



Mayor
GEORGE V. BEGANY

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April 14, 1976

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Attention: Director, Division of Site Safety
and Environmental Analysis

Gentlemen:

On the 29th of March 1976 we received two copies of the Draft Environmental Statement prepared by your Agency, regarding the selection of the closed cycle cooling system for Con Edison Indian Point Unit No. 2 bearing Docket No. 50-247.

This matter is of deep concern to me as the Chief Executive Officer of the Village.

After reviewing the contents of this report I am convinced that the proposed installation will be even more detrimental to the Village and its inhabitants than I originally conceived. It is unbelievable that a superior governmental unit would consider enforcement of the recommendations made therein, which could and may result in the death of our Village, or at best, will result in vastly depressed living standards for our citizens.

At my request, our Village Consulting Engineer, Hugh S. Gregory, has reviewed the Statement, and has prepared a report setting forth in detail his comments and conclusions.

I have also requested our Environmental Consultant, Dr. William H. Shuster, Professor of Environmental Engineering at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, to examine your Statement and prepare his own report of the effects of the recommended tower installation on the Village.

Both reports are attached hereto for your examination and consideration. I emphatically support the substance and conclusions

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stated therein.

In addition, I add the following comments of my own for your consideration.

First of all the Village neither wants nor needs a grotesque land mark, towering almost 500 feet above our highest ridge and some 450 feet in width, to identify it as an industrial site, making our citizens ashamed of their origin and heritage. There is no doubt that the long term effects on our "native" population will be catastrophic.

Regardless of the statement that the installation is short term, this short term comprises a period of some forty years. Unquestionably, forty years of the abhorrent conditions anticipated in the report, plus the overpowering visual assault of the tower, will result in an abandoned community.

It must be realized, too, that the native wildlife in the area will be annihilated, first by construction, ultimately and completely by the environmental effects of the tower. The fauna will never seek nor find refuge in Blue Mountain Park or other areas.

It is completely unrealistic to assume that outsiders can judge fairly the feelings of and the effects of this proposal on our Village residents. After their decisions these outsiders can return to their own clean atmosphere, flowering dogwoods, green hemlocks and green lawns. We will remain with our bare dogwoods, browned hemlocks and browned lawns, our eternal cloud, gasping for breath, all in the shadow of the overwhelming monster.

It is my opinion that so far the decisions have been based on hastily made conclusions; that the impact on the whole environment of our Village has not been properly weighed; and that the conclusions have been unduly influenced by certain pressure groups.

It must be added that if all data contained in your report is as carefully documented as the mis-information set forth regarding the Buchanan planning "effort", there is ample reason to doubt the reliability of the entire presentation.

It is obvious that the proposed installation is improper. Likewise, it is obvious that the "once through" system is the least objectionable until the proper solution is found.

It is my judgement that, if this proposed tower is constructed, it will be a monument to unsound reasoning, insufficient research, political pressures, and lack of just plain common sense.

Yours very truly,

George V. Begony
(59)

Mayor

GVB/sg

Atts: Report - Village Consulting Engineer (1)
Report - Village Environmental Consultant (1)