## OFFICE OF THE

**GENERAL COUNSEL** 

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 26, 2011

Lawrence G. McDade, Chair Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop: T-3 F23 Washington, D.C. 20555

Dr. Richard E. Wardwell Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Mail Stop: T-3 F23 Washington, D.C. 20555 Dr. Kaye D. Lathrop Administrative Judge Atomic Safety and Licensing Board 190 Cedar Lane E. Ridgway, CO 81432

In the Matter of ENTERGY NUCLEAR OPERATIONS, INC. (Indian Point Nuclear Generating Unit Nos. 2 and 3)

<u>Docket Nos. 50-247-LR/286-LR</u>

## Dear Administrative Judges:

As you may know, on February 10, 2011, the NRC Staff ("Staff") issued requests for additional information ("RAIs") to Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. ("Entergy" or Applicant"), concerning its license renewal application for Indian Point Units 2 and 3 (ML110190809); Entergy responded to those RAIs on March 28, 2011 (ML110960360). In addition, I understand that a limited number of further RAIs will be issued shortly, and that Entergy's responses are expected to be submitted on or about the end of June 2011.

The Staff has determined that it will issue a Supplement to its Safety Evaluation Report ("SER") concerning the Indian Point license renewal application, in which it will provide its evaluation of the additional information it has received (or will soon receive) from the Applicant. Currently, the Staff anticipates that its SER Supplement will be issued by the end of July or early August 2011. The SER Supplement is expected to address a number of issues that are the subject of admitted contentions in this proceeding, including: Buried piping (New York Contention 5); low and medium voltage cables (New York Contention 6/7); containment structure integrity (New York Contention 24); and metal fatigue (New York Contention 26/Riverkeeper TC-2).

I have informed Counsel for Entergy, Counsel for the State of New York and Counsel for Riverkeeper of the Staff's determination to issue an SER Supplement. In those discussions, questions were raised as to whether the Staff's issuance of an SER Supplement could impact

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the testimony or hearing schedule in this proceeding. While the Staff is currently unable to state what impact the SER Supplement may have upon the parties' testimony, the Staff does expect that its testimony would address some of the information to be discussed in the SER Supplement.

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The Staff would be amenable to discussing the SER Supplement, its potential impact on testimony or the hearing schedule, or any other scheduling matters in a prehearing conference call, if the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board determines that convening such a conference call is appropriate or warranted.

Sincerely,

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Sherwin E. Turk

Counsel for NRC Staff

cc: Service List