

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD PANEL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

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-> Hon. Nunzio Palladino, Chairman

Hon. John Ahearne, Commissioner

Hon. James Asselstine, Commissioner

Hon. Victor Gilinsky, Commissioner

Hon. Thomas Roberts, Commissioner

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555

Gentlemen:

DOCKETING & SERVICE

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It is with great regret that I tender my resignation, effective immediately, as an Administrative Judge of the Atomic Safety & Licensing Board.

Since 1980 I have been fortunate to have served as a judge on the Licensing Board Panel, and have benefited, particularly, in serving in so important a function with one of the finest groups of men and women I know. Perhaps it has been the contagion of their independence and striving for truth which has given me the courage to resign.

Certain aspects of orders in other proceedings, such as the Zimmer case, have played a substantial part in my decision, but it is primarily because of Indian Point that I am leaving.

It is not necessary, at this time, to review in detail my disagreement with all the changes which have come about in the Indian Point proceeding. It appears to me, however, that the goal of a truly independent Licensing Board has been need-lessly subordinated to the commission's other goals in the

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Indian Point case. I refer here to (1) the commission's procedural rulings on contentions and proof; (2) the commission's acceptance of ex parte communications while the board was conducting its investigation; and (3) the Commission's unwillingness to meet with the board in order to resolve administrative differences which would, I feel, have insured a full and fair investigation - a goal I thought we shared. Thus, to sit as the Chairman of the Board under the new restrictions and rulings would be incompatible with my sense of fairness.

Unfortunately this case has indicated to me that we do not share a common concern for the processes which regulate the resolution of these matters or in making the NRC's legal process a finer craft so that the quality of its hearings may be improved and public participation increased.

In all events, I leave with appreciation for the honor you permitted me in chairing this fine board and hope that my leaving will not prove an undue burden to you, the board or the parties. It is certainly not intended as such.

I respect you all for your honest concern and personal integrity. Though reasonable men may have honest differences of opinion and want to strive together there comes a time when one's beliefs force him to depart and go his own way.

LOUIS J CARTER

Administrative Judge

cc: Hon. B. Paul Cotter, Hon. Fred Shon, Hon. Oscar H. Paris

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY OF NEW YORK, INC.	Docket No.(s)	50-247 50-286
(Indian Point Station, Unit Nos.) 2 and 3)		

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document(s) upon each person designated on the official service list compiled by the Office of the Secretary of the Commission in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.712 of 10 CFR Part 2 -Rules of Practice, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Kules and Regulations.

Dated at Washington, D.C. this day of SOPT 1971.

> inni K Dewners Office of the Secretary of the Commission

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

CONSOLIDATED EDISON COMPANY OF
NEW YORK, ET AL.
FORTR AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
(Indian Point, Unics 2 and 3)

Docket Nos. 50-247SF 50-286SP

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