 speaker?

12 MR. BARKLEY: Yes. The next two, Barbara  
13 Homyk with Entergy and Phillip Banks with One Hundred  
14 Black Men. Barbara?

15 MS. HOMYK: I'd like to thank the NRC for  
16 letting me speak. My name is Barbara Homyk. I'm a  
17 Chemistry Specialist at Indian Point.

18 And in response to what I've heard here  
19 tonight, I just had a couple of comments. First of  
20 all, it seems as though -- the way people talk, it  
21 sounds as though we spend lots of time with the NRC  
22 and that we're buddies. Well, that isn't exactly the  
23 way, at least for people at my level. The NRC is  
24 there to regulate us. They set the rules for us, and  
25 it's not like we're friends. We do what they tell us,  
26 and we respect their judgment. So I'm hoping the NRC

1 will give us a fair, reasonable evaluation.

2 My other comment is that I'm a mother, and  
3 I've heard other people say things about being mothers  
4 in the area. I was a chemistry supervisor at Indian  
5 Point. I actually oversaw the radiochemical analysis  
6 when I was pregnant with my older son. I was at the  
7 plant up until I was eight months pregnant, and that  
8 baby is now going to be graduating in May with Honors  
9 from Georgetown University. So it's not all bad.

10 We are careful with what we do. We know  
11 we have some problems. We're working hard to solve  
12 them, and hopefully this relicensing will come about.  
13 And I just wanted to say that I support relicensing at  
14 Indian Point as a proud employee of Entergy.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. BARKLEY: Phillip?

18 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Sir, if you could  
19 just introduce yourself again once you get to the  
20 podium.

21 MR. GREEN: Hi. I'm David Green, and I'm  
22 reading the record -- reading the statement of Phillip  
23 Banks for the record.

24 I am Phillip Banks, President of One  
25 Hundred Black Men. One Hundred Black Men is an  
26 international organization founded in New York when a

1 group of concerned African-American men began to meet  
2 to explore ways of improving conditions of their  
3 community.

4 The group eventually adopted the name One  
5 Hundred Black Men as a sign of solidarity. These men  
6 envisioned an organization that would implement  
7 programs designed to improve the quality of life for  
8 African-Americans and other minorities. Our founders  
9 were successful black men from various walks of life.

10 In 1963, the first meeting of the One  
11 Hundred Black Men, Incorporated, was held in New York  
12 City. A group of successful businessmen from a  
13 variety of social, educational, and economic sectors  
14 came together for a common purpose of making a  
15 difference in African-American communities, by making  
16 a difference in the lives of African-American youth.

17 The idea quickly caught on, and soon  
18 independent chapters began forming across the nation,  
19 until 1986 when nine individual chapters joined  
20 together to create the alliance known today as the One  
21 Hundred Black Men of America, Incorporated. Now some  
22 73 chapters and 10,000 members strong and still  
23 growing, One Hundred Black Men remains committed to  
24 its founding mission to improve the quality of life in  
25 African-American communities by improving the  
26 educational, economic, and social status of African-

1 Americans across the entire nation.

2           The One Hundred Black Men of New York's  
3 commitment to improving the lives of African-Americans  
4 has been demonstrated with the creation of Eagle  
5 Academy for Young Men. The school is based upon a  
6 strong academic foundation with a focus on pillars of  
7 character that we believe will provide the backdrop  
8 for the success of these young men.

9           Each of the students at the Eagle Academy  
10 is provided with an adult male mentor for their four-  
11 year stint in high school. Founded in 2004, the  
12 school consistently demonstrates a high level of  
13 achievement that is a reflection of the high  
14 educational standards encouraged by One Hundred Black  
15 Men of America.

16           Beginning in the fall of 2007, the Eagle  
17 Academy will permanently expand its scope to operate  
18 as a full four-year public high school, graduating its  
19 first class in the spring of 2008. As we move  
20 forward, we are expanding this model with plans to  
21 replicate the school throughout New York City. In  
22 keeping with our mission of improving the quality of  
23 life for African-Americans, we often partner with  
24 corporate entities that are supportive of our goals.

25           Entergy Nuclear Northeast has been an  
26 ardent supporter of our initiatives. Entergy has

1 provided us with support that will enable us to  
2 provide opportunities for educating -- for education  
3 mentoring, and small business expansion, and  
4 development throughout the New York metropolitan area.

5 We understand that Entergy is committed to  
6 improving the health, social, and economic conditions  
7 of communities of color by providing safe, affordable,  
8 reliable, and clean energy. Rising energy costs  
9 affect all communities across the U.S. and especially  
10 New York, which has some of the nation's highest  
11 energy bills. The cost of residential and  
12 transportation energy represent even larger shares of  
13 household expenditures for minority citizens.

14 The poorest and most vulnerable families  
15 are being hit the hardest by energy cost increases.  
16 The high energy costs also impact small and minority  
17 businesses and provide barriers for those who want to  
18 go into business. A recent August 12th New York Times  
19 article highlight a recent Census report indicates a  
20 disturbing trend of African-Americans moving out of  
21 the New York area. This great exodus of working and  
22 middle class African-Americans is due in part to the  
23 growing housing costs -- costs coupled with increased  
24 energy costs, making home ownership unattainable.

