

**UNITED STATES**  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
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**NRC INVESTIGATES EMPLOYEE'S ALLEGATIONS**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has directed two senior officials--the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and the Agency Inspector--to investigate an employee's allegations concerning reactor safety and his claim that individual staff views have been disregarded by the NRC management system.

Chairman William A. Anders said today he first learned of the allegations of Robert Pollard, an electrical engineer in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation--and of Pollard's resignation from NRC--from Mike Wallace of CBS during the filming of an interview on January 13. Pollard had handed the resignation to his supervisor a few minutes earlier.

During the interview with Anders, Wallace described what he said were Pollard's general concerns about NRC management, and some more specific safety points he said Pollard has raised concerning the Indian Point Station in New York. Pollard has been coordinating the NRC staff licensing review of Indian Point III.

Both Chairman Anders and Benard C. Rusche, Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, have talked at length with Pollard since he submitted his resignation January 13. Though NRC is still working to obtain more specificity with regard to Pollard's concerns, all of the safety issues that he has raised so far with the Commission already had been thoroughly examined by other members of NRC's technical staff and had previously been resolved during the licensing review. But, Pollard apparently is dissatisfied with the way those issues were resolved.

The Commission is proceeding with its investigation to review the staff's consideration and disposition of the safety issues which Pollard identifies.

Additionally, the NRC Inspector has been directed to look into the process by which employee views and concerns are made known internally and evaluated.

"As a key ingredient to executing our responsibilities for public health and safety, the Commission is interested in assuring that there is adequate opportunity for staff members to communicate their views to top management levels," Anders said. "For that reason we have directed our Agency Inspector, Thomas McTiernan, to look into this aspect of Mr. Pollard's allegations."

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