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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

+ + + + +

WEDNESDAY,

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

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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

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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 Haverscroll 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 unsuitable for relicensing.

2 We all know what they are -- the proximity
3 to New York, the population growth, no evacuation, the
4 history of mechanical problems, the unplugged leaking
5 of radiological materials, ongoing unknown health
6 effects, prime terrorist target. And it's very
7 frustrating that every question or objection that is
8 raised is always answered by, "Oh, that is -- that's
9 covered on page 980, Section 3, page 6, of our
10 rulebook, paragraph 6." It's frustrating.

11 However, if, in the interest of supporting
12 the nuclear industry, in fact the role of the NRC is
13 to follow the intricate series of regulations, which
14 will never lead to any conclusions that reflect
15 reality, then it makes sense for them to conduct
16 themselves the way that they do.

17 Patriotism was mentioned tonight. The
18 real patriotic thing for Americans to do is to use our
19 good American brains to figure out a way to change our
20 wasteful energy habits, to stop wasting what we have.
21 We waste about 40 percent of our energy, if not more.
22 To stop pouring billions of government dollars into
23 dangerous forms of energy, and to use our resources to
24 develop real, safe, clean energy that doesn't require
25 evacuation plans.

26 That's real, safe, clean energy. And to

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.)
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