



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE
REGION I
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

201 645-3944

OCT 5 1971

J. G. Keppler, Chief, Reactor Inspection & Enforcement Br.
Division of Compliance, HQ

CO INQUIRY REPORT NO. 50-3/71-11
CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY (INDIAN POINT 1 - PWR)
GROSS BETA ACTIVITY IN RECENT WATER SAMPLES FROM THE HUDSON
RIVER AND RESERVOIRS OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK

The attached inquiry report on the subject matter is forwarded for information.

Mr. Kelleher informed us that he was furnishing this preliminary information because (1) the results would be published eventually in their quarterly New York State Radioactivity Bulletins, and (2) of the public concern that arose over a similarly high gross beta count* for a sample taken from the Croton Reservoir in 1970. For your information, enclosed are copies of two letters issued by the AEC as a result of the public inquiry concerning the earlier matter: (1) letter from L. D. Low to C. K. Beck, dated March 31, 1971; and (2) letter from H. L. Price to Congressman Ryan, dated May 4, 1971. Also enclosed is a copy of an April 2, 1971 letter on this subject from T. J. Cashman, Director, Bureau of Nuclear Engineering, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, to Calvin Weber, Westchester County Health Department.

We have discussed the content of Mr. Kelleher's call with Con Edison. The information received from the licensee by the State as reported to us by Mr. Kelleher was confirmed as being substantially correct, including the fact that their liquid waste releases were in excess of 5 Ci/month (action point agreed to between Con Edison and the State) for the three months specified with the totals being as follows: June - 14.6 Ci; July - 11.8 Ci and August - 10.9 Ci. There is no indication at this time that any license limit had been exceeded.

We have our routine, annual in-depth health physics inspection of this facility scheduled for November, 1971. This inspection will include a detailed examination of rad was management practices, as planned, with the subject of this inquiry being kept in mind.

*80 picocuries per liter - see enclosed inquiry report.

We will keep abreast of developments regarding this matter and keep you informed as is appropriate.



R. T. Carlson
Senior Reactor Inspector

Enclosures:

1. Inquiry Rpt 50-3/71-11
2. Letters, as stated

- cc: E. G. Case, DRS (3), w/o Encl. 2
R. S. Boyd, DRL (2), w/o Encl. 2
R. C. DeYoung, DRL (2), w/o Encl. 2
D. J. Skovholt, DRL (3), w/o Encl. 2
H. R. Denton, DRS (2), w/o Encl. 2
A. Giambusso, CO, w/o Encl. 2
L. Kornblith, CO, w/o Encl. 2
R. H. Engelken, CO, w/o Encl. 2
Regional Directors, CO, w/o Encl. 2
✓ DR Central Files, w/o Encl. 2

CO INQUIRY REPORT NO. 50-3/71-11

Licensee: Consolidated Edison Company

License No.: DPR-5

Facility: Indian Point 1 - PWR

Title: Gross Beta Activity in Recent Water Samples from the
Hudson River and Reservoirs of Westchester County, New York

Prepared by: R. T. Carbon 12/5/71
L. B. Higginbotham, Radiation Specialist Date

A. Date & Manner AEC was Informed:

Telephone call on September 30, 1971 from Mr. William Kelleher, Nuclear Engineering and Surveillance Section, Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), State of New York. Mr. Kelleher is associated with Mr. Thomas Cashman, Director of Nuclear Engineering, DEC, in administering the environmental surveillance program for the State.

B. Description of Particular Event or Circumstance:

Region I was informed that recent results of the State's routine surveillance sampling of waters of the Hudson River and various reservoirs in Westchester County showed gross beta levels that "were higher than normal". The period involved and the data given by Kelleher are listed below. For reference, Region I has included similar data for the subject areas for calendar year 1970 and for the period January through March, 1971 extracted from New York State reports of environmental surveillance. These latter data include three values for gross beta levels in the order of average, maximum, and minimum for the period; ND meaning not detectable.

Picocuries per liter

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1971</u>			<u>Recent</u>
	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Min</u>	
Hudson River at Standard Brands, Peekskill, New York (about 1 mile north of IP 1). Sept. 9 to 16, 1971, composite sample	14	37	ND	5	13	ND	

(Continued)

	<u>Picocuries per liter</u>						<u>Recent</u>
	<u>1970</u>			<u>1971</u>			
	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>Avg</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>Min</u>	
Ossining, New York (Sing Sing Prison) (10 mi south of IP-1).	29	68	ND	16	53	ND	
Sept. 16, 1971, grab sample							37 ± 21
Camp Field Reservoir, Peekskill, New York	4	10	ND	3	7	ND	
Sept. 16, 1971, grab sample							28 ± 4
Indian Brook Reservoir, Ossining, New York	6	13	3	5	6	5	
Sept. 16, 1971, grab sample							11 ± 3
Croton Reservoir, Yorktown, New York	10	80	3	2	4	ND	
Sept. 16, 1971, grab sample							38 ± 2

With respect to these most recent measurements, Mr. Kelleher informed Region I that:

1. They believe the activity was primarily a result of fallout, i.e., the reservoir samples, and a result of the recent heavy rains in the area.
2. Detailed isotopic analysis of the samples had not been completed as yet.

3. The activity in reservoir samples was present, apparently, in suspended material in the water; a treated portion of the Camp Field sample showed a gross beta level of 3 ± 2 vs the 38 ± 4 picocuries per liter for an untreated sample.

C. Action Taken:

1. By New York State

The State contacted Mr. William Nelson, Technical Services Engineer and RSO, Consolidated Edison Company, and Mr. John Coulch, Superintendent, Indian Point Station. From discussions with these individuals they had learned that no unusual gaseous or liquid discharges had occurred at the station; however, (1) the waste concentrator at IP-1 had been out of service during and prior to this period, (2) Con Ed had experienced some boiler leaks which would contribute activity to plant releases through blowdown, and (3) Con Ed had reported to the State, per written agreement, the release to the Hudson River of greater than 5 curies of liquid waste per month, for the months of June, July and August, 1971.

2. By the Licensee

None required.