

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Region II  
Jacob K. Javits Federal Office Building  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1311  
New York, NY 10278-0002



FEMA

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REGION I

October 17, 2007

Mr. John Gibb  
Director  
New York State Emergency Management Office  
1220 Washington Avenue, Bldg #22  
Albany, NY 12226

cc: D/DRS  
Jim Trapp  
Roy Z / Mel Leach NSTR  
ADAMS entry  
fy/Sam  
10/26

Dear Mr. Gibb,

As you are no doubt aware, FEMA has not been able to approve putting the new siren system installed in the Indian Point Energy Center (IPEC) 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ). This decision, contained in a letter to your First Deputy Director, Andrew X. Feeney, on September 12, 2007, was based on the conclusions reached by our subject matter experts upon review of testing results and other information provided by IPEC and received by FEMA on August 24, 2007. The conclusion was that the sirens, as installed and tested, are not able to produce an alerting tone that is steady and capable of repetition as required by the long-standing NRC/FEMA document "Criteria for Preparation and Evaluation of Radiological Emergency Response Plans and Preparedness in Support of Nuclear Power Plants," NUREG-0654/FEMA-REP-1, Rev. 1, Appendix 3 of NUREG-0654, *Means for Providing Prompt Alerting and Notification of Response Organizations and the Population*, states that "The siren signal shall be a 3 to 5 minute steady signal." Additional concerns include sound blocking from co-located sirens, tree limbs and foliage, and some control system issues, all of which were discussed in technical detail in our letter to Mr. Feeney.

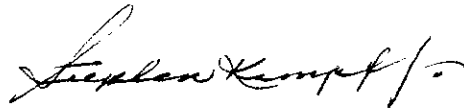
We remain committed to ensuring that the new sirens and the system as a whole are adequate to protect the public health and safety before it is put into service as the primary outdoor alerting system for this site. We understand that until the problem with the sirens is diagnosed and corrective actions taken, it is difficult to predict how long the process of bringing the siren system into compliance will take. We remain, as we have throughout this process, committed to providing our analyses in a timely fashion. However, our assistance cannot be to advise the licensee on how to fix the system as that is incompatible with our mandated role of review and oversight under the Memorandum of Agreement between NRC and FEMA (50 FR 15485, April 18, 1985, as amended 1993).

Please be assured that the FEMA regional office is in full support of the Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP) Program staff and associated technical experts in this matter. As we welcome the REP Program back into the FEMA Preparedness Directorate, we will be involved with the successful resolution of this matter, which is so important in ensuring the public health and safety of the public in the vicinity of the Indian Point nuclear power plants.

Mr. John Gibb, Director  
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If you have any questions or concerns you would like to raise with us on this matter, please call me at 212-680-3612 or the R. II REP Program Branch Chief, Rebecca S. Thomson at 212-680-8509.

Sincerely yours,



Stephen Kempf, Jr.  
Regional Administrator

cc:

Andrew X Feeney, First Deputy Director, SEMO  
Samuel Collins, Regional Administrator, NRC R.I  
Hon. Dennis Schrader, Administrator, National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA  
Vanessa Quinn, FEMA, Acting Division Director for Technological Hazards  
Congressman John Hall  
Congresswoman Nita Lowey  
Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Senator Charles Schumer  
Geri Shapiro, Regional Director, Senator Clinton's Staff  
Andrew Spano, Westchester County Executive  
R. Bondi, Putnam County Executive  
C. Vanderhoef, Rockland County Executive  
E. A. Diana, Orange County Executive  
L. Puglisi, Supervisor, Town of Cortlandt  
Daniel O'Neill, Mayor, Village of Buchanan  
J. G. Testa, Mayor, City of Peekskill  
Michael R. Kansler, President, Entergy Nuclear Operations (ENO), Inc.  
Michael A. Balduzzi, Sr. VP and COO, Regional Operations Northeast, ENO  
F. Dacimo, Indian Point Vice President  
Raymond Albanese, Four County Coordinator