

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR PROPOSED LICENSE RENEWAL OF
INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NUMBERS 2 AND 3

12/31/08
73 FR 80440
20

Oval Ballroom
The Colonial Terrace
119 Oregon Rd.
Cortlandt Manor, New York
Thursday, February 12, 2009
1:30 p.m.

FACILITATOR:

LANCE RAKOVAN

NRC STAFF PRESENTING:

DREW STUYVENBERG, Project Manager, Division of License Renewal
BO PHAM, Environmental Review Branch Chief

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(1:32 p.m.)

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MR. RAKOVAN: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Lance Rakovan. I'm a Communication Specialist at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, or NRC, and it's my pleasure to facilitate today's meeting. In that capacity, I'm going to try to do my best to make sure that the meeting runs well and that that everybody gets something out of it. The purpose of today's meeting is to receive your comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, or DSEIS, as you'll hear it called this afternoon, for the proposed license renewal of the Indian Point Nuclear Generation Units Number 2 and 3. The meeting will essentially have two parts.

First, we're going to hear a short presentation from Drew Stuyvenberg on the DSEIS. There were copies of the presentation on the sign-in table when you came in, but in case you didn't get a copy, I will run some of those around as soon as I'm done with my opening comments. We've tried to keep his presentation very short and focused on high-level information so we can get to the real reason that we're here today and that's to listen to you. There were yellow and blue cards on the registration table outside and we ask that if you hadn't

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1 reregistered to speak that you fill out one of the yellow
2 cards. I've got in large stack of the yellow cards and I
3 also have a large number of people that pre-registered.
4 So, due to the great number of people that we have
5 signed-up to talk, I'm going to ask that when you do come
6 up and use the microphone, you keep your comments to
7 about three minutes or less. We hate to enforce this
8 kind of limit, but we do have so many people signed-up to
9 talk that we want to try to give everyone a chance to
10 speak.

11 Due to the high number of people that we do
12 have signed-up, it's possible that we might not be able
13 to get to everybody, but please remember that this is not
14 the only way that you can provide your comments. Drew's
15 going to be going through the other ways you can do so,
16 but you can hand me a written statement today and we'll
17 put it directly into the transcript. You can send your
18 comments in electronically. Again, Drew will be going
19 through the ways that you can do that.

20 We are transcribing tonight's meeting to make
21 sure that we fully capture the comments that we do get.
22 You can help us keep a clean transcript by making sure
23 that use the microphone up here when you speak, keeping
24 side conversations/inside noise to a minimum and, if you
25 could, when you first start speaking, identify yourself

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1 and any group you're with so we make sure that we know
2 who's speaking in terms of the transcript. You can also
3 help us make sure that there is fewer distractions by
4 silencing or putting on vibrate any cell phones or other
5 electronic devices that you have at this point.

6 One other item is that we're hoping that you
7 picked up when you came in is a public meeting feedback
8 form. If you fill that out, you can give that to any of
9 us here that are with the NRC or you can drop in the mail
10 at the end of the meeting. Postage is free. That just
11 kind of gives you a chance to give us an idea of how we
12 did here today and any way that we can improve upon our
13 meetings in the future. Please keep in mind that we are
14 here to receive your comments today. We're going to be
15 responding to any comments you make tonight at the end of
16 the comment period. We'll publish those responses as
17 part of the final environmental statement.

18 The goal of today's meeting is not to reach
19 consensus. You're bound to hear some opinions that you
20 don't necessarily agree with, but we ask that you give
21 the respect to the person who has the floor that you
22 yourself would expect. For those of you who do have the
23 signs, we appreciate your passion, but we do ask that you
24 keep them fairly low so that the people behind you can
25 continue to see whoever is speaking. A few people that I

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1 want to point out before we move on: Sam Lee is our
2 Deputy Director, Division of License Renewal at the NRC.
3 Mel Grey is one of our Branch Chiefs in our Regional
4 Office near Philadelphia. Bo Pham is a Branch Chief for
5 our Environmental Reviews. Dave Wrona is one of our
6 Branch Chiefs, as well, in Projects and Neil Sheehan, who
7 I think is still in the room, is our Public Affairs
8 Officer. So, with that, I'm going to go ahead and turn
9 it over to Drew to give a short presentation and I'll be
10 back and we'll start bringing you up here to speak. Drew
11 --

12 MR. STUYVENBERG: All right. First of all, Lisa
13 could you move that forward two slides, please. There
14 you go. Excellent. Thank you all. As Lance noted, my
15 name is Drew Stuyvenberg and I am a project manager in
16 the Division of License Renewal. Today, I'm going to
17 give you the results of NRC's review of site-specific
18 issues related to the proposed license renewal of Indian
19 Point Units 2 and 3. I'm going to be as brief as I can.
20 Many of you who I've spoken with on the phone or
21 corresponded with over e-mail have signed-up to provide
22 comments on the site-specific draft supplement today.

23 So, briefly, next slide please -- The NRC was
24 established to regulate civilian uses of nuclear material
25 including applications that produce electric power like

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1 Indian Point 2 and 3. NRC conducts license renewal for
2 plants whose owners wish to operate them beyond their
3 initial license period. NRC license renewal reviews
4 address safety issues related to managing the effects of
5 aging, as well as environmental issues related to 20
6 years of operation, an additional 20 years of operation,
7 and any major refurbishment activities that the
8 owner/operator may undertake during or in preparation for
9 an additional 20 years of operation. In all aspects of
10 the NRC's regulation, the NRC's mission is threefold: to
11 ensure adequate protection of public health and safety,
12 to promote the common defense and security and to protect
13 the environment. Next slide please.

14 We are here today to discuss the potential
15 site-specific environmental impacts of license renewal
16 for Indian Point Units 2 and 3. The site specific
17 findings are contained in the Draft Supplemental
18 Environmental Impact Statement that the NRC published on
19 December 22nd of last year. This document contains
20 analyses of all applicable site-specific issues, as well
21 as reviews of issues common to many or all nuclear power
22 plants that the NRC staff first addressed in the Generic
23 Environmental Impact Statement, in order to determine
24 whether the conclusions in the Generic Environmental
25 Impact Statement are still valid for Indian Point Units 2

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1 and 3. In this process, the NRC staff also reviews the
2 environmental impacts of potential alternatives to
3 license renewal in order to determine whether the impacts
4 expected from license renewal are unreasonable. Next
5 slide please.

6 This slide lists the site-specific issues that
7 the NRC staff reviewed for the continued operation of
8 Indian Point Units 2 and 3 during the proposed license
9 renewal period, including potential impacts from possible
10 reactor vessel-head and control-rod drive mechanisms
11 replacements. The first set of issues relates to Indian
12 Point's cooling system. As you likely know, Indian Point
13 Units 2 and 3 withdraw cooling water from the Hudson
14 River and return it heated to the river. The NRC staff
15 determined that the cooling system affects aquatic life
16 by pulling small organisms through the plant called
17 entrainment, by pinning them against plant intake
18 structures called impingement and by returning water to
19 the Hudson that is significantly warmer than it was when
20 the plant returned it called heat shock.

21 The NRC staff evaluated impingement and
22 entrainment jointly and found that impacts could range
23 from small to large depending on the species affected.
24 Some data used for these impact assessment date to when
25 previous owners stopped measuring impingement and

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1 entrainment by or before 1990. Heat shock impacts range
2 from small to moderate due to results of modeling
3 conducted for New York state permits. The only other
4 preliminary finding greater than small is for the
5 threatened and endangered species, specifically to short-
6 nosed sturgeon. Given a lack of recent monitoring data
7 and indications in other studies, the short-nosed
8 sturgeon appears to have been affected by Indian Point
9 prior to installations of traveling screens and a fish
10 return. The staff's preliminary conclusion is that other
11 site-specific issues considered for license renewal are
12 small. Next slide.

13 As I mentioned earlier, NRC staff review issues
14 common to other power plants, to all or most other power
15 plants, during license renewal in order to be sure that
16 the assessments received in Generic Environmental Impact
17 Statement are still valid. Radiological impacts are an
18 example of such an issue. To confirm that radiological
19 impact findings in the GEIS are valid for Indian Point
20 Units 2 and 3, NRC staff reviewed a variety of sources
21 including past NRC inspection reports, State of New York
22 assessments and reports from Entergy.

