The Honorable Norman Lent United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

## Dear Congressman Lent:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of several constituents expressing concern regarding the licensing of the Shoreham nuclear power plant on Long Island.

The Long Island Lighting Company has applied for a license to operate the Shoreham nuclear power plant, which it has announced will be ready for fuel loading in August 1983. This application is under review by an NRC Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, which began hearings on the application on May 4, 1982.

Of the 39 general safety contentions admitted by the Board (excluding emergency planning contentions), twenty have been heard. Nineteen others have been settled. Contentions for on-site emergency planning have been dismissed by the Board, after intervenors' refusal to take part in Board ordered prehearing dispositions. At the request of the NRC staff and Suffolk County, the Board reopened the record for a contention on safety classification and systems interaction following notification on February 9, 1983 of a change in the conclusion reached by an NRC staff member in previously filed testimony.

On February 17, 1983, the Suffolk County Legislature voted that "no local radiological emergency response plan for a serious nuclear accident will protect the health, welfare, and safety of Suffolk County residents", and therefore, "no local radiological emergency plan for response to an accident at the Shoreham plant shall be adopted or implemented". Following the above action by its legislature, the County, on February 23, 1983, filed motions with the Licensing Board to terminate the Shoreham licensing proceeding and to certify the issue to the Commission. The Board ordered the parties to file sequential briefs regarding these motions, and they have done so. It is expected that the Board will rule on the motions in April 1983.

All of the records relating to the Shoreham hearing are available to the general public at the NRC Local Public Document Room, which is located at the Shoreham-Wading River Public Library, Route 25A, Shoreham, NY. These records include the hearing transcripts, the testimony and submittals of various witnesses and the NRC staff's Safety Evaluation Report on the plant.

On April 18, 1983, Mr. William Dircks, NRC's Executive Director for Operations, testified before a Congressional subcormittee at a hearing in long Island on the NRC's emergency preparedness requirements and how these bear on SURNAME.

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emergency planning and preparedness issues at Shoreham. I am enclosing several copies of his prepared statement for your use.

If our office can be of further service, do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Stephen K. Kent

Carlton Kammerer, Director Office of Congressional Affairs

Enclosure: Mr. Dircks Testimony dtd 4/18/83 (3 copies)

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