

F. William Boettcher
385 Argyle Road
Brooklyn, NY 11218

January 21 1976

Mr. William A. Anders, Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington D.C. # 20545 U.S.A.

Dear Chairman Anders,

Having had the unusual pleasure in my past years, visiting Con. Edison Indian Point #1 after its completion and operation, seeing #2 in construction and #3 foundations being poured, as a guest of Con Edison customer, I never realized, from observations, at that time being hastily guided thru the Control Panel area, as to what form of Emergency Energy was being provided, for Back-up power for safety and security of circuits control and Nuclear Unit continuous operation, and what could happen in event of Main Station Output Energy failure of the Steam Driven Alternators Equipment or associated devices.

Reading the NY NEWS story by Bruce Drake in todays issue, relative to "Vulnerability" to possible damage of the Diesel Generator system at Indian Point, which provides Back-up power to control systems and Nuclear units, I am amazed, that Electric Storage Pattery Power for normal and emergency Back-up energy source, was not included in basic construction, with the batteries Float-charged constantly from the Alternator output power, Rectified to D.C. for normal plant operation, and with Stand-by Diesel or Gas Turbine Generator equipment included, for Automatic Switch-over Battery Float-Charging in the event of Alternator Main Power failure.

When we see, how our U.S.A. Bell and other Telephone net-work systems, were basically designed over the past years, to guarantee its continuous operation, 24 hrs per day, 365 days per year, and using Electric Storage Batteries energy, in all Telephone Exchanges to energize the switching & net-work equipment, with Automatic switch-over from Utililty Company energy battery Float*Charging supply, to Petroleum driven Motor Generator equipment for continuous Float Charging batteries in the event of Utility Co energy failure, I have no remembrance of any of our Telephone Systems Exchanges, suffereing operational failure, except where failures were caused by Exchange building internal or external Fire or Explosion problems.

If our present day operating and building Nuclear Energy Generating Stations, have omitted the inclusion of Electric Storage Battery positive and secure Control Energy supply, with automatic Emergency Switch-over Battery Float-Charging Petroleum or Gas driven Generators, to provide the required safety and security in operation, my suggestion is to modify basic construction plans and mandate modification equipment installatations in operating stations, compattible to our modern day Telephone Communications Net-Works and Exchanges.

With respect to the other item in the story, with reference to "instrument cables which link plants Control Units Rooms to Generating Units" is deffinatly a very vulnerable hazzard, with those cables-conductors being concentrated thru ducts or cable racks, all in only one tunnel, with all other cable system conductors. Those Safety and security cables should be immediately re-routed thru an isolated safe and secure 2nd tunnel, to remove hazzardus potential of Control & Safety circuit interruption, from possible in One-Tunnel adjacent cable circuits, to prevent incidents possible in that one tunnel.

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PDR ADOCK 05000247
H PDR

Just some thoughts of mine, for your thoughts & considerations, re/ Nuclear Generating Stations Operational Safety and security improvements.

Cordially,

P.S.:

At 76 plus years and in retirement, I as Pioneer Chief Engineer that built first WHN Broadcast Station in Ridgewood, Queens NYC in 1921, and in 1924-1925 built the # 2 USA WPAP-WQAO Broadcast Station 100% powered from Electric Storage Battery Energy supply, using 12 volt DC for Transmitter Tube Filament Supply and 2000 volts DC, all from Storage Battery Energy supply, using only the Utility Company's energy during Time-Sharing Off The Air periods, for Re-charging the batteries. For the period over several years of Storage Battery operation, the station never suffered Broadcast Program schedule interruptions, and when those batteries had reached their maximum warrantee life period, a new Radio Transmitter was purchased, for operation only from Utility Energy service, and then occasional power-outages caused Broadcast Programs to be interrupted.

Nuclear Aide Resigns; Hits Safety Standards

By BRUCE DRAKE

Washington, Jan. 20 (News Bureau) -- A Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff member assigned to monitor Consolidated Edison's Indian Point 3 Nuclear power plant has resigned because, he said, the commission's handling of safety standards at the New York plant and elsewhere shocked his conscience.