23 NRC staff looked at how the plants gaseous and
24 liquid effluents are controlled, treated, monitored and
25 released, as well how solid radioactive wastes are

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1 handled, packaged and shipped. During this time, the NRC
2 staff reviewed the large volume of information available
3 on leakage from spent-fuel pools to groundwater and
4 incorporated the results from previous NRC inspections.
5 Based on our review of the data, we found that the
6 calculated radiological dose to the public is a fraction
7 of the NRC's radiation protection limits. Next slide
8 please.

9 When reviewing the potential impacts of license
10 renewal on the environment, NRC staff also looked at the
11 effect on the environment from other past, present and
12 future reasonably foreseeable human actions. The NRC
13 staff preliminarily concluded that there are large
14 cumulative impacts on aquatic resources due to factors
15 like water withdrawals, invasive and nuisance species,
16 potential habitat loss, climate change and increased
17 human populations with their associated development.
18 Similarly, past and continued development in the region
19 contributed to large cumulative impacts on terrestrial
20 resources. NRC staff also determined that cumulative
21 impacts to socio-economics could also be large as the
22 region has developed and will continue to develop over
23 time.

24 In other areas the NRC considered, staff
25 preliminarily concluded that cumulative impacts are

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1 small. Next slide. A major step in determining whether
2 license renewal is reasonable or not, is comparing the
3 likely impacts of license renewal with the likely impacts
4 of alternatives to license renewal.

5 In the draft supplement, NRC staff considered
6 two different sets of alternatives. One set of
7 alternatives was based on changes to the Indian Point
8 cooling system like those proposed in the New York
9 State's 2003 Draft Water Discharge permit, which is
10 currently under adjudication. These include converting
11 the plant to closed-cycle cooling using cooling towers or
12 instituting a combination of changes with potentially
13 similar effect. In this case, a proposed option
14 including modifying plant intakes as well as restoring
15 wetlands in the area or other aquatic habitat to make up
16 for aquatic life killed by the plant's operations.

17 The second set of alternatives staff considered
18 include other ways to generate electricity or replace the
19 power generated by Indian Point. These include coal-
20 fired generation, gas-fired generation and two
21 combinations of alternatives that included wind,
22 conservation, biomass and continued operation of one of
23 the two Indian Point units. Finally, the NRC staff
24 considered what would happen if no action is taken and
25 the Indian Point units shut down at the end of their

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1 licenses without a specific replacement alternative. In
2 general, the NRC staff found that cooling system
3 alternatives would reduce impacts to aquatic resources,
4 but increase impacts to other aspects of the environment
5 like land-based resources. The staff also found that
6 impacts from energy alternatives would vary widely across
7 the various alternatives based on characteristics of
8 those alternatives. But in most cases, construction of
9 new facilities created significant impacts. Next slide.

10 Based on the staff's review of likely
11 environmental impacts from license renewal, as well as
12 potential environmental impacts from alternatives to
13 license renewal, the NRC staff's preliminary
14 recommendation in the DSEIS is that the environmental
15 impacts of license renewal are not so great the license
16 renewal would be unreasonable. Next slide please.

17 The environmental review, however, is not yet
18 completed. Your comments today and all written comments
19 received by the end of the comment period on March 18th
20 will be considered by the NRC staff as we develop the
21 final SEIS, which we plan to issue in February of 2010.
22 The final SEIS will contain the staff's final
23 recommendation on the acceptability of license renewal
24 based on the work we've already performed and the input
25 we receive in the form of comments during the comment

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1 period. Your comments can help to change the staff's
2 findings in the final SEIS. Next slide please. As many
3 of you know, I'm the primary contact for the
4 environmental review. My colleague Kim Green is the
5 primary contact for the safety review. As most of you
6 know, this is all in your packets, so you don't need to
7 write anything down. Hardcopies of the SEIS are
8 available in the entryway, as are copies on CD-ROM.

9 In addition, three local libraries have agreed
10 to make hardcopies available for your inspection and you
11 can find electronic copies of the Draft SEIS on our web
12 site. Next slide please. NRC staff will address written
13 comments in the same way we address spoken comments that
14 we receive today. To submit written comments, you can
15 send them to NRC via e-mail or by conventional mail. You
16 can also drop them off in-person if you wanted. If you
17 have written comments this evening, you can give them too
18 any of the NRC staff members you see around, me included,
19 or Lance, who's facilitating, or any of us with an NRC
20 name card on. So with that, I'm going to turn it back
21 over to Lance and he'll start the public comment portion
22 of this meeting. Thank you for your time.

23 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you, Drew. Okay, we had a
24 large number of people pre-register for the meeting and
25 then we also had a lot of people who filled out the

1 yellow cards. So what I'm going to do is ask everyone to
2 try to keep your comments very brief so we have at least
3 a chance to get everyone through. I can't guarantee that
4 everyone who signed-up is going to have a chance to speak
5 though, unfortunately, due to the large number of people
6 who signed-up. We do have until about 4:30 or so, so we
7 do have a number of hours to get through comments.

8 If somebody who has spoken before you has
9 essentially said what you've like to say, you can
10 definitely come up here and say, you know what he said I
11 completely agree with that or refer back to what they
12 said. Please keep in mind that, as Drew said, this is
13 not the only way that you can get your comments in. You
14 can hand us a written statement here today. I already
15 have a number that I have given directly to our
16 transcriber or you can use any of the other ways that we
17 have here up on the screen right now. So, I'm going to
18 ask to keep your comments to three minutes. I brought
19 with me an old-school timer somewhere that I'm going to
20 try to use, so I will probably give you a bit of a
21 warning as you're getting close and then once you get to
22 about three minutes, I'm going to ask you to wrap it up.

23 Again, just so we can get through the number of
24 people that we have and try to give everyone a chance to
25 speak. I'm going to go ahead and go with the list. I'm

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1 going to start with the people who pre-registered for
2 today's meeting. I will let you know at least a few
3 people in advance as to who I'm going to ask to come up,
4 so that you have a chance to prepare. So the first three
5 speakers, we're going to start with John Parker from the
6 New York State Executive Agencies, then go to Thomas
7 Clegg from Entergy and Dan Durett from the Center for
8 Environment Commerce and Energy. So, if we could start
9 with John, please.

10 MR. PARKER: Thank you, Lance. Good afternoon
11 everyone. My name is John Parker and I am the regional
12 attorney for the Department of Environmental Conservation
13 Region 3. I'm here today in my official capacity
14 representing the executive agencies of the State of New
15 York. I wanted to welcome the NRC, NRC staff, the
16 applicant, local residents and others to our wonderful
17 lower Hudson Valley region. We appreciate the
18 opportunity to present to the NRC our comments on
19 Supplement-38 to the Generic Environmental Impact
20 Statement. We will submit more detailed written comments
21 by the close of the comment period on March 18th.

22 There has never been a complete and thorough
23 environmental review of Indian Point, even though
24 environmental reviews are routinely done on applications
25 like this one. The State of New York has and will

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1 continue to participate in this process, but the draft is
2 inadequate, incomplete and reaches the wrong conclusion
3 preliminarily. There's a commitment by New York to bring
4 renewable energy and energy conservation measures to the
5 forefront of a sustainable energy future. These efforts
6 are part of the state's action to reduce climate change
7 impacts. Yet this review today remains in many ways
8 isolated from all of the change going on around it.

9 We call upon NRC to do a full and thorough
10 environmental review required by law as this process
11 moves from a draft to a final stage. On balance, the
12 state is convinced that a full and complete record will
13 lead to only one conclusion about the environmental
14 impacts of this facility. The Draft Supplemental EIS,
15 which has been issued by NRC ostensibly to fulfill its
16 obligations underneath NEPA, which is the National
17 Environmental Policy Act, that requires the government to
18 look at the environmental impact of the decisions before
19 it makes them. Now, Indian Point is a nuclear generating
20 facility, as we all know. The license is for an
21 additional 20 years. But let's look at the environmental
22 impacts.

23 In the process of generating electricity,
24 Indian Point consumes 2.5 billion gallons of Hudson River
25 water each day. This process has significant impacts and

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1 kills billions of fish and other aquatic organisms each
2 year in addition to numerous other impacts. The Draft
3 Supplemental EIS, as we've learned, concludes
4 preliminarily that the environmental impacts would not
5 preclude a 20-year extension. This Supplemental EIS
6 accepts significant environmental impacts as quote
7 unavoidable. We do not accept this premise nor that they
8 are inevitable.

