

Docket, Hearing

RAS E-692

From: Christine Delfeld [cdelfeld@optonline.net]
Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2012 3:48 PM
To: Docket, Hearing
Subject: CLOSE INDIAN POINT NOW!

As a concerned citizen who lived directly across the river from Indian Point in the early 1980's during which I witnessed warning sirens signifying problems at the plant going off quite often, I am requesting that your agency close this plant. In this day and age the focus should be on promoting renewable, clean energies that produce no waste, specifically solar and wind power, rather than continuing to support the dangerous older nuclear technology which produces vast amounts of toxic radioactive waste that remains toxic for thousands of years. The nuclear industry is obviously motivated by profit without concern for the safety of the planet as evidenced by the fact that there is no acceptable long-term storage for this radioactive waste because the nuclear industry did not fulfill the mandate that was part of the original licensing of the existing plants requiring development of safer nuclear technology and safe-acceptable long-term storage solutions that would protect the environment, animal life and humans for the length of time this waste remains toxic. Additionally, the original licensing of the existing nuclear plants was set at 40 years with the intention that the industry would come up with safer and cleaner technology in that time and build new, safer plants once the licensing on the original plants expired. Nothing lasts forever and continuing to patch the older equipment at the existing nuclear plants poses an increased risk to the population within at least a 50 mile radius of the plants and the whole world in general as any escaped radioactive particles travel the globe with the wind currents. It is time to stop the insanity and close these aging structures to opt for new, cleaner sources of energy. Indian Point in particular poses a threat to one of the most densely populated areas of the country and kills and maims large numbers of wildlife in one of the most beautiful and pristine areas of this country. Below are the most significant reasons that substantiate my decision to support closure of this plant:

- 1. More than 1,500 tons of radioactive waste** stored in unfortified containers on the banks of the Hudson River at Indian Point. If the two nuclear reactors operate for another 20 years, Entergy would add another 1,000 tons of nuclear waste to containers New York State has described as "vulnerable to attack." What's more, carcinogenic radioisotopes from the plants have been leaking into the Hudson River since at least the early 1990s.
- 2. More than 1 billion dead fish** and other organisms, killed by Indian Point's cooling water intakes every year. Indian Point uses more than 2.5 billion gallons of water per day, sucking river life in with the water. Clean water laws require the use of the best available technology to reduce the environmental damage, but Indian Point's owners have refused – for decades – to upgrade to modern technology. The slaughter helps explain why 10 of 13 signature Hudson River species are in decline.
- 3. An "unworkable" evacuation plan.** After extensive study, James Lee Witt, the former head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, flatly declared Indian Point's evacuation plans "unworkable." What's more, the evacuation plans cover just a 10-mile radius around the plant, when fallout could easily spread 50 miles or more.
- 4. More than 20 million Americans at risk.** A disaster here on the scale of the meltdown at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi plant would endanger millions in and around New York City and the Hudson Valley. The economy of the country, and indeed the world, could be shaken by such a catastrophe.

5. We don't need Indian Point's power. A 2011 study commissioned by Riverkeeper and NRDC found that without Indian Point, the region would have a surplus of power through 2020, and could replace Indian Point many times over with investments in renewable energy, efficiency and transmission. The cost would be as little as \$1-\$5 per month for the typical homeowner.

Please protect the citizens of this country by closing Indian Point.

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