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From:

Richard Blumenthal

TACs:

MD8002

To:

Pao-Tsin Kuo

*** YELLOW ***

For Signature of:

P.T. Kuo

Routing:

Description:

Request for NRC to conduct a complete and independent verification of the final safety evaluation reports (SER) for license renewals.

Assigned To:

DLR

Contact:

KUO, PAO-TSIN, T

Special Instructions:

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
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January 18, 2008

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attn: Mr. Pao-Tsin Kuo
Director, Division of License Renewal
Mail Stop 011F1
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

SENT VIA FACIMILIE: 301 415-2020

Dear Mr. Pao-Tsin Kuo:

I am writing to urge the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to conduct a complete and independent verification of the final safety evaluation reports (SER), past inspection reports, and all technical reviews associated with license renewal applications of the Indian Point, Oyster Creek, Vermont Yankee and Pilgrim Nuclear Power Stations.

As has been made clear by the *Office of Inspector General in its Audit of the NRC's License Renewal Program, 016-07-A-15*, dated September 6, 2007, there is little or no documentary evidence that NRC staff has performed any meaningful independent review of the technical information provided by applicants in support of their license renewal requests. In numerous cases, NRC staff has simply copied extensive portions of plant operator's applications into agency decisions and reports without any indication that staff has conducted any technical verification or review.

Unless the NRC staff has conducted a complete, independent review of the renewal proposal required by federal law, there would be no basis for a finding allowing Indian Point, for example, to operate for an additional 20 years beyond its original license term. Such license renewal will not provide reasonable assurance of adequate protection of the public health and safety required by law.

Approximately one million people of the State of Connecticut live within the impact zone of an accident or attack on the Indian Point facility. It is imperative that the public receive the full protection offered by federal law. Until such time as NRC can ensure that Indian Point, and other renewal applications receive the honest and thorough evaluation needed to protect the public, I urge NRC to immediately cease any further renewal activities and review the entire license renewal process.

Very truly yours,


Richard Blumenthal
Attorney General

RB:RDS
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