9 The Department of Environmental Conservation,
10 or DEC, commented on the scope in the fall of 2007, and
11 we submitted detailed written comments in October of 2007
12 as well. These comments raised several environmental
13 issues that are not addressed in a December 2008 draft
14 that we are to talk about today. Turning to some of
15 those issues. New York raised the category of aquatic
16 ecology. As you've heard: entrainment, impingement and
17 thermal impacts to the Hudson River. The NRC's analyses
18 of these impacts undermines its conclusions. We have
19 many questions regarding these analyses, including
20 whether the data reviewed were analyzed correctly.
21 Whether the data support the conclusions reached.
22 Whether the conclusions that the NRC reached are
23 consistent with state and federal standards for the
24 Hudson. And importantly, whether these conclusions are
25 consistent with parallel proceedings before our agency,

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1 DEC.

2 MR. RAKOVAN: Mr. Parker, if you can summarize,
3 please. I'm sorry.

4 MR. PARKER: Okay. I do show -- it's difficult
5 for multiple agencies.

6 MR. RAKOVAN: I understand, but I've got a lot
7 of people who want to speak.

8 MR. PARKER: I have about -- OK. Additional
9 issues which we have a concern with are endangered
10 species, the socioeconomic impacts, historical impacts,
11 impacts of the coastal zone, which we feel are not
12 adequately addressed. We also have concerns about the
13 generic nature of the review and the failure to address
14 site specific issues such as the evacuation planning,
15 seismic earthquake hazards, possibility of terrorist
16 attacks and long-term storage of spent nuclear fuel. In
17 conclusion, there is nothing inevitable or unavoidable
18 about the environmental impacts of the operation of
19 Indian Point.

20 The Draft SEIS review inadequately addresses
21 many of the environmental issues that the NRC is
22 obligated to analyze and assess. Yet despite these
23 shortcomings, or perhaps because of them, the Supplement
24 concludes that the current level of environmental impacts
25 do not need to be altered or changed and that these

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1 impacts should not serve as impediment to license
2 renewal. We disagree and note that the NRC's conclusions
3 do not address issues raised by the State of New York in
4 its scoping process. Thank you.

5 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you. Okay, if we can have
6 Thomas Clegg of Entergy. Next we'll go to Dan Durett and
7 then third to Ricardo Byrd. Mr. Clegg? Is Tom Clegg
8 from Entergy here? Okay, we'll go ahead and go to Dan
9 Durett then for the Center for Environment Commerce and
10 Energy.

11 MR. DURETT: Good afternoon. I would first like
12 to thank the commission for holding this hearing, one on
13 the birth date of Abraham Lincoln and equally and more
14 importantly, during this month of Black history. For
15 those who do not know the significance of that, then
16 please reach out to a person of color and they will
17 explain it. I only have three minutes. My name is Dan
18 Durett. I am the Director of the African American
19 Environmentalists Association, heading up the office in
20 New York.

21 We are an organization dedicated to protecting
22 the environment and enhancing human, animal and plant
23 ecologies and promoting the efficient use of natural
24 resources. We include an African American point of view
25 in environmental policy decision-making, and in resolving

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1 environmental racism and injustice issues through the
2 application of practical environmental solutions. So you
3 see, this is not only a significant hearing, but indeed,
4 a continuation of the voicing of environmental
5 perspectives from people of color. We support, let it be
6 known clearly, that we support the 20-year license
7 renewal for Indian Point. We expressed public support
8 for nuclear power for the first time in 2001 after a two-
9 year internal process of studying and debating the issue.
10 AAEA was the first environmental organization to support
11 nuclear power.

12 I am a veteran environmentalist with 34-years
13 experience working on environmental and energy issues.
14 My comments today address this Draft Generic Impact
15 Statement. But again, we are here to look at the
16 continued operation of Indian Point. Our members in New
17 York breathe the air in a clean-air non-attainment area.
18 Of particular import to our members is the promotion of
19 clean air in African-American communities. Because
20 nuclear power is emission free and has a demonstrated
21 safety record, whereas fossil fuel power contributes to
22 numerous health issues, AAEA New York seeks to promote
23 the safe use of nuclear power and we support Indian Point
24 2 and 3 facilities. These facilities provide significant
25 electrical capacity to the State of New York with minimal

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1 human and other impacts.

2 MR. RAKOVAN: If you could please close.

3 MR. DURETT: I'll close with this then. You
4 have copies of my statement. 40-years ago or during the
5 '60's, there was a particular phrase that rang across
6 this country and it started with a sign like this and it
7 said power to the people. As you think about Indian
8 Point and the continued operation, it is the power of
9 that point, of Indian Point, that gives power to the
10 people. It is looking at the alternatives and what would
11 happen if the plant was closed and the adverse impact on
12 communities of color. We support the license renewal for
13 Indian Point because this facility will continue to
14 provide alternative solutions and advance the
15 participation of people of color in the decision-making
16 process. We started in 2001 looking at this issue and
17 here we are in 2008 still saying let's keep this plant
18 operating so that our communities can have the benefit of
19 clean-air. I hope I'm under my three minutes.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: No, but that's okay. Thank you
21 for concluding. Next, we'll go to Ricardo Byrd from the
22 National Association for Neighborhoods, Arthur Kremer and
23 then George Miranda. And again, please keep in mind, you
24 can refer to a previous speaker or you can give us your
25 written comments.

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1 MR. BYRD: Good afternoon. My name is Ricardo
2 Byrd. I am the executive director of the National
3 Association of Neighborhoods. NAN is one of America's
4 oldest and largest grassroots multi-issue membership
5 organizations. Our mission is to improve the quality of
6 life in America's neighborhoods. Working together with
7 our member organizations, we strive to improve the
8 economic, social, environment, health and safety
9 conditions in neighborhoods.

10 The National Association of Neighborhoods is
11 here today supporting the of Indian Point Energy Center
12 because the center generates reliable, affordable and
13 clean electric power. We are not experts in the
14 generation, transmission and distribution of electricity.
15 However, our members are expert electric rate payers.
16 Business and residential consumers of electric power.
17 People in homes and small businesses across the state are
18 plugging more and more electric devices into outlets to
19 the point where it is hard to find a home or small
20 business that is not running out of outlets. And if the
21 United States Congress has its way, sooner then later, we
22 will all be plugging in every new car and truck into the
23 outlets outside our homes. The decision that will be
24 made regarding the Indian Point Energy Center has huge
25 economic and social consequences for all of New York's

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1 neighborhoods and businesses. Because of our interest in
2 climate change and energy issues, it was important that
3 our Association see a nuclear plant up close and we chose
4 Indian Point.

5 We also brought together six national Black
6 associations of grassroots advocates, print media and
7 elected officials to tour Indian Point Center. The
8 purpose of the tour was to see a plant in operation and
9 talk with the operators. What we saw was a well-
10 maintained facility and an operational team that was
11 focused on their duties and responsibilities in
12 generating power with strict security and safety
13 protocols. In our candid discussions with plant
14 managers, they admitted to having some issues and they
15 were working to improve them. Never being satisfied that
16 they had done enough.

17 I am certain that there are people here today
18 that are advocates for shutting down all nuclear power
19 plants, but the question we must ask in making that
20 decision is, if IPEC was shut down, what would be the
21 consequences? None of us can be certain, however, of
22 what will happen. According to a study published by the
23 Westchester Business Council, within five years
24 electrical cost would raise annually by \$1500 for the
25 average Westchester resident and \$10,000 for the average

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1 Westchester small business. These price spikes would be
2 even more dramatic in New York City where electric prices
3 are higher. In closing, Barak Obama has stated in
4 working with the United States Congress words that apply
5 to this important decision. Do not let the perfect
6 become the enemy of the good. Closing IPEC has the
7 potential to disproportionately affect the economic and
8 social health of New York. On behalf of our membership
9 and the residents of neighborhoods in New York and across
10 the country, the National Association of Neighborhoods
11 urges the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to renew the IPEC
12 license.

13 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir. We'll go now to
14 Arthur Kremer from AREA, after that George Miranda and
15 Phil Musegaas. And if we can keep that backdoor closed
16 please. Thank you.

