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## THE CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OFFICE OF RADIATION CONTROL

DR-748

July 15, 1966

TEL. 566-7750

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Dear Mr. Price:

Washington, D.C.

Mr. Harold Price, Director Division of Regulation

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission

Because of the proximity of Buchanan, N.Y. to New York City and particularly since it is very close to both the Croton Water Supply System and the new Chelsea Hudson River pumping station, there has been considerable interest here in the proposal by the Consolidated Edison Company to construct a large power reactor at Indian Point. The Mayor's Technical Advisory Committee has recommended to Mayor Lindsay that an independent technical review by qualified experts be carried out for the City of New York. Such a review would be limited in scope with the principal purpose being to identify any possible safety aspects that may have been overlooked in the Commission's review.

The Mayor agreed that such an independent review would be desirable and authorized this Office to proceed with the necessary arrangements. A small group of Belgian scientists with appropriate qualifications has agreed to conduct the type of review desired by our Advisory Committee. The Consolidated Edison Company has been most cooperative in supplying the necessary documents.

It is our understanding that a public hearing is generally conducted in connection with any reactor construction permit application and that one month's notice is usually given before the hearing is held. It is expected that such a hearing might be scheduled for the near future, although we have not seen a notice to that effect.

My reason in writing is that we have received word from our consultants that they will not be able to finish their review until about the first of September. In case it is the intention of the A.E.C. to schedule a hearing before that date, it is presumed that questions might still be raised subsequently to the hearing and receive consideration by the A.E.C. It is not expected that the City would request that the application for the construction permit be denied, but further investigation of certain aspects may be requested.

If this procedure might present a problem, it would be helpful to New York City if the hearing not be held until after receipt of the report from our consultants. I believe that we could obtain a closer estimate of that date within a few weeks.

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