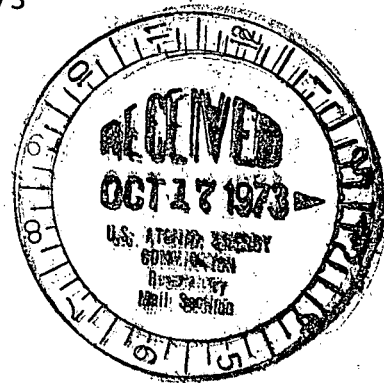


Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
4 Irving Place, New York, N Y 10003
Telephone (212) 460-6001

September 25, 1973

Mr. George W. Knighton
Chief, Environmental Projects
Branch #1
Directorate of Licensing
United States Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545



Dear Mr. Knighton:

At the July 25-26, 1973 meeting at Oak Ridge, Tennessee to discuss mathematical modelling of the impact of Indian Point on striped bass populations, considerable interest was expressed by ORNL personnel in the preliminary findings of the Texas Instruments river-wide ichthyoplankton and beach seining programs.

These preliminary findings indicate that many of the striped bass eggs spawned in the estuary concentrate and remain in deep "holes" in the river bottom in the vicinity of Storm King Mountain and in adjacent "holes" below it. Evidence of this can be seen in the attached table which gives a comparison of striped bass eggs and larvae collected in the Tucker Trawl and the Epibenthic Sled. In addition, beach seining in the latter half of June has yielded striped bass larvae with total body lengths of 15-30 mm. This indicates that striped bass larvae are heading to the beaches (where they are behaviorally non-entrainable) at a much earlier age than has been previously assumed.

These findings can have a significant bearing on the development of models to predict the impact of Indian Point on striped bass populations. Therefore I suggest that a second meeting be held with the same parties present as the July 25-26, 1973 meeting in order to discuss in detail how this data should be incorporated into striped bass models. If you agree, this meeting might be held at our offices in New York in late

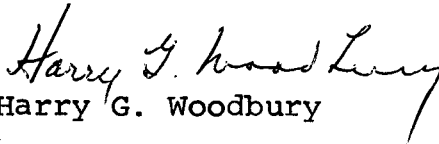
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October, say October 25-26, 1973. By that time we should have a report from Texas Instruments providing complete results of the May and June ichthyoplankton survey work and the June and July beach seining. Data presented in this report should provide a good basis for discussion at this meeting and copies of this report will be sent to you in advance of the meeting. Please advise me whether you agree to holding this meeting and whether the date and place suggested are suitable.

Very truly yours,


Harry G. Woodbury

rsh/klg

cc: Dr. Mary Jane Oestmann
Myron Karman, Esq.
Nicholas A. Robinson, Esq.
Angus Mac Beth, Esq.
J. Bruce Mac Donald, Esq.
Harry H. Voigt, Esq.
Dr. Webb Van Winkle

Table 1. Counts of striped bass eggs and larvae taken by the Ichthyoplankton Survey, May 15 and May 16, 1973 between river mile 54 and river mile 43 inclusive.

| COUNTS ** | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|---------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| GEAR | SAMPLE # | RIVER DEPTH (ft) | R.M.* | SAMPLE DEPTH (ft) | EGGS | LARVAE 1 | LARVAE 2 | LARVAE 3 |
| Tucker Trawl | 300 | 56 | 54 | 47 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 301 | 55 | 54 | 28 | 19 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | 302 | 65 | 54 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 309 | 73 | 51 | 60 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 310 | 73 | 51 | 41 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | 311 | 70 | 51 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | Average | | | | 4.3 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Epibenthic Sled | 303 | 66 | 54 | 66 | 304 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| | 304 | 65 | 54 | 65 | 35 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| | 305 | 65 | 54 | 65 | 126 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| | 306 | 76 | 51 | 76 | 984 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| | 307 | 76 | 51 | 76 | 698 | 22 | 1 | 0 |
| | 308 | 76 | 51 | 76 | 770 | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| | 312 | 80 | 48 | 80 | 441 | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| | 313 | 80 | 48 | 80 | 256 | 15 | 0 | 0 |
| | 315 | 120 | 47 | 120 | 280 | 10 | 0 | 7 |
| | 316 | 120 | 47 | 120 | 67 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| | 317 | 120 | 47 | 120 | 60 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| | 318 | 125 | 45 | 125 | 601 | 0 | 74 | 1 |
| | 319 | 125 | 45 | 125 | 37 | 31 | 0 | 0 |
| | 320 | 125 | 45 | 125 | 800 | 118 | 0 | 0 |
| | 321 | 35 | 43 | 35 | 15 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| | 322 | 35 | 43 | 35 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 0 |
| | 323 | 35 | 43 | 35 | 61 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| | Average | | | | 325.6 | 19.1 | 5.8 | 0.5 |

*R.M. = river mile

** Larvae 1 = Yolk Sack Larvae

Larvae 2 = Post Yolk Sack Larvae

Larvae 3 = Juvenile

Regulatory Docket File

