

DAVID BUCHWALD 93rd Assembly District

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK



SANDY GALEF 95^h Assembly District

March 11, 2020

Chairman Kristine Svinicki U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Svinicki,

The Inspector General of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recently released a report, Concerns Pertaining to Gas Transmission Lines at the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant Case No. 16-024. The report detailed the deeply flawed process through which the NRC approved the Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) Project. The AIM Project traverses the Indian Point Energy Center (IPEC) site. This is an incredibly dangerous combination as it mixes a nuclear power plant with a high-pressure natural gas pipeline. While the NRC has provided assurances of safety, the Inspector General found those assurances to be misleading and inaccurate. It is horrifying and unimaginable how the NRC, the Federal Agency tasked with ensuring that our Nuclear Power Plants are safe, could so recklessly endanger the lives and wellbeing of a community.

The flawed analyses underpinned the approval, by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), of the AIM Project. This project was fiercely opposed by many in the area who deemed it unsafe, despite assurances to the contrary. We are dismayed that the NRC could be so flippant and irresponsible.

It is time to take account of what happened and announce what steps are being taken to mitigate the harm done. Chairman Svinicki, we call on you to explain, in person, to our constituents and communities how your agency allowed their lives to be endangered. We want answers and explanations of the process that peddled false conclusions about the pipeline's safety. Your presence will allow the NRC to retain what little public confidence it has. In the meantime, we demand that you retract the NRC's analyses used by FERC. We call on you to urge FERC to suspend the flow of gas through the AIM Project until an independent assessment is conducted and can establish, for the first time, that the pipeline is safe. Your agency created this hazard. We call on you to make it right. Close the AIM Project until it is proven to be safe through an independent assessment in addition to the NRC.

We await your speedy response and the announcement of your public meeting.

Sincerely,

Sandy Galef

95th Assembly District

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