Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20461

FEB 4 1980

Youngblood - pls put copy in PDR etc. Done 2-8-80 pgg

NRC-Docket Nos. 50-247 and 50-286

Mr. Harold R. Denton
Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Denton:

This letter is provided in response to your request of January 31, 1980. The following information pertains to power system reliability should both Indian Point Units 2 and 3 be required to shut down for an extended period of time.

Bulk power supply in New York State is coordinated on a statewide basis by the New York Power Pool. Approximately 50 percent of the total load and generation in the state is located in the New York City metropolitan area. This significant concentration of load and generation requires that system reliability be evaluated on a statewide and on a regional basis. The primary region of concern is the southeast New York area (SENY), which includes the Consolidated Edison Company, Long Island Lighting Company, and certain customers of the Power Authority of the State of New York.

The total state and the SENY power supply from a generation reserve viewpoint would be expected to be as follows, with the Indian Point Nos. 2 and 3 units not in service:

	Reserve Margin in Percent	
Period	Total State	SENY
February-March 1980	24.7	53.2
Summer 1980	20.9	19.6

These margins do not include any allowance for scheduled maintenance, forced outages, or unit deratings. Preliminary evaluation indicates that these margins are adequate to provide reliable electric service in both the state and the SENY areas. Additional data and evaluation are required before a final reliability adequacy conclusion can be determined.

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Transmission lines connecting the SENY area to the remainder of the state and to the New Jersey and New England areas provide a total import capability of about 2,500 MW. The 1977 New York City blackout occurred when there was a significant disruption to some of these transmission lines connecting the SENY area to the rest of New York. Initial evaluation of the available data indicates that there may be a transmission line overloading problem should both Indian Point units be out of service and the 345-kv transmission lines between Millwood and Pleasant Valley experience an outage. There are indications that a transmission system voltage problem could occur during certain other outage contingencies.

Further data collection and analysis will be necessary to develop more specific power system reliability conclusions. This effort is in progress and can be completed by later this month.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Weiner

Richard E. Weiner
Director
Division of Power Supply
and Reliability
Economic Regulatory Administration

local PDR

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

FEB 14 1980

Docket Nos.: 50-247
and 50-286

Mr. Richard Weiner, Director
Power Supply and Reliability
Economic Regulatory Administration
U.S. Department of Energy
2000 M Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20461

Dear Mr. Weiner:

Thank you for the preliminary evaluation concerning the potential system stability impacts that may occur in the southeast New York area (SENY), if Indian Point, Units 2 and 3, were not in operation from February 15, 1980, until January 1, 1981.

Inasmuch as, the Commission gave authorization during their meeting on February 5, 1980, for the continued operation of Indian Point, Units 2 and 3, while the staff continues their investigation with regard to accident mitigation, a detailed evaluation of the SENY system stability is not required at this time. This confirms our February 8, 1980 telephone conversation.

Thank you again for the preliminary evaluation provided on February 4, 1980.

Sincerely,

B. J. Youngblood

B. J. Youngblood, Chief
Cost-Benefit Anlysis Branch
Division of Site Safety and
Environmental Analysis