17 MR. KREMER: Thank you very much. Again, we'd
18 like to thank the commission for holding these hearings.
19 On behalf of the New York Affordable Reliable Energy
20 Alliance, I'm here as chair to voice the views of our
21 hundred members plus for the continued operation of
22 Indian Point Energy Center. We represent business
23 groups, labor unions, an array of community organizations
24 throughout the Hudson Valley and New York City. I served
25 in the New York State legislature for 23 years. I was

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1 the author of the original Power Plant Siting law, which
2 there is none today, because it lapsed some years ago.
3 According to the NRC, this hearing is designed to give
4 members of the public the issue to raise environmental
5 issues that you should consider. There is a lot of
6 factors that you're going to take into account, but I
7 think one of them clearly is air quality. To understand
8 the gravity of the air quality situation in this region,
9 one need only look at the United States Environmental
10 Protection Agency scorecard on air quality.

11 The following areas in New York State are in
12 violation of federal ozone standards, as well as federal
13 standards for particulate matter: the five boroughs of
14 New York City, Long Island, three counties of the lower
15 Hudson Valley, including Westchester, Putnam and
16 Rockland. Dutchess and Orange County are also in
17 violation of federal ozone standards. The American Lung
18 Association's 2007 report shows New York's air quality
19 continuing to worsen with the New York area continuing to
20 be a dangerous place to breathe the air for thousands and
21 thousands of asthma sufferers along with others who are
22 respiratory illnesses.

23 The fact of the matter is that without Indian
24 Point, our air quality would continue to erode and more
25 people would suffer. The continued licensing of the

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1 Indian Point Energy Center may be the difference between
2 dark skies or cleaner air for the entire downstate
3 regions. New York's air quality in this area is now
4 considered one of the worst in the nation. If you
5 eliminate a non-polluting plant like Indian Point and
6 replace it with many new fossil fuel burning facilities,
7 it could be the tipping point to an environmental
8 disaster.

9 We understand that one of the alternatives that
10 you talked about in your preliminary study is, can we
11 replace Indian Point with power generated from wind or
12 solar panels. These renewable forms of energy are
13 certainly an important aspect of our energy portfolio.
14 But let's think of it. They are not base-load power
15 sources. In other words, they don't generate electricity
16 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Solar gives us
17 electricity when the sun is out. Not in this region.
18 Wind power plants are the standard base-load sources of
19 electricity, but this is not a region where the wind
20 constantly blows. For example, the mass transit system
21 of New York City or hospitals and emergency rooms and
22 sporting arenas cannot wait for the wind to blow or the
23 sun to shine. They need power on demand and they need it
24 now and Indian Point provides that for them.

25 The thing that makes nuclear the best form of

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1 base-load power is the fact that it doesn't emit harmful
2 pollutants like nitric oxide and sulfur dioxide. So we
3 would urge you in your consideration of factors as to
4 whether the environmental impact of Indian Point Energy
5 Center is: We need the 2000 megawatts. There's no
6 rational environmental alternative. We need this plant
7 for another 20 years.

8 MR. RAKOVAN: OK. Next we'll go to George
9 Miranda, President IBT Joint Council-16. Then to Philip
10 Musegaas from Riverkeeper and third to Joseph Mangano,
11 sorry, the Radiation and Public Health Project.

12 MR. MIRANDA: Good afternoon. My name is George
13 Miranda. I'm the president of New York Teamsters Joint
14 Council-16. The Teamsters Joint Council-16, along with
15 its 120,000 working men and women in the greater New York
16 area, strongly supports the of the Indian Point Energy
17 Center. Our members work at Indian Point and live in the
18 surrounding neighborhoods with their families of Indian
19 Point. Teamsters Joint Council-16 believe that this
20 plant is 100% safe. Re-licensing Indian Point Energy
21 Center is the right move for New York's union workers.
22 Outside of it being the backbone of the downstate regions
23 clean and affordable electricity supply, Indian Point
24 employs thousands of highly skilled workers, including
25 hundreds of unionized workers. In addition to

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1 scientists, physicists, security and maintenance
2 personnel employed at the plant, there are hundreds of
3 thousands of workers throughout the region who rely on
4 the Indian Point's continued operation for their survival
5 and financial survival. At a time when New Yorkers are
6 struggling and experts predict that the loss of 220,000
7 jobs in the state over the next two years, now is not the
8 time to drive working men and women to the unemployment
9 lines.

10 Indian Point remaining open and operational is
11 also a necessary component to creating a prosperous green
12 energy economy. Through our years of work, the Teamsters
13 Joint Council-16 and other unions have shown unwavering
14 dedication to building a socially, economically and
15 environmentally just New York City. We have worked to
16 accomplish this by building new power plants. The
17 construction of which creates new jobs, drives the cost
18 of energy down and pumps millions of dollars into local
19 economies.

20 As the government now looks for ways to
21 stimulate our sagging economy, we should encourage
22 considerable investments in new power plants and other
23 clean energy technology. New Yorkers are now faced with
24 a harsh reality. Governor Patterson and state leaders
25 have reached a deal that would cut \$1.6 billion in

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1 spending from critical priorities, including healthcare,
2 education, human services and economic development. In
3 New York City, where the collapse of the financial sector
4 has caused a \$4 billion shortfall, workers are faced with
5 budget cuts totaling hundreds of millions and reduced
6 services and fare hikes on mass transit. In light of
7 these depression like numbers, the Teamsters believe we
8 should be protecting the jobs provided and created by
9 Indian Point, not eliminating them. Thank you for
10 allowing me the opportunity to address this public forum
11 on the concerns of union workers across New York City.
12 The labor community believes that closing down a vital
13 source of clean and affordable energy like Indian Point
14 will jeopardize jobs and drain millions from local
15 governments. It is the hope of unionized men and women
16 across the region that we work together to produce a
17 solution that not only protects jobs and encourages
18 investment, but also ensures a continuous supply of
19 clean, safe and affordable energy for all of New Yorkers.
20 Thank you.

21 MR. RAKOVAN: OK. Philip Musegaas for
22 Riverkeeper or a substitute, if you could introduce
23 yourself. Then we'll go to Joseph Mangano and Michael
24 Carriere.

25 MS. BRANCATO: Hello everyone. My name is

1 Deborah Brancato. I'm a staff attorney for Riverkeeper.
2 We will be submitting detailed written comment on the
3 Draft Environmental Impact Statement, but for today I
4 just want to highlight some of the major concerns
5 Riverkeeper sees with the NRC staffs analysis of the
6 environmental impacts of relicensing.

7 To begin with, the NRC has completely failed to
8 assess the impacts of nuclear waste storage at Indian
9 Point. Currently, Indian Point houses 1500 tons of
10 nuclear waste on site in pools and in dry-cask storage.
11 If the plant is relicensed for an additional 20 years, at
12 least an additional 1000 tons will accumulate. The Draft
13 Environmental Impact Statement has no analysis whatsoever
14 of a long-term impacts of storing all of this waste on
15 site. Security issues continue to evade any kind of
16 site-specific review. Including the vulnerability of the
17 pools and the dry-casks to terrorist attacks or natural
18 disasters. Given that only last week there was an
19 earthquake that registered a magnitude of 3 in New Jersey
20 right near the Ramapo seismic zone and the Ramapo fault-
21 line does run directly underneath Indian Point, it is
22 truly incumbent upon the NRC to provide an analysis of
23 whether the dry-casks and the pools are designed so that
24 they would be able to withstand such natural occurrences
25 or intentional attacks.

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1 In addition, we take issue with the NRC staffs
2 analysis of the ongoing leaking that is going on from the
3 spent fuel pools. The Unit 1 pools and the Unit 2 pools
4 have been leaking radioactive materials into the
5 groundwater which leaches into the Hudson River for years
6 now. The NRC has concluded in the Environmental Impact
7 Statement that these impacts are not significant. We do
8 not believe they have done a complete analysis. They
9 have merely looked at imminent public health impacts and
10 really have not done any analysis whatsoever of the long-
11 term impacts to the groundwater into the Hudson River
12 ecosystem.

13 In addition to their complete failure to
14 adequately look at nuclear waste storage issues, we also
15 take issue with the NRC's analysis of aquatic impacts due
16 to the once-through cooling system. This cooling system
17 slaughters billions of fish eggs and larvae every year
18 contributing to the overall decline in fish species
19 populations in the Hudson River. And yet the NRC is only
20 able to come to the conclusion of large impact as to one
21 species in the river and that's bluefish. We believe
22 based on current data and analyses that a finding of
23 large impacts is warranted across the board for species
24 in the Hudson River. Of particular concern is the NRC's
25 lack of definitive conclusion as to the impacts to the

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1 endangered species of short-nosed sturgeon, which there's
2 no data showing that they aren't impinged against the
3 cooling water intake screens and yet the NRC has failed
4 to come to any definitive conclusion as to the impacts to
5 that species. So, those are all the remarks I'll provide
6 today. Again, Riverkeeper will be providing detailed
7 written comments by the March 18th deadline and in
8 conclusion we do not agree with the NRC with the overall
9 conclusion that the impacts of relicensing will be not so
10 significant in the future. Thank you.

