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Docket: NRC-2019-0073

Agency Activities in Response to a Portion of the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act

Comment On: NRC-2019-0073-0001

Agency Activities in Response to a Portion of the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act

Document: NRC-2019-0073-DRAFT-0020

Comment on FR Doc # 2019-04960

Submitter Information

Name: Thomas Kaczmarek

Address:

3 Empire State Plaza
 Albany, NY, 12223

Email: thomas.kaczmarek@dps.ny.gov

General Comment

April 17, 2019

Office of Administration
 Mail Stop: TWFN-7-A60M
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Washington, DC 20555-0001

ATTN: Program Management, Announcements and Editing Staff
 Docket ID NRC-2019-0073

Subject: NUCLEAR ENERGY INNOVATION AND MODERNIZATION ACT; COMMUNITY
 ADVISORY BOARDS

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to your March 18, 2019 Federal Register notice, the New York State Indian Point Closure Task Force provides the following comments on the selection of public meeting locations to identify best practices for the establishment and operation of local community advisory boards associated with decommissioning activities. New York recommends the Nuclear Regulatory Commission host one or more of its public

meetings in the Village of Buchanan and the Town of Cortlandt.

Indian Point Energy Center

The unique characteristics of the Indian Point site and facilities (Indian Point) and its surrounding communities make the Village of Buchanan and the Town of Cortlandt natural choices to host public meetings on local community advisory boards associated with decommissioning.

Indian Point is a high capacity nuclear energy facility with an unparalleled community impact and risk profile. Located in Buchanan, New York, an incorporated village within in the Town of Cortlandt, Indian Point is situated on a 240-acre property along the Hudson River just 24 miles north of New York City. In operation since 1962, Indian Point is one of the oldest and longest commercially-operating nuclear energy facilities in the United States. The facility is currently owned and operated by Entergy Corporation and its subsidiaries, and consists of two active reactors, Unit 2 (1032MW) and Unit 3 (1051MW), two high density spent fuel pools, one inactive reactor and spent fuel pool, Unit 1 , and an independent spent fuel storage installation. Units 2 and 3 are scheduled to cease operations by April 30, 2020 and April 30, 2021, respectively. Unit 1 is in long-term deferred SAFSTOR status and is expected to be decommissioned with Units 2 and 3. More than 17 million people live within Indian Points emergency planning zone, far and away the largest such concentration in the country. Given the facilitys proximity to a known fault line and a large population center, decommissioning Indian Point will pose exceptional challenges.

Indian Point is also notable for its tiered operational status. With one unit in long-term deferred SAFSTOR status, and two units scheduled for deactivation in 2020 and 2021, it is possible Indian Point will have three units in different phases at the time of a public hearing.

Indian Point also serves as an early example of the newest decommissioning model. On April 17 2019, Entergy indicated it plans to sell Indian Point to a decommissioning firm shortly after defueling of the facility in 2021. This would make Indian Point the largest facility planned for decommissioning under this arrangement to date. With more sites proposed for similar transactions over the coming years, Indian Point will serve as a primary example for future decommissioning efforts across the country.

Community Engagement

The experiences of the Indian Point Closure Task Force make New York well-positioned to help establish best practices for your proposed local community advisory boards.

Immediately after Entergy announced its intention to close Indian Point in early 2017, Governor Cuomo and the state legislature quickly mobilized to establish the Task Force a body comprised of state, labor, and community leaders and tasked in part with monitoring and addressing decommissioning and site restoration issues. The Task Force meets several times each year to resolve many of the same matters the proposed local community advisory boards will seek to address, and engages regularly with Entergy, NRC, and other stakeholders relevant to the decommissioning process.

These unique characteristics make the community surrounding Indian Point a compelling location to host one or more public meetings. We strongly recommend New Yorks inclusion in this effort and are prepared to offer several venues to accommodate your needs.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tom Kaczmarek at (518) 474-4223 or Thomas.Kaczmarek@dps.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

Thomas Congdon
Chair, Indian Point Closure Task Force
Executive Deputy Director, New York Department of Public Service
Thomas.Congdon@dps.ny.gov

Hon. Peter Harckham
New York State Senate
harckham@nysenate.gov

Hon. Sandy Galef
New York State Assembly
GalefS@nyassembly.gov

Supervisor Linda Puglisi
Town of Cortlandt
lindap@townofcortlandt.com

Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker
Village of Buchanan
TheresaK@villageofbuchanan.com

Attachments

NY IPCTF Comments NRC_2019_0073



Indian Point Closure Task Force

April 17, 2019

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¹ Indian Point Unit 1 operated from 1962 until 1974.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Congdon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas Congdon
Chair, Indian Point Closure Task Force
Executive Deputy Director, New York Department of Public Service
Thomas.Congdon@dps.ny.gov

Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Docket ID NRC-2019-0073

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harckham@nysenate.gov

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Town of Cortlandt
lindap@townofcortlandt.com

Hon. Sandy Galef
New York State Assembly
GalefS@nyassembly.gov

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TheresaK@villageofbuchanan.com