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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

W. MICHAEL MCCABE
STAFF DIRECTOR

September 10, 1981

Dr. Nunzio J. Palladino
Chairman
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1717 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Dr. Palladino:

I am writing to follow up our telephone conversation today, during which you explained possible Commission changes in its previously issued order on an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board adjudication on the Indian Point nuclear power plants.

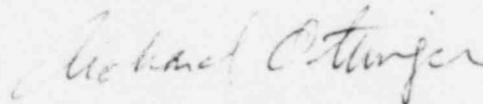
I would like to emphasize my grave concern that Commission efforts to "clarify" the scope of the order might actually involve watering it down. I believe the crucial nature of the issue should rule out any substantive changes in the order issued unanimously by the Commission less than a year ago.

As you know, several of my colleagues and I have written in the past to express our frustration at the Commission's failure to appoint members to the adjudicatory board. That long delay, in concert with a Commission effort to change the scope of the adjudication, would send a most distressing signal.

I hope to hear from you shortly on the exact nature of the changes the Commission contemplates for the Indian Point order.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Ottinger
Chairman

RLO:mb

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