11 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you for your comments. If
12 we could go next to -- I was told that Joseph Mangano has
13 stepped out, so Manna Jo Greene is going to take his
14 place. Then we'll go to Michael Carriere and Jeff Tkacs.

15 MS. GREENE: My name is Manna Greene and I am
16 the environmental director for Hudson River Sloop
17 Clearwater. We are very concerned about the potential
18 health effects. The Draft Supplemental Environmental
19 Impact Statement issued by the Nuclear Regulatory staff
20 on the relicensing of Indian Point Units 2 and 3
21 concludes that Indian Point poses no significant public
22 health risk. But data, and this was in Joe's report, Joe
23 Mangano's report, data just released by the New York
24 State Department of Health shows that thyroid cancer
25 rates in the four counties closest to Indian Point are

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1 nearly double the U.S. average and that childhood cancer
2 is also above the national rate. Rockland, Orange,
3 Putnam and Westchester Counties in particular. Rockland,
4 Orange and Putnam, are all surrounding Indian Point, have
5 the first, second and third highest thyroid cancer rates
6 from 2001 to 2004. That is higher than all of the 62
7 counties in New York State. Westchester was eighth.

8 In addition, a recent study by the Mother's
9 Milk Project shows that 30 milk samples from breast-
10 feeding mothers and goats that happened to be within 50
11 miles of Indian Point all reveal levels of Strontium-90
12 and the closer you are to the plant the higher the
13 levels. Together these suggest that the emissions from
14 Indian Point may be compromising the health of local
15 residents. We also think that there are environmental
16 justice impacts that the SDEIS dismisses. Specifically,
17 disproportionate impacts upon minority or low income
18 communities including impacts on families of subsistence
19 fishermen who catch fish and crabs that contain traces of
20 Strontium-90 and other isotopes. They call this
21 insignificant.

22 In the GEIS, the generic, done in 1996 for all
23 nuclear power plants, these impacts were considered to be
24 small. The SDEIS focuses on the additional impacts from
25 the planned releases in discharges at Indian Point under

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1 normal operations and also from the leaks of radioactive
2 isotopes that were discovered and are specific to Indian
3 Point. While NRC sees these as small and of no
4 significance, we are not convinced. We believe that this
5 additional burden of radioactivity places at risk the
6 people who are eating and catching fish. Impacts on the
7 proposed Rockland County desalination plant. It is only
8 proposed, but it will take seven and a half million
9 gallons of water out of the Hudson River for drinking
10 water for Rockland County.

11 Also, we think that it underestimates the
12 sustainable energy alternatives that are coming on board
13 very quickly. Are much cleaner and do not require
14 replacement by fossil fuel. We agree with Riverkeeper
15 about the impact on fish and we are very, very concerned
16 about the narrowing of the relicensing process in which
17 things like whether or not the plant could actually be
18 evacuated in the event of an accident or an incident at
19 Indian Point. We don't think there's a viable evacuation
20 plan but that is not allowed to be considered in the
21 relicensing. So we have grave concerns about that. We
22 will submit full comments by March 15th. Thank you.

23 MR. RAKOVAN: Next, I have Michael Carriere from
24 Painters District Council-9. And let me formally
25 apologize for slaughtering all the names that I'm

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1 slaughtering this afternoon. Jeff Tkacs from the town of
2 Cortland is here, but he said that he has heard enough
3 opinions that matches his own and he's going to step
4 down. So then we'll go to George Oros from the
5 Westchester County Board of Legislators and Rick Miranda
6 from the Brooklyn Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Is
7 Michael Carriere here? Again apologizing for the
8 slaughtering of names.

9 MR. OROS: Mine's easy. It's Soros without the
10 `S` or the billions. My name is George Oros. I'm a
11 member of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. I
12 represent the people that live in the shadow of Indian
13 Point. The people of Buchanan, Cortland, Northern
14 Yorktown and Peekskill. And it's ironic to me, as I
15 often argue at my colleagues down-county how those of us
16 who live closest to the plant have the least amount of
17 alarm and concern. And that's probably because those of
18 us that live closest, know the most about the plant and
19 how it operates. One of the things I think has to be
20 brought into mind, in addition to how this plant curbs
21 the carbon emissions, how it's clean energy, how it
22 provides the energy for about 21% of the region's needs.
23 Beyond all of that there's another factor. This plant is
24 a major employer of the people that live in my
25 legislative district. In addition, it is the largest

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1 taxpayer to the school district, to the village of
2 Buchanan, and believe it or not, this plant pays 1% of
3 Westchester Counties property taxes. At a time when the
4 economy is hurting, when the people I represent are
5 hurting, we cannot afford to overlook that. You know, a
6 few years ago there was a resolution passed by our Board
7 of Legislators about Indian Point and the relicensing.
8 But I would hope that those that want to use that as some
9 sort of hammer to try to what prevent the relicensing
10 read it carefully. Because that resolution is
11 conditioned, very specifically, upon three things
12 happening.

13 One of them is someone's going to have to
14 replace the amount of tax dollars that this plant pays
15 before it could close or not be relicensed. Secondly,
16 hire the 900 people. Find them good meaningful jobs that
17 are going to support their families and third replace all
18 of the energy that this plant produces. I don't believe
19 any of those three criteria can be met in the next decade
20 and therefore I don't see how, if you just consider those
21 factors and all the other factors, this plant cannot be
22 relicensed. I'm sure the NRC, I'm sure the operators of
23 this plant, I'm sure the State of New York, the local
24 officials here in the county will do all they can to make
25 sure that this plant is safe. That it is operated

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1 properly. I think that with all of those safeguards in
2 place, the relicensing is something that we would all
3 support here locally. So with that, I want to thank you
4 for the opportunity to address you. I've never done this
5 before, by the way, but I get a little tired of hearing
6 the people out there who don't live in our community and
7 they come to this community. We are in a community here,
8 where we live very peacefully with Indian Point and
9 appreciate what it does for our community. Thank you.

10 MR. RAKOVAN: The next three names that I have
11 are Rick Miranda from the Brooklyn Hispanic Chamber of
12 Commerce, Virginia Montague and then Jimmy Slevin. So,
13 if a Rick Miranda is here. Is that a hand up in the back
14 that you're Rick Miranda, sir?

15 MR. MIRANDA: Yes.

16 MR. RAKOVAN: Do you want to wait and then let
17 someone speak while you prepare?

18 MR. MIRANDA: Yes.

19 MR. RAKOVAN: OK, we'll bring him back, but
20 first we'll go to Virginia Montague. So, we'll go to
21 Virginia and then we'll let Rick speak and then we'll go
22 to Jimmy Slevin.

23 MS. MONTAGUE: Good afternoon. Again, my name
24 is Virginia Montague and I'm president of the New York
25 Coalition of 100 Black Women. I'm here not necessarily

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1 as a representative speaking on behalf of the
2 organization, but in our name its black women. We are
3 advocates for black women, their children and their
4 families. I am also here to give rise, to give voice to
5 those who have woefully, we believe, under-represented in
6 this ongoing debate and that is the children and families
7 of Harlem. On behalf of these two Harlem constituencies,
8 and children and families throughout New York City,
9 communities of color, I stand here today in support of
10 re-licensing Indian Point Energy Center. I would like to
11 first put a face on these consumers of this energy.

12 We've already experienced a lifetime of bad
13 environmental decisions and cannot withstand additional
14 threats to our health and safety. Harlem is already home
15 to one-third of Manhattan's eight bus depots, one of the
16 two sewage treatment plants and both a garbage truck
17 depot and parking lot. There are seven local truck
18 routes from 96th St. to 125th St. alone. An estimated
19 25% of the thousands of trucks running through Harlem
20 each day violate state emission standards. In addition,
21 in nearby Bronx and Queens, there's an extremely high
22 concentration of fossil fuel burning power plants, which
23 pollute our neighborhoods with carbon dioxide and other
24 pollutants.

