

**UNION OF
CONCERNED
SCIENTISTS**

September 28, 1999

Mr. Hubert J. Miller
Regional Administrator
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

SUBJECT: NRC STAFF INTERACTIONS WITH THE PUBLIC

Dear Mr. Miller:

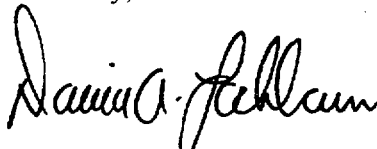
The Indian Point 2 Augmented Inspection Team (AIT) exit meeting chaired by Mr. William Ruland of your staff on Monday, September 27, 1999, had several positive indications from our perspective. Mr. Ruland, Mr. Yerokun, and you consistently attempted to simplify terms being used and refrained from reliance on acronyms. Additionally, some of the background material covered by Mr. Yerokun probably would not have been provided had the NRC staff's intended audience been just Con Ed. This material was obviously included for the benefit of the public observers at the meeting.

Such efforts are commendable and really do help. To supplement these initiatives, I respectfully recommend the following two measures:

1. Use of Simplified Drawings: A simplified drawing of the electrical distribution system would have helped people better understand the relationship between the 480V safety bus, its emergency diesel generator, the 24V DC battery charger, and the 24V DC bus.
2. Glossary of Key Terms: A short glossary of terms like safety bus, power operated relief valve, pressurizer, auxiliary feedwater system, Unusual Event, etc. would have helped people understand the AIT's findings. For example, a table showing the frequencies that Unusual Events, Alerts, Site Area Emergencies, and General Emergencies are declared would have helped people put the Unusual Event declaration at IP2 in context.

Clearly, these measures would not be needed for all public meetings. But there are occasions, such as last night's meeting, where they would be helpful.

Sincerely,



David A. Lockbaum
Nuclear Safety Engineer
Union of Concerned Scientists

cc: Mr. Roy Zimmerman

IE10

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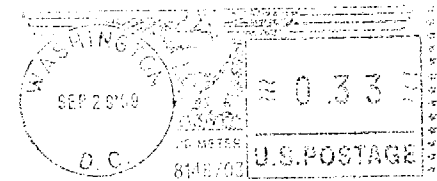
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