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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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BEFORE THE COMMISSION

OFFICE OF SECRETARY DOCKETING & SERVICE BRANCH

In the Matter of

LONG ISLAND LIGHTING COMPANY

(Shoreham Nuclear Power Station,
Unit 1)

Docket No. 50-322-0L-4 (Low Power)

NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO STATE AND COUNTY RENEWAL OF REQUEST FOR NRC SUPPLEMENTATION OF SHOREHAM FES

On March 4, 1985, Suffolk County and the State of New York filed a motion requesting the Commission to reconsider its Order dated June 5, 1984 (CLI-84-9, 19 NRC 1323) denying Intervenors' request that the NRC issue a supplement to the Shoreham Final Environmental Statement ("FES") analyzing the costs and benefits of operation of Shoreham at 5% power followed by no full power operation. As the basis for this request for reconsideration, the State and County rely on a February 20, 1985 decision by the New York State Supreme Court, Suffolk County, holding that LILCO lacks the legal authority (under New York State law) to implement its emergency plan.

The Staff opposes Intervenors' motion. The Commission's rejection of Intervenors' earlier request for supplementation of the Shoreham FES was predicated on the refusal on the part of the Commission (when considering a low power license request) to engage in speculation as to whether offsite emergency planning issues would be resolved satisfactorily for the purposes of issuance of a full-power license.

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8503210145 850319 PDR ADOCK 05000322 G PDR CLI-84-9, <u>supra</u>, 19 NRC at 1327; <u>see also</u>, CLI-83-17, 17 NRC 1032 (1983). While the State trial court's decision passes upon LILCO's authority to implement its offsite emergency plan under state law, that decision does not resolve the question of whether a full-power license will issue in this case. ¹/ In addition to possible appeals of the trial court's decision, the question of federal preemption of state law has been raised before (but not yet ruled upon by) the New York State trial-level court and the Commission's Licensing Board. The final resolution of the emergency planning controversy at Shoreham is no more definitive now than it was last June. Consequently, Intervenors' request for reconsideration should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

Pobert G. Perlis Counsel for NRC Staff

Dated at Bethesda, Maryland this 19th day of March, 1985

It is also noted that on March 18, 1985, a United States District Court determined that Suffolk County resolutions prohibiting County cooperation in an offsite emergency response plan did not violate the supremacy clause of the Constitution by intruding into federally preempted areas involving the regulation of nuclear safety.

Citizens for an Orderly Energy Policy v. Suffolk County, No.

CV-83-4966 (E.D.N.Y.). The District Court was not called upon to and did not address the issue of whether federal law extends to LILCO the right to implement an offsite emergency response plan where it might not have the power to do so under state law. This issue is presently being addressed before the Licensing Board.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC STAFF RESPONSE TO STATE AND COUNTY RENEWAL OF REQUEST FOR NRC SUPPLEMENTATION OF SHOREHAM FES" 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, by deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system this 19th day of March, 1985.

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