25 As this debate has taken shape, these

1 neighborhoods have received no reassurance that any power
2 plant built to replace Indian Point, will not once again
3 end up in or near our neighborhood. These environmental
4 policies of the past have already taken a severe toll and
5 Harlem has had one of the highest asthma rates in the
6 country with one in four children suffering from the
7 disease.

8 In addition, asthma causes more hospitalization
9 among Harlem children than any other disease and is among
10 the leading cause of missed school days. The picture
11 becomes even more bleaker when we realize that asthma is
12 also one of the leading causes of death among our
13 children. It is clear that continuing down a path where
14 public policy places further air polluting power plants
15 in our neighborhoods cannot and will not be allowed.
16 Although the youth of Harlem faces a myriad of
17 challenges, we must also remember that single women with
18 children in Harlem also deserve a voice in this debate.
19 The impact of higher priced fuel and energy has pushed
20 poor families led by single women with children to the
21 brink. Harlem families are spending an increased amount
22 of their income to keep pace with rising energy costs.

23 Whether it's through high home heating oil
24 bills, which this year estimated to reach \$2000 a year,
25 to electricity bills, which this year jumped 58% over

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1 last year. We find more poor families are having to
2 choose between which bills to pay and have little left
3 over for educating their children, health care or even
4 savings accounts. It is not just in the form of
5 increased heating oil and electric bills that poor
6 families pay for high energy costs, these families are
7 hit once again at the supermarket, the laundromat and
8 even transit. But when subway and bus fares increase, in
9 communities where 38% of the families live below, the
10 energy cost remains stable. So we believe shutting down
11 Indian Point Energy Center without viable and reliable
12 energy production already in place will cause energy
13 prices to soar and place these already at risk families
14 into further jeopardy. Again, we do indeed support the
15 re-licensing of this energy plant.

16 MR. RAKOVAN: OK, Rick Miranda from the Brooklyn
17 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is prepared and then we'll
18 go to Jimmy Slevin from Utility Workers Local-1 and 2 and
19 then to John Kelly.

20 MR. MIRANDA: Good afternoon, my name is Rick
21 Miranda and as president and CEO of the Brooklyn Hispanic
22 Chamber of Commerce, I rise today in support of the
23 Indian Point Energy Center. Simply put, re-licensing
24 Indian Point Energy Center is the right move for Brooklyn
25 businesses. Our current economic downturn, poses a

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1 difficult challenge for business owners. Brooklyn's
2 unemployment rate of 7.4% outpaces Manhattan, Queens and
3 Staten Island and is at its highest level in five years.
4 Revenues for half of Brooklyn's businesses were flat or
5 down last year when compared to 2007.

6 Today, research shows more small business
7 owners sense a bleak outlook for 2009 with roughly half
8 saying they've been adversely affected by the sour credit
9 markets. In light of these depression type numbers, the
10 last hurdle we should place in front the business owners
11 is the real possibility of higher energy prices. A
12 recent survey ranked energy prices second behind
13 providing affordable health insurance as the most severe
14 problem Brooklyn businesses are facing. And make no
15 mistake about it, closing Indian Point Energy Center
16 would lead to drastic spikes in energy prices for
17 Brooklyn business owners.

18 New York currently has the highest energy
19 prices in the nation and independent reports have
20 concluded that those prices could increase by over
21 \$10,000 a year for businesses if Indian Point is closed.
22 Business owner's should be spending to expand their
23 markets, not to satisfy a volatile energy market. In
24 these uncertain times, we cannot foster a welcoming
25 business climate, where mom and pop stores, young

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1 entrepreneurs and family-run businesses are forced to
2 spend precious dollars just to turn the lights on.
3 Unstable energy prices also jeopardize our organization's
4 mission of advancing the civic, commercial and industrial
5 interest of Brooklyn's Hispanic business owners.
6 Creating an environment where Hispanic business owners
7 can succeed is a key goal of our organization and
8 therefore we must prevent the further energy cost
9 increase.

10 Recognizing these goals, it is essential that
11 the Indian Point Energy Center be re-licensed. We are
12 grateful for the opportunity to address this public
13 forum. We are hopeful that the concerns of the Hispanic
14 business owners in Brooklyn are granted their rightful
15 voice at the decision-making place. We urge cooperation
16 by all parties who are served by Indian Point. It is our
17 hope that we could all work together toward a solution
18 that provides reliable stream of clean energy power for
19 all New Yorkers. Thank you very much.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I'd like to go to Jimmy
21 Slevin, Utility Workers Local-1 & 2, then to John Kelly
22 and third to Al Samuels from the Rockland Business
23 Association.

24 MR. SLEVIN: Good afternoon. My name is Jimmy
25 Slevin. I'm a senior business agent for the Utility

1 Workers Local 1-2. Thank you for letting me appear
2 before you today. Local 1-2 of the UWA, which the union
3 represents most of the workers at Indian Point, is
4 therefore on the frontline of the debate before you
5 today.

6 We are in the best position to contribute the
7 information on the subject of most relevance to the
8 commission. Indian Point is safe. If we had any reason
9 to believe not, we would not let our members work there.
10 Our members cannot only attest to the fact that the
11 commitment to safety operations, but are an intricate
12 part of the team that makes the facility safe. The
13 unparalleled record of plant safety is something we are
14 proud of.

15 As residents of this area and as involved
16 citizens, we are very much concerned with the physical
17 and economic health of the community. Indian Point
18 produces 2000 Mw of electricity, and that represents
19 about 20 to 40% of the needs of this region. Cutting off
20 this substantial and vital supply of power would be a
21 body-blow to the economic health and personal well-being
22 of every citizen. This amount of energy could not be
23 replaced. New construction of fossil power is not
24 feasible in the views of the prevailing environmental
25 concerns and other time-consuming obstacles in their

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1 construction. Green energy sources have not reached the
2 levels of viability that allows us to rely on them in
3 immediate or foreseeable future. Nuclear power is here
4 and it is environmentally clean. Unlike fossil power, it
5 does not contribute to the greenhouse effects or global
6 warming. It does not release harmful carbon emissions
7 into the atmosphere as fossil plants do. What it does is
8 provide us with an inexpensive and safe electrical power.
9 We were told in the recent past that with one of these
10 onsets of deregulation and the unleashing of market
11 forces in the power generation industry, there would be a
12 glut of low-cost energy capacity for all classes of
13 consumers. Deregulation has passed, but the promise
14 results never followed.

15 How could anyone with the best interest of the
16 community in mind, now demand the elimination of 2000 Mw
17 of vital need power without the remote practical
18 expectation that it will be replaced in our lifetime.
19 Even if it could be, the cost would be unimaginable. We
20 refuse to play either the blame game or engage in scare
21 tactics, but let's be realistic, Indian Point has been a
22 mass of this community and region. Those who would not
23 merely tamper with its function should think long and
24 hard about what it would do to them because it would be
25 extremely unwisely counterproductive and blatant

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1 destruction to deny the re-licensing of Indian Point. I
2 thank you again for the opportunity to share my views.
3 Indian Point is a good neighbor. Indian Point is good for
4 the environment and Indian Point deserves to be re-
5 licensed.

6 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, next we'll go to John Kelly,
7 them to an Al Samuels and then to Jacques Degraff.

8 MR. KELLY: Good afternoon, my name is John
9 Kelly. I am the retired director of licensing for
10 Entergy's Northeast operations and had directly worked
11 with the Indian Point plants during my career starting in
12 1970. I moved to this region, living less than 4 miles
13 from the plant in 1971. I have raised my children there.
14 I still live there. I know the plants are safe. I'm
15 addressing a few points in the EIS however. The
16 deterioration of air quality in the lower Hudson Valley,
17 which has been by others, that would be caused by the
18 shutdown of the Indian Point plants is not adequately
19 addressed by the EIS. I'm page 2-29 of the EIS, you note
20 that 22 counties with a total population of more than 16
21 million people within 50 miles of IPEC are in the non-
22 attainment status for compliance with Clean Air Act
23 requirements for ozone. 19 of those counties are also in
24 non-compliance with PM-2.5 particulates and one of those
25 counties, New York County or Manhattan Island, is also in

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1 non-compliance with the PM-10 particulates. On page 8-40
2 of the EIS, you conclude that the impact on air quality
3 of IPEC shutdown and replacement with a state-of-the-art
4 fossil plant would be moderate.

