

**UNION OF  
CONCERNED  
SCIENTISTS**

50-247

October 2, 1999

Mr. Jefferey F. Harold, Project Manager  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

**SUBJECT: CANDIDATE DATES FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

Dear Mr. Harold:

Thank you for your letter dated October 1, 1999, with the attached letter to Consolidated Edison. In the letter to Con Ed, the NRC staff made a Request for Additional Information (RAI) regarding our petition. From this RAI, I conclude the following:

1. The Petition Review Board which met on September 22, 1999, on our petition did not reject the petition. Thus, we must have cleared that hurdle in Management Directive 8.11.
2. We must have raised new issues with safety significance in our petition, since by NRR policy (which I believe is documented in NRR Memo No. 802 or 803) RAIs will not be submitted to licensees for old issues or issues having no safety significance.

Well, since we have signs that our petition was not rejected and that we have raised new issues having safety significance, the next step in 10 CFR 2.206 calls for a public hearing. I propose any one of the following dates and times for the public hearing regarding our petition:

December 9, 1999 – 10:35am  
December 14, 1999 – 2:45pm  
December 16, 1999 – 7:55am

Please get back to me with the finalized date, time, and location of the public hearing at your convenience.

Sincerely,



David A. Lochbaum  
Nuclear Safety Engineer  
Union of Concerned Scientists

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September 28, 1999

Mr. Hubert J. Miller  
Regional Administrator  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

**SUBJECT: NRC STAFF INTERACTIONS WITH THE PUBLIC**

Dear Mr. Miller:

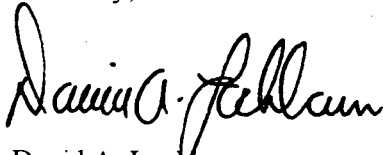
The Indian Point 2 Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) exit meeting chaired by Mr. William Ruland of your staff on Monday, September 27, 1999, had several positive indications from our perspective. Mr. Ruland, Mr. Yerokun, and you consistently attempted to simplify terms being used and refrained from reliance on acronyms. Additionally, some of the background material covered by Mr. Yerokun probably would not have been provided had the NRC staff's intended audience been just Con Ed. This material was obviously included for the benefit of the public observers at the meeting.

Such efforts are commendable and really do help. To supplement these initiatives, I respectfully recommend the following two measures:

1. Use of Simplified Drawings: A simplified drawing of the electrical distribution system would have helped people better understand the relationship between the 480V safety bus, its emergency diesel generator, the 24V DC battery charger, and the 24V DC bus.
2. Glossary of Key Terms: A short glossary of terms like safety bus, power operated relief valve, pressurizer, auxiliary feedwater system, Unusual Event, etc. would have helped people understand the AIT's findings. For example, a table showing the frequencies that Unusual Events, Alerts, Site Area Emergencies, and General Emergencies are declared would have helped people put the Unusual Event declaration at IP2 in context.

Clearly, these measures would not be needed for all public meetings. But there are occasions, such as last night's meeting, where they would be helpful.

Sincerely,



David A. Lockbaum  
Nuclear Safety Engineer  
Union of Concerned Scientists

cc: Mr. Roy Zimmerman

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