

June 26, 1995

Mr. Leslie Hill, Jr.
Resident Manager
New York Power Authority (NYPA)
Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant
Post Office Box 215
Buchanan, New York 10511

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 50-286/95-05

Dear Mr. Hill:

This refers to the safety inspection conducted by Messrs. D. Lew, T. Frye, R. Rasmussen and others of this office, from April 18, 1995, through May 29, 1995. The inspection included a review of activities authorized for the Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant, Buchanan, New York. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and members of your staff at an exit meeting on June 2, 1995.

This inspection was directed toward areas important to public health and safety. Areas examined are identified in the enclosed report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations of activities in progress. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements.

Overall the activities observed were effective in assuring the safe operation of the Indian Point 3 Nuclear Power Plant. During the period, your staff demonstrated a good questioning attitude and safety focus. The most notable were the identifications of a reactor flange outer o-ring leak, which was leaking at about 1/100th of a gallon per minute, and a pin hole leak in a safety system instrument line, which was not detectable by dye penetrant testing. Your aggressive pursuit of these indications and subsequent resolution of the deficiencies were conservative and reflected a high emphasis on safety.

We noted your excellent response to several equipment problems. The residual heat removal system instrument line was repaired within the limiting condition for operation (LCO) time frame, and the engineering analyses provided a sound safety basis for performing the repair in the hot shutdown condition. The repairs to a service water system valve and a charging system valve were performed in a fraction of the allowed LCO times of 12 hours and 24 hours, respectively.

A violation was identified for an inoperable reactor protection system train B relay for the 33 steam generator 10-10 level signal. Your programmatic review of surveillance procedures identified the inadequate testing of this relay, and you appropriately revised the procedure prior to use. We consider your identification of this relay problem to be an example of the improvements made

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during the outage. In accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, section VII.B.2, this violation will not be cited.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

Curtis J. Cowgill III, Chief
Projects Branch No. 1
Division of Reactor Projects

Docket No. 50-286

Enclosure: NRC Region I Inspection Report No. 50-286/95-05

cc w/encl:

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W. Josiger, Vice President - Nuclear Operations
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G. Goldstein, Assistant General Counsel
C. Faison, Director, Nuclear Licensing
A. Donahue, Mayor, Village of Buchanan
C. Jackson, Nuclear Safety and Licensing Manager (Con Ed)
C. Donaldson, Esquire, Assistant Attorney General, New York Department of Law
Chairman, Standing Committee on Energy, NYS Assembly
Chairman, Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation, NYS Assembly
E. Nullet, Executive Chair, Four County Nuclear Safety Committee
Chairman, Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions
Robert D. Pollard, Union of Concerned Scientists
The Honorable Sandra Galef, NYS Assembly
Director, Energy & Water Division, Department of Public Service, State of
New York
A. Song, Assistant Secretary to the Governor
F. Valentino, President, New York State Energy Research
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