5 On page 8-42, you conclude that the impact on
6 human health would be moderate from this additional air
7 pollution. How many people would be sickened and die
8 because of this moderate impact on human health by
9 closing Indian Point. In an analysis performed in 2002
10 and provided to you on the docket, I've provided an
11 additional copy with these comments to you today, showed
12 the generation replacement power for a shutdown of IPEC
13 coming from existing plants running at higher capacities
14 would result in substantially more air pollution than you
15 analyzed in you or EIS. This is much more likely to
16 happen in construction of new plants in this area. How
17 much more of a human health impact would this have? It's
18 not addressed at this point in time in the EIS. Your EIS
19 does not adequately address the air quality deterioration
20 and negative human health effects of shutdown of IPEC.

21 On page 8-42 of the EIS, you conclude that the
22 long-term socioeconomic impact of shutdown of IPEC would
23 be small to moderate. NEI published a report titled
24 "Economic Benefits of IPEC" using information from 2002.
25 A copy is provided with this statement for your

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1 information. This report noted that IPEC employed more
2 than 1500 people and was directly responsible for 1200
3 more additional jobs in the region, resulting in more
4 than \$200 million in salaries in 2002. Plant purchases
5 in that year exceeded \$280 million and \$50 million was
6 paid in direct local and state taxes by the IPEC
7 facilities in 2002. As a result of IPEC operations, the
8 total taxes paid as a result of economic activity induced
9 by IPEC was \$215 million in 2002, with a total economic
10 benefit of \$1.5 billion for that year. I think this is
11 more than small to moderate. This NEI report also notes
12 that shut down of IPEC would increase electric costs in
13 the region by 13-25%. This would result in additional
14 cost of \$800 million to \$1 billion per year for
15 electricity in the region. Your EIS does not adequately
16 address the enormous economic benefits of IPEC, which
17 would be lost upon plant shutdown. Thank you.

18 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir, and thank you for
19 the written comments. I'll make sure they are included
20 in the comments that we respond to. We'll go now to Al
21 Samuels from the Rockland Business Association and then
22 Jacques Degraff, 100 Black Men and third to Bill
23 Hohlfeld, Local-46 Labor-Management Cooperative Trust.

24 MR. SAMUELS: Good afternoon. My name is Al
25 Samuels. I am President and CEO of the Rockland Business

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1 Association. Our organization represents over a thousand
2 businesses in the region. 24% of our members are from
3 outside of Rockland. 7% from Westchester. 7% from
4 Orange County. We represent a very diverse group. We
5 have a very diverse membership base. We speak on their
6 behalf on many issues concerning rebuilding an expansion
7 of infrastructure, affordable health care and of course
8 the reliability and availability of electricity, which is
9 why I come before you today.

10 Historically, Rockland's residents have rarely
11 viewed Indian Point as being beneficial to the county.
12 While they have participated in the emergency planning
13 process as part of Rocklands officials responsibilities
14 to the E-Plan without either apparent tax or power
15 benefits from the site, some residents and elected
16 officials took the viewpoint there was no viable
17 connection between the site and the county. If recent
18 events have taught us anything, it's that seemingly
19 disconnected pieces of our economy, whether here or
20 thousands of miles away are delicately interconnected and
21 when those pieces break, we all suffer consequences and
22 equally feel the financial impact. The time for
23 Rockland's agnostic feelings towards the future of Indian
24 Point is over.

25 Indian Point's power now flows through our

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1 lines to our businesses and our homes. Indian Point
2 employees live in Rockland County. When they spend their
3 hard-earned money, those dollars flow to our shops, to
4 our gas stations, to our restaurants. When they pay
5 their school taxes that money flows to our classrooms and
6 goes towards paying our teacher salaries. We agree with
7 our colleagues in labor. This is not the time to put
8 union workers on the unemployment line.

9 Now in the face of the mounting budget cuts,
10 the threat of economic collapse, we need Indian Point's,
11 green low-cost electric power more than ever. The lower
12 Hudson Valley receives 18-36% of its electricity from
13 Indian Point. A large amount of power and by any
14 reasonable measure, an amount we cannot easily afford to
15 lose or to replace.

16 Our association is very proud of something we
17 call our green counsel. This group addresses many issues
18 and seeks many green solutions, but business owners
19 cannot rely on empty or fanciful promises of alternative
20 sources of energy. We have businesses to run. Employees
21 to pay. Taxes to make do. We must submit this and pay
22 these things every day. We must have reliable and
23 affordable electricity that runs 24/7 that parallels the
24 demands of our businesses. We need this in order to be
25 competitive in today's economy to survive. The Rockland

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1 Business Association fully supports both our counties and
2 our state's energy efficiency reports and there were
3 efforts. We believe in the investing and the development
4 of new sources of green power. But let's first prove
5 that we can both save enough electricity through new
6 efficiency programs and build enough additional
7 transmission and power producing infrastructure before we
8 casually dismiss 2000 Mw of efficient base-load power
9 right here in the Hudson Valley.

10 Rockland is no stranger to seeing energy
11 providers close up shop. Plant closures such as the
12 Lovett Plant in Stonypoint have significantly impacted
13 the budgets of our North Rockland communities, of which I
14 am a resident, and our school district. We cannot allow
15 other communities to suffer the same consequences. That
16 is why I am here today to support the continued operation
17 of the Indian Point Energy Center and to urge the Nuclear
18 Regulatory Commission to extend the site license for
19 another 20 years. And I thank you very much for your
20 time.

21 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, next will go to Jacques
22 Degraff with 100 Black Men, second to Bill Hohlfeld,
23 Local-46 Labor-Management Cooperative Trust and third to
24 Darwin Davis, Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce.

25 REV. DEGRAFF: Good afternoon. My name is Rev.

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1 Jacques Degraff. I'm second vice-president of the 100
2 Black Men. We're an organization that was founded in
3 1963 to fight for issues of justice on behalf of our
4 community. The symbol on my pin indicates an open door,
5 open to opportunities for our community. We operate
6 under several principles, the principles of education,
7 economic opportunities and health-care. It is because of
8 these three pillars that our organization has been driven
9 here today, because the values are being threatened by
10 this discussion and it's implicit, leaving us out of to
11 many of these discussions.

12 The debate over the Indian Point Energy Center
13 has waged on without participation from New York's
14 diverse communities of color. For too long, our
15 communities have been relegated to the sidelines as
16 energy policy was made in our name, but without our
17 input. A small vocal minority has received the
18 disproportionate level of attention, while the benefits
19 to a larger yet silent majority have not been properly
20 considered. Today, New York's communities of color, from
21 Harlem to Bushwick, from the Bronx to South Jamaica, are
22 here to end this disturbing trend and to say in one
23 unified voice that no decision on the continued operation
24 of Indian Point can be made without substantial
25 contributions from all the communities the power-plant

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1 serves. As an organization devoted to increasing public
2 awareness of health issues which affect our community, we
3 are all too familiar with the impact asthma has on our
4 children. The asthma rate in Harlem is four times the
5 national average with one in four children suffering from
6 serious life altering disease. Nearly one third of New
7 York City children with asthma reside in the Bronx, with
8 neighborhoods like Hunts Point and Mount Haven having
9 among the highest rates of asthma in the country.

10 Asthma is now the leading cause of emergency
11 room visits for our children and missed school days with
12 children in New York City's poorest neighborhoods. The
13 air quality of New York City's poor neighborhoods already
14 stands in violation of federal law and too often it is in
15 our communities that the alternatives to nuclear power,
16 dirty fossil fuel polluting power plants are constructed.
17 Some of these plants are constructed without
18 environmental impact statements and leave our
19 neighborhoods literally suffocating while wealthier, more
20 affluent communities breathe freely. It's as if those
21 who cried not in my backyard when it comes to Indian
22 Point, failed to realize that there are nearby
23 communities with no backyards left. Our community
24 recognizes that the Indian Point Energy Center avoids
25 millions of tons of pollution every year, while providing

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1 us with over 2000 Mw of electricity for our schools, mass
2 transit, hospitals and government institutions. We
3 recognize that without Indian Point, we can expect a
4 drastic spike in the cost of electricity. Coupling the
5 increased electric bills with the diminished economic
6 opportunity our community already faces is the real
7 disaster waiting to happen.

8 We owe it to our children and to our
9 grandchildren to conduct this debate on Indian Point in a
10 responsible manner. We must move past the scare tactics
11 and the old attacks of the past and strive towards a
12 debate that will set the proper course for New York's
13 clean energy future. We must travel this course together
14 as a single group of concerned and conscientious citizens
15 for it is only together that we can strike the balance
16 necessary to ensure the health and safety of all God's
17 creatures. I thank you for allowing me the time to add
18 our concerns to this community debate. We are hopeful
19 that any decision reached will ensure a continued supply
20 of reliable, clean and affordable electricity for all New
21 Yorkers.

