

***Paul M. Blanch***  
***Energy Consultant***

30 November 2016

Rao Tammara  
USNRC  
Washington DC

Dear Mr. Tammara:

Enclosed is a copy of a calculation conducted in accordance meeting the intent of the requirements of 10 CFR 50 Appendix B, Criterion III. We have additional calculations conducted by other professional engineers all using the equations of Regulatory Guide 1.91 with similar results. We have used the assumptions provided by the NRC for mass flow rate and total mass released.

I am fully aware the NRC has no Quality Assurances (QA) requirements for any of its calculations and is reflected in the numerous calculations provided me under FOIA. Because of this, there may be errors even in our calculations.

The following is one example of a calculation and methodology projecting a damaging blast radius of about 4200 feet within 3 minutes. Blast radius at 30 minutes is much greater. This blast radius would encompass the entire Indian Point site, including the unprotected control rooms, switchgear rooms and backup emergency power sources.

The likely outcome of this scenario may be core melting along with spent fuel damage with significant radioactive releases.

**From NRC Regulatory Guide 1.91, Rev. 2, April 2013**

**Equation (1):**

$$R_{min} = Z * W^{.333}$$

where

$R_{min}$  = distance from explosion to point where overpressure will drop to 1.0 psi

$Z$  = scaled distance = 45 ft/lb<sup>.333</sup> when  $R$  is in feet and  $W$  is in pounds

$Z$  = scaled distance = 18 m/kg<sup>.333</sup> when  $R$  is in meters and  $W$  is in kilograms

Check: NUREG-1805 (December 2004) Figure 15-3 supports 45 ft/lb<sup>.333</sup> for 1 psi overpressure

**Equation (2):**

$$W_{eff} = (H_{exp}/H_{TNT}) * W_{exp}$$

where

$W_{eff}$  = effective charge equivalent

$W_{exp}$  = weight of the explosive charge

$H_{exp}$  = heat of detonation of the explosive

$H_{TNT}$  = heat of detonation of TNT

**Equation (3):**

$$E = \alpha * \Delta H_c * mf$$

where

$E$  = blast wave energy, BTU or kilojoules

$\alpha$  = yield (fraction of available combustion energy participating in blast wave = 5% from Table 1)

$\Delta H_c$  = theoretical net heat of combustion (BTU/lb or kilojoules/kilogram)

$mf$  = mass of flammable vapor released (pounds mass or kilograms)

**Equation (4):**

$$W_{TNT} = E / (1900 \text{ BTU/pound mass}) \text{ or } E / (4420 \text{ kilojoules/kilogram})$$

**From FOIA-2015-0076:**

$$\Delta H_c = 50,030 \text{ kilojoules/kilogram}$$

Check: NUREG-1805 (December 2004) Table 3-2 gives 50,000 kJ/kg for LNG and 46,000 kJ/kg for LPG

Check: NUREG-1805 (December 2004) Table 15-2 gives 50,030 kJ/kg for Methane gas

Check: NUREG-1805 (December 2004) Table 15-2 gives 46,360 kJ/kg for Propane gas

Check: NUREG-1805 (December 2004) Table 15-2 gives 47,490 kJ/kg for Ethane gas

$$mf = 376,000 \text{ kilograms} + 200,000 \text{ kilograms} + 100,000 \text{ kilograms} = 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

**Solving Equation (3):**

$$E = \alpha * \Delta H_c * mf$$

$$E = 0.05 * 50,030 \text{ kilojoules/kilogram} * 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$E = 1,691,014,000 \text{ kilojoules for } 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$E = 940,564,000 \text{ kilojoules for } 376,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

**Solving Equation (4):**

$$W_{TNT} = E / (1900 \text{ BTU/pound mass}) \text{ or } E / (4420 \text{ kilojoules/kilogram})$$

$$W_{TNT} = 382,582 \text{ kilograms for } 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$W_{TNT} = 212,797 \text{ kilograms for } 376,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

**Solving Equation (1):**

$$R_{min} = Z * W^{.333}$$

$$R_{min} = 1,301 \text{ meters for } 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$R_{min} = 4,269 \text{ feet for } 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$R_{min} = 0.81 \text{ miles for } 676,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$R_{min} = 1,070 \text{ meters for } 376,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$R_{min} = 3,511 \text{ feet for } 376,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

$$R_{min} = 0.67 \text{ miles for } 376,000 \text{ kilograms}$$

The assumed mass flow rates above were obtained from the NRC from numerous FOIA responses. All three independent calculations yielded about the same blast radius of about 4000 feet after a 3-6 minute release. We all used a yield factor of 5%, the least conservative value provided by Regulatory Guide 1.91.

We are aware of your statements January 12, 2015 (below) that you had not developed a "formal calculation package," yet your calculation formed the basis for the NRC's

approval to FERC and the misleading statements made by the Chairman to members of Congress, thus placing 20 million persons at risk. According to FERC the NRC approval was provided in its Inspection Report of November 7, 2014. This was provided to me in response to a FERC FOIA request.

