

FEB 27 1979



Mrs. Marie H. Church
Box 196
Boiceville, NY 12412

Dear Mrs. Church:

Thank you for your letter of February 7, 1979, in which you passed along a number of your comments about the energy crisis, radioactive waste disposal, and nuclear power.

I think most of your questions were rhetorical, and not really asking for a factual answer, but I do see one question which I may be able to answer.

At one point in your letter, you ask "Why is Consolidated Edison planning to close down its nuclear power plants at Indian Point?"

If by that you mean to permanently close them down, we are unaware of any plan by Consolidated Edison Company to do that. As you may know, Indian Point Unit 1 was closed down in 1974 by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (then the Atomic Energy Commission) because the plant could not meet the NRC requirements for emergency core cooling systems without a substantial and costly construction program, which the company decided it could not economically justify. Indian Point Unit 2, which is owned by Con Ed, is operating, although it will be shutting down temporarily in the next few months for refueling. The plant is refueled on an average of every 12 - 14 months. Indian Point Unit 3, which was sold some time ago by Con Ed to the Power Authority of the State of New York, is operating and we expect it will continue to operate except for its scheduled shut down for refueling and maintenance later this year.

I am enclosing some statements of NRC's position on some of the issues that you raised in your letter, in the event that the information contained in them will be of some interest to you.

If you have any other questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Karl Abraham
Public Affairs Officer

790322

0011
PAO
Abraham/dih
2/26/79

DIRECTOR
B. H. Grier
2/26/79

Mrs. Marie H. Church

2

FEB 27 1979

Enclosures: Licensing position papers on
Routine Emissions of Radioactivity - As Low As
Is Reasonably Achievable
Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities
Insuring Safety Design of Nuclear Power Plants
NRC Responsibility in Regulation of Nuclear
Power Plants
Disposal of Radioactive Waste
NRC Reactor Safety Philosophy

bcc w/out encl: Chase Stephens, SECY ✓