

William J. Cahill, Jr.  
Vice President

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September 23, 1975

Re Indian Point Unit No. 3  
Docket No. 50-286

Mr. James P. O'Reilly, Director  
Directorate of Regulatory Operations  
Region 1  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
631 Park Avenue  
King Of Prussia, Pa. 19406

Dear Mr. O'Reilly

Pursuant to 10CFR 50.55(e) of the Commission's Regulations, Mr. Seth Folsom of your office was notified by telephone on August 22, 1975 regarding an apparent deficiency in design of the sample line penetration of Indian Point Unit No. 3.

We became aware of the potential problem through the March 1975 issue of "Current Events, Power Reactors" which reported the cracking of sample lines within a containment penetration at Point Beach Unit No. 2 and a subsequent rupture leak of the penetration. The penetration failure was apparently caused by insufficient provision for thermal expansion of the sampling pipe during cyclic sampling operations.

Upon learning of the Point Beach occurrence, we initiated an investigation to determine whether the potential for such sample line penetration failure exists at Indian Point Unit No. 3. Through review of the respective sample line penetration designs, we have determined that the design for Indian Point Unit No. 3 is different from that of Point Beach Unit No. 2.

Our study of the matter is continuing. Upon completion of the investigation, a report will be made available at the Indian Point site for your inspectors' review.

Very truly yours



William J. Cahill, Jr.  
Vice President

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