-----Original Message-----

From: Tammara, Seshagiri  
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015 11:02 AM  
To: McCoppin, Michael  
Subject: FW: IPEC Gasline Analysis

Mike:

Please advise about this request. I have personal hand written calculations and ALOHA computer runs, but do **not have a formal calculation package**. Summarized methodology and results are included in the report transmitted to the Region for their use in the 50.59 Review and Evaluation/Inspection Report.

Thanks,

2.19

FERC's final approval for the safety of Indian Point and 20 million residents was predicated on "no formal calculation package," a statement made by you more than 2 months after FERC received approval from the NRC of "no significant risk." (See your email above). How could FERC approval be given without any formal calculation as you stated above?

Please review the enclosed calculation and identify our inconsistencies between our calculations. We would also like to discuss your meaning of and what does an "unbroken end" of a pipe burst mean. As an amateur plumber, I have not yet seen an "unbroken end" of a pipe burst. These types of errors had this calculation been conducted under some type of QA program.

pipe burst  
with unbroken  
end connected to  
infinite source (valve  
open)

As a cross check, I also ran the unapproved ALOHA program for a single ended pipe break<sup>1</sup> and we can see below the high risk areas range from **4200 feet all the way to 5.8 miles**, somewhat higher than the NRC's calculations of 1100 feet. The actual flow rate for a double ended break would be much greater and but not inconsistent with the NRC's calculated value of 376,000 kg/minute, a number also provided by FOIA. ALOHA may or may not be correct but it does project a blast radius similar to the engineering calculations.

The bottom line is that we have three professional engineers using a QA program and a physical scientist running calculations without any guidelines, procedures, reviews or approvals. The engineers project a blast radius in the range of 4200 feet and confirmed by ALOHA using a single ended break. You calculated a blast radius of about 1100 feet. Why the very significant difference? Claiming "Regulatory Infallibility" will not suffice.

<sup>1</sup> Double ended beaks in the middle of the pipeline can not be calculated by ALOHA

FERC has based its approval of the AIM pipeline on the NRC's assessment of risk and this must be immediately corrected by informing FERC that the NRC's approval of the AIM pipeline must be rescinded until such time that our professional differences are determined.

Is it possible that we could sit down and have a professional dialog and determine why your informal calculation projected an 1100-foot blast radius whereas our formal calculations projected more than 4000 feet using the same approved NRC equations and input assumptions obtained under FOIA and your use of the prohibited EPA ALOHA program?

*SITE DATA:*

*Location: Northeast US*

*Building Air Exchanges Per Hour: 0.45 (unsheltered single storied)*

*Time: November 30, 2016 & 1105 hours EST (using computer's clock)*

*CHEMICAL DATA:*

*Chemical Name: METHANE*

*CAS Number: 74-82-8*

*Molecular Weight: 16.04 g/mol*

*PAC-1: 65000 ppm PAC-2: 230000 ppm PAC-3: 400000 ppm*

*LEL: 50000 ppm UEL: 150000 ppm (Upper Explosive Limit and Lower Explosive Limit)*

*Ambient Boiling Point: -258.7° F*

*Vapor Pressure at Ambient Temperature: greater than 1 atmosphere*

*Ambient Saturation Concentration: 1,000,000 ppm or 100.0%*

*SOURCE STRENGTH:*

*Flammable gas escaping from pipe (not burning)*

*Pipe Diameter: 42 inches Pipe Length: 10000 feet*

*Unbroken end of the pipe is connected to an infinite source*

*Pipe Roughness: smooth Hole Area: 1,385 sq in*

*Pipe Press: 850 psia Pipe Temperature: 70° F*

*Release Duration: ALOHA limited the duration to 1 hour*

*Max Average Sustained Release Rate: 339,000 pounds/min<sup>2</sup>  
(Averaged over a minute or more)*

*Total Amount Released: 16,999,870 pounds*

*THREAT ZONE:*

*Threat Modeled: Flammable Area of Vapor Cloud*

*Model Run: Gaussian*

***Red : 1401 yards=4200 feet --- (30000 ppm = 60% LEL<sup>3</sup> = Flame Pockets).***

***Yellow: 5.8 miles --- (5000 ppm = 10% LEL)***

<sup>2</sup> Both ends of pipe releasing methane would be close to the NRC number of 376,000 Kg/Min

