

FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20426

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. George W. Knighton, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch No. 1
Division of Site Safety and Environmental
Analysis
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555



SEP 1 1977

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Dear Mr. Knighton:

This is in response to your letter of August 8, 1977, requesting comments on the NRC Draft Environmental Statement (DES) related to the proposed construction of a closed cycle cooling system for Indian Point No. 3 Nuclear Unit (Docket No. 50-286), owned by the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY) and operated by Consolidated Edison Company of New York (Con Ed). The unit is located at Indian Point, Village of Buchanan, Westchester County, New York State. The new cooling system is to embody a natural draft cooling tower, to replace the existing once-through cooling system.

These comments by the Federal Power Commission's Bureau of Power Staff are made in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and are directed to the effect on the New York Power Pool (NYPP) system (of which Con Ed and PASNY are members) of the derating, and temporary loss of total capacity, at Indian Point No. 3 due to the installation of the closed cycle cooling system. The NYPP is involved because it dispatches generation for all of its member systems.

In preparing these comments, the Bureau of Power Staff has considered the NRC Draft Environmental Statement, and the Northeast Power Coordinating Council's (NPCC) April 1, 1977, "Report on Reliability and Adequacy of Electric Power" (submitted pursuant to FPC Order 383-4, Docket R-362).

Indian Point No. 3, with a net dependable capability of 1,033 MW, would be shutdown for seven months (from September 15, 1981, to April 15, 1982) while it is being connected to the new closed cycle cooling system. After installation of the new cooling system Indian Point No. 3 will be derated 78 MW to a net dependable capability of 955 MW.



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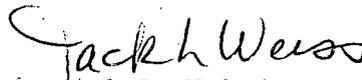
Mr. George W. Knighton

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The attached table shows NYPP's load and supply situation for the winter peak period during initial shutdown and for the summer peak period after tie-in. NYPP is a predominantly summer peaking system and the shutdown period would occur during the winter while the derating would have the greatest effect during the summer peak period. After the derating the NYPP reserve margin would be above the 18 percent NYPP criteria for the shutdown period and through 1986.

The Bureau of Power Staff concludes that there will be no loss of reliability to NYPP due to the installation of the closed cycle cooling system at Indian Point No. 3. The possible reduced reliability of the more complex cooling system will be eliminated due to the fact that Indian Point No. 3 can also use the existing once-through cooling system.

Very truly yours,


Jack L. Weiss

Acting Chief, Bureau of Power