25 These factors negatively contribute to the  
26 quality of life for many African-Americans in New

1 York. The One Hundred Black Men supports the creation  
2 and distribution of safe, affordable, reliable, and  
3 clean energy for not only our communities but the  
4 greater community that is New York. We believe that  
5 Entergy is a good corporate citizen, and we support  
6 any efforts to balance the delivery of safe energy  
7 with initiatives that will soften the burden of these  
8 costs on our communities and the environment.

9 Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. BARKLEY: Okay. The final two  
12 speakers we have signed up are -- this is difficult to  
13 read, Amanda Sistein, I believe it is, with NYPIRG,  
14 and Noiva Butler with Entergy. Amanda? Sorry I  
15 butchered that name.

16 MS. SISENSTEIN: Hi. My name is Amanda  
17 Sisenstein with NYPIRG, the New York Public Interest  
18 Research Group. I'm a Project Coordinator at the SUNY  
19 New Palz campus.

20 NYPIRG is calling for an extension of the  
21 public comment period by at least 60 days due to the  
22 numerous safety issues surrounding Indian Point,  
23 including unplanned shutdowns due to emergencies,  
24 spent fuel rod pool leaks, a complete lack of a  
25 functional evacuation plan, and, you know, system  
26 failures, and, you know, all of the other things that

1 we've been talking about and hearing about all night  
2 long.

3           These are really, really, very, very  
4 significant concerns for not just people in the  
5 immediate areas but people as far away as New Palz who  
6 are still in the peak injury zone. So they really,  
7 really need time to express these concerns and provide  
8 meaningful comments. So again, please, you know, to  
9 extend the public comment period by at least 60 days.

10           The NRC should also expand its scope of  
11 issues beyond, you know, non-moving parts, and the  
12 review should also reflect what is happening now, the  
13 realities that we're facing now and not those of some  
14 time ago. The plant, if it is to be relicensed, we  
15 really need to see a fair and accurate review,  
16 including, you know, all of the problems that are  
17 dealing with right now, and the potential of the  
18 problems in the future.

19           So, you know, thank you very much for  
20 having this and allowing people to speak, but, you  
21 know, please do extend that public comment period.  
22 This is a very serious issue for people from many  
23 surrounding counties, and some who maybe couldn't make  
24 it. I mean, we came from about an hour and a half  
25 away, and, well, we got a little bit lost on the way.

26           So there's -- you know, for everybody who

1 is here, there is hundreds of people who couldn't be  
2 but would have liked to be. So please keep that in  
3 mind.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. BARKLEY: Noiva?

7 MS. BUTLER: Yes.

8 MR. BARKLEY: There you go.

9 MS. BUTLER: Good evening. My name is  
10 Noiva Butler, and I'm a proud employee of Entergy.

11 I'd like to read a statement to keep  
12 Indian Point operating. We, the undersigned,  
13 respectfully request that you renew the license for  
14 Indian Point for another 20 years of safe, reliable,  
15 and environmentally clean operation. As employees and  
16 supporters of Indian Point, we know that nuclear power  
17 remains one of the most affordable and predictable  
18 sources of energy for our region and our country.

19 There are no viable alternatives to the  
20 2,000 megawatts of power generated by Indian Point  
21 that provides electricity to power our homes, our  
22 railroads, our airport, and our business. Entergy has  
23 invested hundreds of millions of dollars in equipment  
24 upgrades and security enhancement and training to  
25 ensure that the plant can operate safely for many  
26 years.

1 Thank you. And I encourage you to sign  
2 our petition. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. BARKLEY: All right. Due to an error  
5 on my part, I had missed Judy Allen of IPSEC to speak.  
6 Please come up, Judy.

7 MS. ALLEN: My name is Judy Allen from  
8 Putnam Valley, member at large of IPSEC and a mother,  
9 and thank you very much to the NRC for providing this  
10 opportunity to bring to your attention the  
11 environmental impacts of continued plant operation.

12 The purpose of this hearing is to make the  
13 public aware of what the NRC includes in your  
14 environmental considerations for relicensing Indian  
15 Point for another 20 years, and what the public  
16 stakeholders think about these standards. In a few  
17 words, your standards are inadequate.

18 The first big question is: what on earth  
19 that happens at Indian Point would be beyond the scope  
20 of having potential impact on the environment? Are  
21 the ongoing leaks that migrate to the Hudson not an  
22 environmental issue? Would a terrorist attack not be  
23 a potential environmental issue?

24 Are overfilled spent fuel pools that were  
25 never intended for long-term storage not a potential  
26 environmental issue? Is the corrosion of underground

1 piping that transports radioactive steam, which was  
2 not supposed to be radioactive, not an environmental  
3 issue? Is the vast amount of inaccessible underground  
4 piping that carries saltwater and irradiated water not  
5 a potential environmental issue?

6 Please, tell us what issues that involve  
7 Indian Point and the potential release of any  
8 radioactivity are not environmental issues.