<sup>3</sup> Lower Explosion Limit

*THREAT AT POINT:*

*Concentration Estimates at the point:*

*Downwind: 3400 feet*

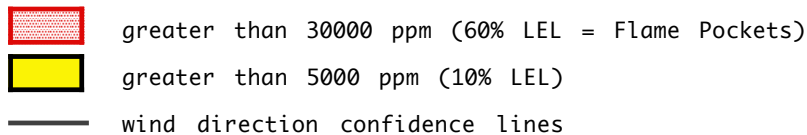
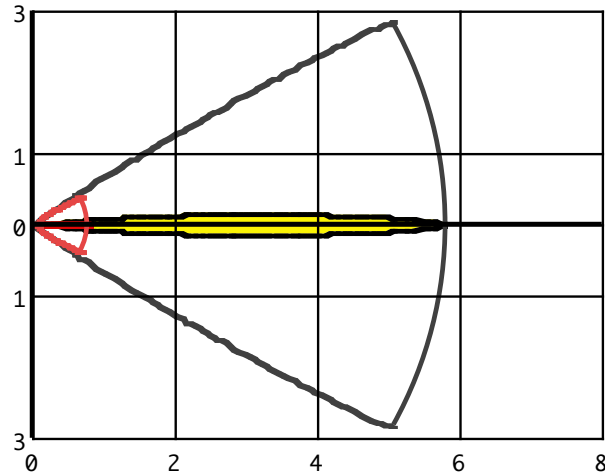
*Off Centerline: 0 feet*

*Max Concentration:*

*Outdoor: 42,300 ppm*

*Indoor: 13,500 ppm*

miles



ALOHA calculated blast radius for 339,000 pounds/min release rate

Your prompt response to my request for a meeting will be appreciated as we can not await the normal response time of the NRC when faced with such differences of opinions and the fact that once the gas is flowing through the new 42-inch AIM line, the plants will be operating in an unanalyzed condition requiring an 8-hour report<sup>4</sup> to the NRC.

*Paul M. Blanch*

Paul Blanch  
135 Hyde Rd.  
West Hartford, CT 06117

<sup>4</sup> 10 CFR 50.72 (B) The nuclear power plant being in an unanalyzed condition that significantly degrades plant safety.

pdblanch@comcast.net  
860-236-0326  
Cell 860-922-3119

## CHAIRMAN Resource

---

**From:** Paul <pmblanch@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 20, 2016 3:48 PM  
**To:** Tammara, Seshagiri  
**Cc:** Paul Blanch; Burritt, Arthur; Miller, Chris; Beasley, Benjamin; Pickett, Douglas; Dean, Bill; Beaulieu, David; Hargensen, Brian; Spicher, Terri; Raspa, Rossana; Setzer, Thomas; McCoppin, Michael; Dorman, Dan; svand58@aol.com; Amy Rosmarin; Ellen Weininger; Sandy Galef; David Buchwald; Dave Lochbaum; Jim Riccio; Lampert Mary; Karen Gentile; Joe Carson; William R. Corcoran; Paul Gallay; vaughey@aol.com; Richard Kuprewicz; CHAIRMAN Resource; Dentel, Glenn  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] QA Calculation for Indian Point blast radius  
**Attachments:** Letter to Tammara on blast radius.pdf; ATT00001.htm

See enclosed pdf letter.

30 November 2016

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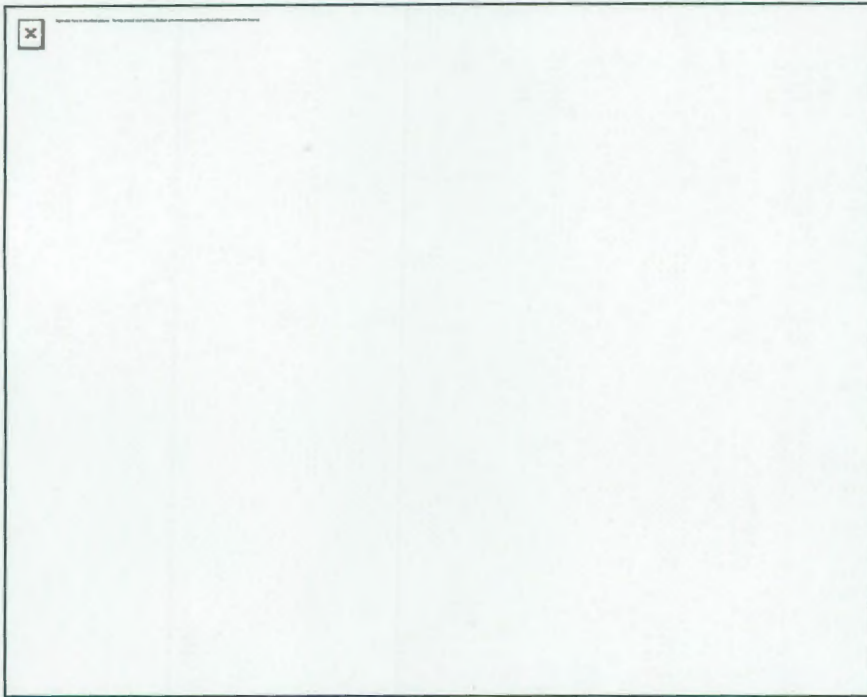
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