



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

NOV 21 1980

Mr. William Dircks
Executive Director for Operations
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Dircks:

The enclosed correspondence has been directed to the Department of Energy. The contents indicate that a reply should be made more appropriately by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Accordingly, we are forwarding it to you for consideration along with a copy of our reply.

Sincerely,

TAWerner

for Hugh Kendrick, Acting Director
Plans and Analysis Division
Office of Nuclear Energy

2 Enclosures

*Incoming letter not received,
NRC - 11/24/80*

*orig. attached
11/28*

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I hope that you will find the foregoing comments responsive to your concerns regarding nuclear energy and that the enclosed material will prove useful.

Sincerely,

Hugh Kendrick, Acting Director
Plans and Analysis Division
Office of Nuclear Energy

6 Enclosures

cc:
✓ William Dircks, NRC



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

NOV 21 1980

Mr. Joe Schneider
Pomona Country Club
Spring Valley, New York 10977

Dear Mr. Schneider:

This is in response to your letter expressing concerns about nuclear energy and specifically Indian Point Station.

The safety record of commercial nuclear power is excellent. Nuclear powerplants are designed to withstand the effects of major earthquakes associated with nearby faults and tectonic provinces. If detailed information concerning a particular nuclear powerplant or fault is desired, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is probably the best source of such information. Therefore, I am forwarding your letter to them for appropriate consideration.

Many factors must be evaluated in the development of any energy resource. The costs and benefits must be considered prior to pursuing the development of an energy technology. The Federal Government has evaluated these as they relate to the many energy options available to the United States. In order to maintain our current high standard of living, we will make use of the resources which are feasible and economically attractive today. These include substituting coal and nuclear power for oil and gas wherever possible. In the longer term, we will continue to conduct research on new energy resources such as fusion and solar power. These will be introduced commercially by private industry only when they are technically feasible and economically competitive.

If nuclear energy is to be used to its full potential, there are important Department of Energy nuclear programs which must continue and in some cases be accelerated. We in the Department of Energy take very seriously our responsibility to act in the public interest.

FEB 10 1987