Robert Pollard, the commission's project director for the Indian Point unit, quit Jan. 13 because of sharp disagreement with commission decisions on the adequacy of safety precautions to protect control systems at nuclear power plants.

As project director, Pollard directed a staff of about 40 persons who performed technical reviews at the Indian Point unit, one of three nuclear units located on the Hudson River at Buchanan, about 35 miles north of New York City. While an attorney for Pollard said his criticisms of commission policy way directed at nuclear plants in general, Pollard reportedly made several specific charges dealing with Indian Point and Indian Point 3.

Under Increasing Attack

The Indian Point 3 unit is a new one, which has just been sold to the New York State Power Authority by Con Ed for nearly \$400 million, under a deal engineered two years ago when the utility was in deep financial trouble. The 965-megawatt unit was approved for testing operations by the commission last month. Con Ed will operate the plant for the power authority for the time being.

In an unlikely twist, the disclosure of Pollard's resignation was first made public by commission officials who admitted that they were trying to head off any suggestions that Pollard's views were being suppressed.

Noting that the nuclear industry and its regulators have come under increasing attack by consumerists and environmentalists, one commission official said: "We are constantly accused of hiding stuff, so we wanted to get this on top of the table."

Commission Chairman William A. Anders said he had directed two senior officials to investi-

gate allegations by Pollard "concerning reactor safety and his claim that individual staff views have been disregarded" by top agency officials.

Pollard's criticisms of safety at Indian Point and other plants reportedly included:

• The "vulnerability" to possible damage of the diesel system at Indian Point which would provide back-up power to control systems at the nuclear unit if normal power was knocked out. If back-up power was not available in such an instance, the reactors' cooling system could fail.

• Questions about the adequacy of safety features to prevent fire damage to instrument cables which link the plants' control room to the generating unit. Pollard reportedly cited Indian Point 2 as vulnerable in this regard because its instrument cables are concentrated in just one tunnel and not two as in Indian Point 3. A Con Ed spokesman said that "intensive studies" had shown its fire precautions to be "superior."

Upstate Nuke Plant Shuts After Leakage

Oswego, N.Y., Jan. 20—The Fitzpatrick nuclear electric generating station at Nine Mile Point has been closed down for maintenance and investigation of a radiation leakage in the plant's turbine room.

Donald D. Green, a spokesman for the Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., which operates the plant for the State Power Authority, said the leakage Friday did not harm any of the 200 workers on the site that day, and radioactivity disappeared from the turbine room atmosphere shortly after the shutdown.

Green said the plant had been scheduled to close down this week for routine maintenance and construction work.

Press Intelligence, Inc.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001

Front Page	Edit Page	Other Page
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NEW YORK, NEW YORK
NEWS

JAN 21 1976

M - 2,028,522

S - 2,794,716

Press Intelligence, Inc.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001

Front Page	Edit Page	Other Page
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WASHINGTON, D. C.
WALL STREET JOURNAL

-EASTERN EDITION-

JAN 21 1976

M - 537,666

U.S. May Enlarge Plant That Enriches Uranium

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

WASHINGTON—The Ford administration acknowledged that its proposal to allow private industry to get into the uranium-enrichment business might not get through Congress.

As a result, the Energy Research and Development Administration said, it is asking architect-engineering concerns to propose designs for an expansion of ERDA's Portsmouth, Ohio, enrichment plant.

Last year, President Ford proposed legislation to end ERDA's domination of uranium enrichment, which involves enriching uranium to a grade used in nuclear-power plants. The proposal is pending before Congress's Joint Atomic Energy Committee.

ERDA said yesterday that pending congressional approval of the proposal, it will proceed with design work on an addition to the government-owned plant. The agency has also asked utilities to propose ways to provide for the addition's power needs.

