



Remarks by  
Daniel J. O'Brien, Managing Director  
The Westchester County Association, Inc.  
during  
The Evidentiary Hearing of the Atomic Safety  
and Licensing Board of the Atomic Energy Commission  
of the United States of America  
Croton-on-Hudson  
July 13, 1971

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MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD, ALL OTHER OFFICIALS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

I AM DANIEL J. O'BRIEN, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY ASSOCIATION, INC. AND I'M HERE TODAY REPRESENTING OUR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND MORE THAN 500 MEMBERS, IN THE MATTER OF CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY OF NEW YORK, INC. AND THE REQUISITE ACTIVATION OF INDIAN POINT STATION UNIT NO. 2.

OUR INTEREST IN THIS MATTER IS EXTENSIVE, INDEED. OUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS MANY LEADERS OF WESTCHESTER BUSINESS, REPRESENTING ALL AREAS OF THE COUNTY. THUS WE HAVE AN ABIDING INTEREST IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY'S BUSINESS CLIMATE WHICH CONSISTS LARGELY OF THE ADVANTAGES AND FEATURES THAT ATTRACT THE TYPE OF BUSINESS THAT IS GOOD FOR THE ORDERLY GROWTH OF WESTCHESTER AND THAT PRESERVES AND CONSERVES THE FINE RESIDENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR COUNTY. BUT THE ATTRACTION

OF NEW BUSINESS IS ONLY ONE PHASE OF OUR ACTIVITIES. AN EVEN MORE IMPORTANT PHASE IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES THAT KEEP CURRENT WESTCHESTER BUSINESS IN WESTCHESTER. AND THIS EMBRACES NOT ALONE THE INTERESTS OF EMPLOYEES OF EACH COMPANY, BUT THE WELFARE OF ALL THEIR FAMILIES AS WELL. AND HERE ELECTRICAL POWER BECOMES AN ALL-INCLUSIVE NECESSITY, BEARING DIRECTLY ON EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL LIFE, AND GENERAL WELL-BEING OF THE PUBLIC.

WE CLAIM NO EXPERTISE IN THE SUBJECT OF POWER GENERATION, BUT FREQUENTLY, IN DRAMATIZING THE RAPID AND SUSTAINED RATE IN GROWTH OF ACTIVITY IN WESTCHESTER, WE USE AS ONE IMPORTANT INDEX THE CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY IN TERMS OF KILOWATT HOURS CONSUMED. AND HERE WE ARE STRUCK BY TWO UNUSUALLY MEANINGFUL STATISTICS. (ONE) CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY FOR RESIDENTIAL USE IN 1940 TOTALED 125,589,000 KILOWATT HOURS, BUT IN 1970 EIGHT BILLION, 208 MILLION KILOWATT HOURS -- 65 TIMES AS MUCH AS 1940. (AND TWO) INDUSTRIAL USE IN 1940 TOOK 198,600,000 KILOWATT HOURS. BUT IN 1970, 17 BILLION SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND KILOWATT HOURS, 88 TIMES AS MUCH ELECTRICAL ENERGY AS 1940.

WE SUBMIT THAT THESE ARE GROWTH FIGURES OF EXTRAORDINARY MAGNITUDE. AND TO PROGRESS IN THE ENLARGEMENT OF GENERATING CAPABILITIES IN CONSONANCE WITH SUCH RAPIDLY GROWING DEMANDS

IN WESTCHESTER MUST HAVE CALLED FOR GREAT SKILL, COURAGE, AND SUSTAINED EFFORT ALL DURING THESE 30 INTERVENING YEARS. I SHUDDER TO THINK OF WHERE WE WOULD BE TODAY HAD THE SAME KIND OF ROADBLOCKS BEEN THROWN IN THE PATH OF PROGRESS DURING THAT PERIOD AS ARE BEING EMPLOYED TODAY IN THE NAME OF ENVIRONMENT.

WE SUBMIT, MR. CHAIRMAN, MOST RESPECTFULLY, THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO FACE REALITIES AND CLEAR THE ROAD TO PROGRESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NECESSARY CAPACITY OF GENERATION; WITHIN, OF COURSE, THE GUIDELINES THAT APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES CONSIDER ESSENTIAL TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE.

WE BELIEVE THE NECESSARY ACTION NOW IS THE ACTIVATION OF THE CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY INDIAN POINT STATION UNIT NO. 2.

GROWTH IN CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY IN WESTCHESTER WILL CONTINUE INCREASINGLY IN THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE. LET US ENCOURAGE OUR SUPPLIERS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PLANS AND CONSTRUCTION. THIS MATTER IS NOT ONE SIMPLY OF CREATING FACILITIES FOR INCREASED GENERATION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY, BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY, TO DO SO IN A MATTER THAT YIELDS EARNINGS HIGH ENOUGH TO ATTRACT THE ENORMOUS CAPITAL REQUIRED FROM INVESTORS FOR THE FUNDING OF THESE IMPROVEMENTS.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.