UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING APPEAL BOARD

In the Matter of	
LONG ISLAND LIGHTING COMPANY	Docket Nos. 50-516 50-517
and	
NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS) CORPORATION	
(Jamesport Nuclear Power Station,) Units 1 and 2)	

NRC STAFF'S RESPONSE TO APPLICANTS'
"REQUEST THAT THE PROCEEDING BE ENDED"

I. INTRODUCTION

Applicants in a filing dated December 19, 1980 have advised the Atomic Safety and Licensing Appeal Board (Appeal Board) that Long Island Lighting Company's "* * * Board of Directors voted on November 26, 1980, to end the Jamesport nuclear project."—

Applicants had failed to get permission from the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (State Siting Board) to construct the facility.—

As noted in Applicants' filing, at page 2, construction permits were issued by the NRC Staff on January 4, 1979 as authorized by an Atomic Safety and

^{1/ &}quot;Status Report No. 6 And Request That The Proceedings Be Ended" (at p. 2).

^{2/} Applicants' filing also outlines the proceedings before the State Siting Board which has certified a single coal station at the Jamesport site rather than two nuclear units as sought by Applicants. Those proceedings were also the subject of previous "Status Reports" filed by Applicants.

Licensing Board (Licensing Board) "final decision." Appeals of that decision and an earlier "partial initial decision" issued by the Licensing Board are pending before this Appeal Board. Applicants' filing further states that:

[s]ince the Jamesport nuclear units will not be built irrespective of the outcome of this appeal, the issues remaining before the [Appeal Board] are moot. Thus, the Applicants request an end to the appeal as well as to the construction permit proceeding as a whole.

The Staff, which has ascertained that the Jamesport site does not require any significant redress since no construction activities were carried out by Applicants, does not object to the above-noted requests. $\frac{5}{}$

II. DISCUSSION

Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (Sterling Power Project, Nuclear Unit No. 1), ALAB-596, 11 NRC 867 (June 17, 1980), also involved a cancelled nuclear project in New York State which failed to receive State Siting Board approval during an appeal from a Licensing Board decision providing for the grant of a construction permit. There the Appeal Board entered an Order

^{3/ &}quot;Initial Decision (Construction Permit)" LBP-78-41, 8 NRC 750 (December 26, 1978).

^{5/} Staff's lack of objection to the requests should not, however, be taken as an endorsement of Applicants' statements in Part III of the filing regarding the asserted need for "licensing reform." Such statements are, in our view, irrelevant to Applicants' requests.

which: (1) vacated the Licensing Board's decisions on the ground of mootness; (2) terminated the construction permit proceeding; and (3) instructed the Director of Nuclear Reactor Regulation to revoke the two outstanding construction permits by reason of the Appeal Board's vacation of the Licensing Board's decisions. This proceeding is in a similar posture. In response to the Applicants' request, this Appeal Board should enter a similar order to the order entered in the Sterling proceeding.

III. CONCLUSION

Applicants' request for an end to the pending appeals as well as to the construction permit proceeding as a whole should be granted. The outstanding construction permits should be revoked.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernard on Barkinch

Bernard M. Bordenick Counsel for NRC Staff

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 8th day of January, 1981

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC STAFF'S RESPONSE TO APPLICANTS' REQUEST THAT THE PROCEEDING BE ENDED'" in the above-captioned proceeding have been served on the following by deposit in the United States mail, first class, or, as indicated by an asterisk, through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system, this 8th day of January, 1981:

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