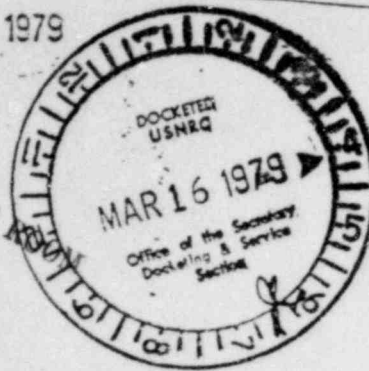


MAR 9 1979

Docket No. 50-322

Irving Like, Esquire
Special Counsel for the County
of Suffolk
200 West Main Street
Babylon, New York 11702



Dear Mr. Like:

We have received your letter, dated December 11, 1978, to the Secretary of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding application of NRC Staff Policy on Open Meetings to meetings held on the Shoreham review. Since the policy in question is one applied by the NRC Staff as distinguished from the Commission itself, your letter has been directed to me for a response.

As it is stated in the Federal Register of June 28, 1978, the Open Meeting Policy is a formal articulation of the general practice that has been followed by the Staff in the past. In accordance with this practice, meetings that were held to exchange technical information and views necessary for the technical review of applications have been noticed and summarized by the NRC Staff. For those Shoreham meetings that have been held to facilitate this technical exchange of information between the Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO) and the NRC Staff, you have been sent the appropriate notices and summaries.

In addition to the technical meetings, other meetings have been held between representatives of LILCO and NRC management that were not noticed. You and other parties to the Shoreham proceeding were informed of these meetings by a letter from NRC Staff Counsel dated January 3, 1979. These meetings were held to discuss the status of the Shoreham licensing review and scheduling of applicant input data and Staff review activities for the various staff branches involved in the review of the Shoreham facility. Since these meetings did not involve the exchange of technical information, or any other information which would affect the result of our review, summaries have not been prepared.

In my view, holding such non-substantive scheduling type meetings with a license applicant without providing notice to other parties or interested persons is not inconsistent with the policy statement. However, for the Shoreham case, such meetings are no longer needed

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as far as the Staff is concerned, and I have instructed my Staff to inform you of all scheduled meetings with the applicant in the future.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:
H. R. Denton

Harold R. Denton, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor
Regulation