9 You see to approach nuclear issues from  
10 the perspective of the low probabilities of release,  
11 but the probability is not zero. When you think of  
12 low probability, please, see the image of former  
13 Governor Pataki standing at a podium in August 2003  
14 with a huge regional blackout on his hands. He said,  
15 "The experts told me this couldn't happen again."

16 Any business that includes humans and  
17 machinery can have human error and mechanical  
18 malfunctions. And when radioactivity is involved, all  
19 elements are an environmental issue.

20 Thank you very much.

21 (Applause.)

22 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Rich, is that the  
23 last card that we have from --

24 MR. BARKLEY: That is the last one that  
25 officially signed up for this evening? Is there  
26 anybody else --

1 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Okay.

2 MR. BARKLEY: -- who wanted to speak this  
3 evening that had not signed on a card?

4 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: I think we wanted to  
5 open the floor up, if you haven't had a chance to  
6 speak at the afternoon or the evening.

7 MR. RICHARDS: Thank you. I got here a  
8 little late. I wasn't quite sure the protocol of how  
9 to speak.

10 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: That's okay. If you  
11 could give us your name and any affiliation if you  
12 have --

13 MR. RICHARDS: My name is Paul Richards.  
14 I've been a resident of Rockland County for 36 years,  
15 and I wish to speak specifically to the second item on  
16 the screen. What local environmental aspects should  
17 the NRC examine?

18 More than 25 years ago, I participated in  
19 the hearings in Bethesda on the first round when it  
20 was -- Conn Ed and New York State Power Agency were  
21 the operators. And at that time, a major issue was  
22 the seismic hazard, and that's what I wish to comment  
23 on.

24 I have been a president of the main  
25 Professional Society of Earthquake Seismologists in  
26 the United States, and I am currently on the Board of

1 Directors of the Seismological Society of America.  
2 And in the first round, with Conn Ed and New York  
3 State Power Authority, three Commissioners  
4 participated in those hearings, and they actually  
5 voted two to one. They split on the seismic issues.  
6 One Commissioner, the one of the three who -- who  
7 voted as he did, considered the capability of the  
8 Ramapo Fault sufficiently serious to give him that  
9 vote.

10 So the issue for us today is: what have  
11 we learned in the 25 more or so years since those  
12 hearings? And there's a huge amount that has been  
13 learned, and the specific issue to focus on is: what  
14 is the likelihood of Indian Point 2 and 3 being  
15 exposed to ground shaking in their extended lifetime,  
16 if that's what is to be decided, greater than they  
17 have been designed to withstand?

18 Get that wrong, and, of course, the issue  
19 is not how to -- does a nuclear powerplant function in  
20 comparison with the fossil fuel plant when they're  
21 both operating fairly well. We have heard quite a lot  
22 of speakers address that issue, but the issue is what  
23 potentially can happen if something goes seriously  
24 wrong.

25 Thank you.

26 (Applause.)

1 FACILITATOR RAKOVAN: Is there anyone else  
2 who didn't get a chance to speak at either of the  
3 meetings that would like to have the floor? One last  
4 chance.

5 (No response.)

6 Okay. Given that we only have a short  
7 amount of time, and no other speakers that haven't had  
8 a chance to speak, I'm going to go ahead and turn the  
9 meeting over to Rani Franovich, so she can close the  
10 meeting.

11 Rani?

12 MS. FRANOVICH: Thank you, Lance. I'm  
13 Rani Franovich. I am the Branch Chief of the  
14 Headquarters Office in Rockville, Maryland, that is  
15 doing the review for the license renewal application  
16 for Indian Point Units 2 and 3.

17 And I just want to thank you all for  
18 coming to this meeting this evening. This opportunity  
19 that we have to engage with the public and hear  
20 directly from members of the public those issues that  
21 they think need to be considered by the NRC during our  
22 environmental review are a really good time for us to  
23 get some good input. We've gotten quite a bit of that  
24 today. So I appreciate your willingness to be at the  
25 meetings today.

26 I wanted to remind everybody that we will

1 be receiving comments on the scope of the  
2 environmental review until October 12th, and also the  
3 opportunity to request a hearing has been extended to  
4 November 30th.

5 I also wanted to reiterate a point that  
6 Lance made when we opened up the meeting, that there  
7 are public feedback -- public meeting feedback forms  
8 that are located out in the lobby at the registration  
9 desk. If you can think of any way we can improve our  
10 public meetings, anything we could do differently,  
11 anything that we're doing that works well, that you  
12 want to let us know about, we'd appreciate that  
13 feedback.

14 Feel free to fill out a form, leave it  
15 with a member of the NRC staff, or, if you prefer,  
16 take it home, think about it, and fill it out, fold it  
17 up, and put in the mail. The postage is prepaid.

18 And with that, thank you very much for  
19 coming to our meeting tonight.

20 (Applause.)

21 (Whereupon, at 9:46 p.m., the proceedings  
22 in the foregoing matter were concluded.)  
23  
24  
25  
26

1

2

3

4

5