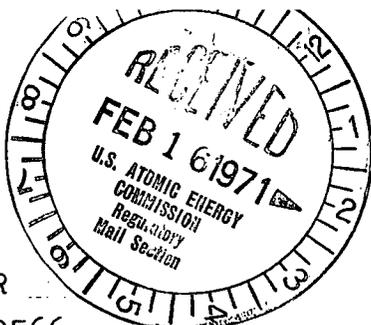


50-247



10 Toddville Lane
Peekskill, New York
February 8, 1971

PEEKSKILL EVENING STAR
Peekskill, New York 10566

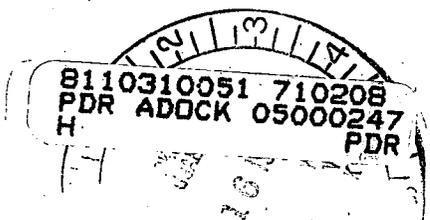
To the Editor:

Con Edison's desire to start "low-level" nuclear fuel tests prior to the official licensing of Indian Point# 2 can only be viewed with great alarm. The purpose of the present hearings before the AEC Safety and Licensing Board is to ascertain that the public and the environment will be safeguarded. The two intervenors, at these hearings, the Citizens Committee for the Protection of the Environment and the Environmental Defense Fund, are intent upon seeing to it that these safeguards are provided.

This concern of the intervenors and environmentalists takes on greater significance at this particular moment. Con Edison in their desperate effort to meet their power shortage is willing to take short-cuts and highly risky gambles to rush Indian Point #2 on line. The pressure on them from their stockholders and the Public Service Commission grows daily.

The dangers of giving Con Edison the "go ahead" now can best be understood by describing Indian Point #2 and its implications. Reactor # 2, rated at 873 mgw, is three times the capacity of Reactor #1. It is the first of a whole family of experimental giant reactors. They have never before been made this large. They have never before been tested! This rapid scale-up in size is all the more risky when one realizes that of the 3000 to 5000 specifications and standards needed for the design, the materials, and the operation of nuclear reactors only 90 have been approved to date. This almost total lack of standards casts grave doubts about the safety and the operability of this Reactor.

Reactor #1, shut-down since May 20, 1970 by a gross malfunction, has an abysmal record. It started with a cost of construction overrun of 100 million dollars. It is repleat



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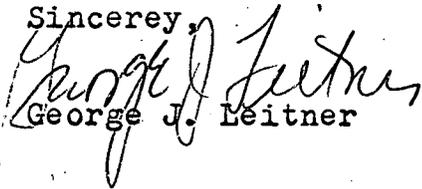
with refueling mishaps, poisonous "burps" to our atmosphere (and apparently to the N.Y. water supply last May!), and fish kills galore. It has proven to be a very unreliable source of power with an on line record of only 40% since start-up date.

The power shortages we are presently experiencing are but minor inconveniences compared to what we will face within 5 years. The utility's nuclear "egg-basket" planning based on giant reactors (1000+ mgw) will mean an even greater loss in reliability. The breakdown of one generator of this capacity (the same as Big Allis) will mean trouble. The simultaneous breakdown of two will mean a serious shortage!

The Indian Point nest of nuclear reactors can best be compared to a Frankenstein-like monster at our door step. Unless it is properly contained and properly trained, it and its poisonous radioactive waste products can imperil us and our future generations. Radioactive pollution is the ultimate pollutant. It is irreversible in its damage and it holds the potential of genetically ending mankind.

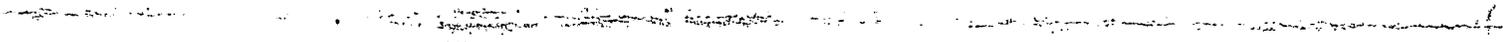
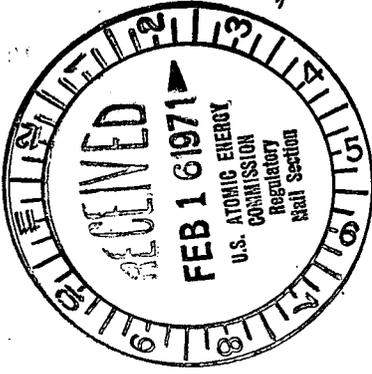
You can voice your concern--your objections--by writing to the Division of Reactor Licensing, Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C.

Sincerely,


George J. Leitner

cc.
Div. of Reactor Licensing, AEC

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FROM: George J. Leitner 10 Todville Lane Peekskill, N.Y.	DATE OF DOCUMENT: 2-8-71	DATE RECEIVED 2-16-71	NO.: 644
	LTR. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MEMO:	REPORT:
TO: Peekskill Evening Star Peekskill, New York. TO: Editor CC: TO DRL, AEC	ORIG.:	CC: 1	OTHER:
	ACTION NECESSARY <input type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE ANSWERED:
CLASSIF: U	POST OFFICE	FILE CODE: 50-247 File opposition	BY:
DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified) Ltr addressed to Peekskill Evening Star in opposition to Con. Ed. Indian Point Unit # 2....	REFERRED TO Miller w/4 cys for action	DATE 2-17-71	RECEIVED BY
ENCLOSURES:	DISTRIBUTION: Reg file cy AEC PDR OGC Room P-506-A H. Price & Staff Morris/Schroeder DeYoung		Do Not Remove ACKNOWLEDGED
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