

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
INDIAN POINT NO. 3 NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

P. O. BOX 215 BUCHANAN, N. Y. 10511

TELEPHONE: 914-739-8200



October 27, 1978

IP-JJK-3302

Docket No. 50-286

License No. DPR-64

George H. Smith, Chief
Fuel Facility and Materials Safety Branch
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

IE Inspection 50-286/
78-21
w/ly dtd 10-5-78

Dear Mr. Smith:

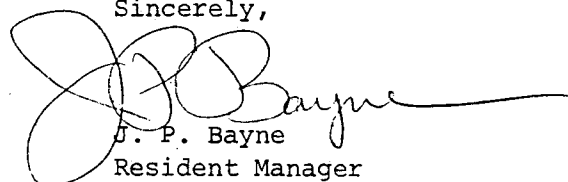
This letter is provided in response to your letter of October 5, 1978, received at this office October 10, 1978. This letter addressed an interpretation of the requirements of Environmental Technical Specification 2.4.1.a with which we disagree; our legal and technical basis for this disagreement were presented in discussions with personnel from your office and in a meeting with personnel from the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation in Bethesda on October 4, 1978.

I would like to note that there have been no discharges of liquid radioactive waste made directly from Indian Point 3 since June, 1978. As an interim measure, in order to avoid any further items of alleged noncompliance regarding this specification in the event we must discharge liquid waste, we have modified Indian Point 3's administrative control documents to assure full compliance with the Environmental Technical Specification 2.4.1.a requirements as interpreted by Region 1 personnel. Meanwhile, we are pursuing other avenues for the permanent resolution of this matter.

The administrative control requires the calculation of the MPCw for each of the liquid waste tanks being discharged and the calculation of a new alarm set point for the R-18 monitor based on the radioactivity concentration of the sample, dilution flow available, discharge rate anticipated and calculated MPCw. If the discharge rate or alarm set point are drastically affected by the R-18 background, the administrative controls require removing the monitor from service for decontamination.

These controls will incur an additional cost to our customers for power generated by Indian Point 3 without any concomitant reduction in radiation exposure to the public.

Sincerely,


J. P. Bayne
Resident Manager

ccp

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JJK/rbb