Carl L. Newman
Vice President

Regulatory Docket File

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. 4 Irving Place, New York, N. Y. 10003
Telephone (212) 460-5133

Mr. Ben C. Rusche Director Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, D.C. 20555



Re: Indian Point Station

Unit No. 2

Docket No. 50-247

Dear Mr. Rusche:

As holder of Facility Operating License No. DPR-26, we hereby transmit three (3) signed originals and twenty-five (25) copies of an Application for Facility License Amendment for Extension of Operation with Once-Through Cooling. This amendment application seeks a deferral of our present obligation to terminate operation with the installed once-through cooling system from May 1, 1979 to May 1, 1981.

As shown in the Environmental Report and Appendices thereto, two hundred (200) copies of which are being transmitted to you under separate cover, this amendment is warranted by a balancing of the benefits and costs, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. In brief, this amendment would allow time for completion and governmental evaluation of Con Edison's ecological study program before irretrievable commitments must be made for the construction of a closed-cycle cooling system at Indian Point 2. The extension will involve plant operation for only two additional striped bass spawning seasons, and will not have an irreversible adverse impact on Hudson River biota. The amendment is consonant with the decision of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board issued on April 4, 1974.

Balanced against any impact on the fisheries are substantial benefits in the nature of (1) an improved data base for the ultimate decision on the need for a closed-cycle cooling system, (2) the probability that the adverse effects of a cooling tower may, on the basis of the new data to be made available from our research program, be entirely avoided, and (3) reduced incremental generating costs and reliability penalties that would be involved in the transition to a closed-cycle system.

USNAC

8111190128 750604 PDR ADDCK 05000247 P PDR 6185