

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
Washington, D. C.

AUG 16 1972

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Mr. Lester Rogers, Director  
Division of Radiological & Environmental Protection  
Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Rogers:

We have reviewed the draft environmental statement related to the Proposed Issuance of an Operating License to the Consolidated Edison Company of N.Y. for the Indian Point Unit No. 2 Nuclear Generating Plant - Docket No. 50-247. Our comments follow:

The primary concern to land vegetation will be from production of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) by the burning of fossil fuels. Apparently, pollution from this source will be reduced once the Plant begins operation.

No mention is made of the possible effects of Chlorine gas on nearby vegetation, when Chlorine is added to incoming water. It may be of benefit to know if there is damage from this gas near the Plant site. The problem of noise pollution seems to have been considered since the applicant plans to use land vegetation in noise reduction and visual enhancement of the Plant.

The applicant seemingly has made plans to carry out a continuous monitoring program to detect any adverse effects from the Plant operation on the surrounding environment. This effort should be a primary requirement in keeping the Plant in operation.

Sincerely,

*Thomas C. Nelson*

THOMAS C. NELSON  
Deputy Chief

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REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION  
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