



United States Department of the Interior

50-286

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

In reply refer to:
ER 71/193

MAY 10 1973



Dear Mr. Muller:

This is in response to your letter of March 20, 1973, which transmitted Supplement Nos. 4 and 5 to the environmental report for Indian Point Nuclear Generating Station, Unit 3, Westchester County, New York.

The combination of fresh water and tidal flows in the vicinity of the plant site is a complex phenomenon which makes modeling and computation of expected thermal effects extremely difficult and open to doubt and manipulation. Only actual measurement of operational temperatures will determine if a different outfall design will be needed; however, based on the Atomic Energy Commission's staff position and this Department's position on the closed cycle method of cooling for Unit 2, we would strongly suggest that this unit also use a closed cycle cooling system, especially if additional units are contemplated at this site.

We hope these comments will be helpful to you in the preparation of the draft environmental statement.

Sincerely yours,

Assistant

Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Daniel R. Muller
Assistant Director for
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