No. **76-1065**

Logging Date **1/27/76**

NRC SECRETARIAT

TO: Commissioner _____ Date **1/27/76**
 Exec. Dir./Oper. _____ Gen. Counsel
 Cong. Liaison _____ Solicitor
 Public Affairs _____ Secretary

Incoming: Mr. F. William Boettcher
 From: 385 Argyle Road
Brooklyn, NY 11218
 To: Chairman Anders Date _____
 Subject: Technical questions concerning Con Ed's
Indian Point Nuclear Plant

- Prepare reply for signature of:
 - Chairman
 - Commissioner _____
 - EDO, GC, CL, SOL, PA, SECY
 - Signature block omitted
 - _____
 - Return original of incoming with response

- For direct reply*
- For appropriate action **SUSPENSE: February 8, 1976**
- For information
- For recommendation

Remarks: Cy of Incoming to Chairman

Rec'd Off. Dir.
Date 1/27/76
Time 4:10

 Rec'd Off. of Dir.
 of Nuclear reactor
 Registration

For the Commission: Whit Date 1/28/76

*Send three (3) copies of reply to Secy Mail Facility
 Time 4:55 PM

FROM F. William Doetterer Brooklyn, N. Y.		CONTROL NUMBER 9718	FILE LOCATION
		DATE OF DOCUMENT 1/21/76	ACTION COMPLETION DEADLINE 2/8/76
TO Chairman Anders		ACTION PROCESSING DATES Acknowledged _____ Interim Reply _____ Final 1/31/76	PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: _____ Chairman _____ Director of Regulation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rueche <i>Stell</i>
DESCRIPTION Ltr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Other		REMARKS <i>in 6-0-76 1/29</i>	
SECT 76-1065			
REFERRED TO	DATE	IS NOTIFICATION TO THE JCAE RECOMMENDED? _____	
<i>Rueche f/action</i>	1/28/76		
<i>Stell</i>	<i>1/29/76</i>		
		Cys: Case <i>Rueche</i> <i>Mills</i> <i>Boyd</i> <i>Hamm</i> <i>Keaton</i>	

DIRECTOR OF REGULATION
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Form HQ-32 (1-73)
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TO Chairman Anders		ACTION PROCESSING DATES Acknowledged _____ Interim Reply _____ Final 1/31/76	PREPARE FOR SIGNATURE OF: _____ Chairman _____ Director of Regulation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rueche <i>Stell</i>
DESCRIPTION Ltr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Other		REMARKS <i>1/29/76</i>	
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<i>Stell</i>	<i>1/29/76</i>		
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<p>Suggestion for modification of construction plans and of equipment in operating plants to guarantee continuous operation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SECY 76-1065</p>				
REFERRED TO	DATE			IS NOTIFICATION TO THE JCAE RECOMMENDED? _____
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<p>Suggestion for modification of construction plans and of equipment in operating plants to guarantee continuous operation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SECY 76-1065</p>				
REFERRED TO	DATE			IS NOTIFICATION TO THE JCAE RECOMMENDED? _____
Rusech l/action	1/28/76			
				Cys: Case

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COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL

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ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP		ACTION	
1 TO (Name, office symbol or location) E. Case	INITIALS	CIRCULATE	
	DATE	COORDINATION	
2	INITIALS	FILE	
	DATE	INFORMATION	
3	INITIALS	NOTE AND RETURN	
	DATE	PER CONVERSATION	
4	INITIALS	SEE ME	
	DATE	SIGNATURE	
REMARKS <p>In view of the current discussions regarding Indian Point 1, I believe it would be useful to have your concurrence on the attached letter.</p> <p><i>at Ask Tom Juppato</i></p> <p><i>So E concurs first. Then let me have this package back</i></p> <p><i>TAI 2/9/76</i></p> <p><i>Do NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disapprovals, clearances, and similar actions</i></p>			
FROM (Name, office symbol or location) V. Stello		DATE	2/5/76
		PHONE	7672

OPTIONAL FORM 41 AUGUST 1967 GSA FPMR (41CFR) 100-11.206 048-16-81594-1 552-103 GPO 5041-104

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Vick
Rosen & I
discussed this
earlier. I find
nothing wrong with
it.

TAI
2/9/76

at 2/9
slc #2

F. William Boettcher
385 Argyle Road
Brooklyn, NY 11218

Personal----

Mr. William A. Anders, Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington D.C. # 20545, U.S.A.