22 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, if I could please have Bill
23 Hohlfeld from Local-46 Labor-Management Cooperative
24 Trust, then we'll go to Norman Brown and third to Joanne
25 Campbell, Albany House Residents Association.

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1 MR. HOHLFELD: Thank you for this opportunity to
2 address you this afternoon. My name is Bill Hohlfeld and
3 I'm from the Local-46 Labor-Management Cooperative Trust.
4 On behalf of the working men and women of Local-46, I
5 rise today to speak in support of the Indian Point re-
6 licensing.

7 There's no question that these are tough times
8 for New York's working families. However, New York
9 cannot meet its current and future energy needs without
10 the continued operation of the Indian Point Energy
11 Center. Indian Point produces 2000 Mw of clean emission
12 free electricity and is a critical economic engine for
13 the lower Hudson Valley, responsible for more than \$700
14 million in annual regional economic activity. The New
15 York Independent system operator noted that the closure
16 of Indian Point's reactors would result in, and I quote,
17 an immediate violation of reliability standards. Given
18 that on a typical day, Indian Point provides up to 30% of
19 the power used in New York City and the surrounding
20 region is even more critical to keep Indian Point online.

21 Additionally, Indian Point is also a friend of
22 working families throughout the Hudson Valley. Not only
23 does Indian Point provide reliable low-cost electricity,
24 but organized labor has been central to the continued
25 operation and support of this facility. Working families

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1 deserve a comprehensive commonsense energy plan that will
2 support our state's economic recovery. Indian Point's
3 2000 Mw of clean, reliable, low-cost electricity are
4 completely crucial to this effort. As I speak to you
5 today as a member and a representative of Local-46, as a
6 resident of the Hudson Valley and a member of the area
7 and I ask you, please keep Indian Point open. Thank you
8 very much.

9 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you, sir. We'll go now to
10 Joanne Campbell and then we'll go to Darwin Davis.

11 MS. CAMPBELL: Good afternoon. My name is
12 Joanne Campbell and I am vice-president of Albany Houses
13 Tenants Association in Brooklyn. On behalf of Tenants
14 Association and residents of public housing throughout
15 the borough, I would like to testify today in support of
16 the Indian Point Energy Center. Re-licensing the Indian
17 Point Energy Center is the right move for Brooklyn's
18 public housing families. New York currently has the
19 second-highest energy prices in the nation and in order
20 to secure a future where energy prices are stable and
21 affordable, Indian Point must remain open and
22 operational.

23 Independent studies show that closing Indian
24 Point could increase energy bills for families by
25 thousands of dollars a year. At this time of economic

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1 uncertainty or, now is not the time to force already
2 struggling families to pay more just to turn the lights
3 on. Although I electricity bills are often included with
4 the rent we pay, make no mistake about it, the families I
5 represent at Albany Houses feel the painful sting of
6 increased energy prices throughout our community.

7 The prices families in my neighborhood pay for
8 the milk, corn and other groceries are a direct result of
9 higher energy costs. High energy prices are also felt by
10 those families who rely on New York City's mass transit
11 system because subways and bus fares are similarly
12 increased to keep the pace New York City public housing
13 set last year that if prices continue to rise that they
14 will be forced to raise rents and eliminate hundreds of
15 community and senior centers in my neighborhood needed to
16 survive. Excuse me y'all. There are too many families
17 in my neighborhood that live below the federal poverty
18 line, and it is those families and countless others who
19 are just getting by who cannot withstand even the
20 slightest increase in our electric bills.

21 As the economy threatens to plunge my community
22 into further peril, the voice and concerns of low income
23 Brooklyn must be heard in this debate. Tenants
24 Associations and public housing families in Brooklyn
25 stand together in the belief that New York's clean energy

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1 future must be affordable for all. The crucial first
2 step for towards securing a affordable energy future is
3 to re-license Indian Point so it can remain open an
4 additional 20 years. Thank you for allowing me to add
5 the concerns of the Brooklyn Tenant Association to this
6 debate. I hope we will be able to reach a decision that
7 keeps Indian Point open.

8 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, now if we could go to Darwin
9 Davis from the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and
10 then to Joanne Campbell, Albany House Residents
11 Association -- oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, then we'll go to
12 Frank Garcia from the Bronx Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

13 MR. DAVIS: Thank you for the opportunity to
14 address you this afternoon. My name is Darwin Davis.
15 I'm proud to represent the Greater Harlem Chamber of
16 Commerce and our president Lloyd Williams. We've been in
17 operation for the last 110 years. While the Indian Point
18 Energy Center and Entergy may not directly be in my
19 backyard, the effects of Indian Point have a dramatic
20 impact on it. For that and a host of other reasons, I am
21 here in support of Entergy's request an application for
22 Indian Point's re-licensing. First you should know that
23 Indian Point provides up to 30% of the energy in New York
24 City, where I and 2000 of our Chamber members reside.
25 This is electricity that directly powers our subways, our

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1 schools, our hospitals, our homes and our businesses.
2 Secondly, while the business climate in Harlem has
3 certainly improved over the last decade, the fact of
4 matter is that businesses within our region and the
5 working families who operate them would be severely
6 impacted by the loss of Indian Point's reliable low-cost
7 electricity. Higher utility rates and interrupted
8 service will only move my community further into economic
9 tsunami engulfing much of the nation.

10 Thirdly, Indian Point's environmental benefits
11 are crucial to my community's quality of life. The
12 asthma point has already been raised, I won't add it to
13 the debate. Fourth, energy has proven itself to be a
14 good corporate citizen. It seeks collaboration with
15 nonprofit organizations in the service areas of its
16 facilities and the relationship it has with the Chamber
17 and has had with the New York Urban League when I was its
18 CEO. Communities like Harlem need affordable, reliable
19 and clean sources of energy, which enhance our quality of
20 life. Indian Point does just that. I urge you to
21 support the licensing renewal. Thank you.

22 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, if we could go to Frank
23 Garcia, Bronx Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Then to
24 Reginald Bowman and then to Sharon Perry. And again,
25 since I have a moment while I'm waiting for people to

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1 come up, remember we are specifically looking for
2 comments on the draft environmental scoping. So, any of
3 those kind of comments, please focus on them or again you
4 can always give me a written statement and we'd be glad
5 to take that and put that directly into the transcript.
6 Please --

7 MR. GARCIA: Good afternoon, my name is Frank
8 Garcia. I am chairman of the Bronx Hispanic Chamber of
9 Commerce. I'm also a small Hispanic business. I'm the
10 CEO of Millennium Recycle Toner in the South Bronx. The
11 reason I'm here today is to speak on what's going on with
12 the small businesses in the Bronx. If this Indian Point
13 energy plant closes down, this is going to hurt a lot of
14 our small businesses. Right now, the record of small
15 businesses in the Bronx is closing to 15 to 20 businesses
16 per week because of the climate. We strongly recommend
17 that this plant remain open to be able to help the small
18 businesses to continue being able to be open.

19 Everybody knows that New York pays almost the
20 highest electric bills than any other area. I myself as
21 a small business, this has hurt me very dramatically how
22 the energy has gone up. As a manufacture, it's very hard
23 for me to be able to continue manufacturing in New York,
24 in the Bronx with the increase of electricity. Without
25 electricity, I can't manufacture. I'm asking that the

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1 doors cannot shut down to Indian Point. Why? Because
2 shutting it down, you're shutting businesses down. We
3 are, in this moment, in a crisis in New York City and New
4 York State and we're asking to keep this open to be able
5 to keep businesses still open in New York. A lot of
6 other areas have increased electricity in other states
7 and that's hurt small business. We need to encourage to
8 keep the plant open. A lot of the revenue that the
9 businesses depend on, like the small bodegas or
10 restaurants that I myself represent -- my grandfather was
11 the head of the Latin Grocery Association in the 1960s
12 and if he was a bodega owner right now, he would not have
13 been able to survive his business. Why? Because it
14 increased, not just in electricity, rent and everything
15 else. I encourage today, as a small-business owner, to
16 keep the energy plant open, to keep businesses and small
17 businesses open and to continue with clean energy and to
18 help the community continue growing in the small-business
19 community. Thank you.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Reginald Bowman.
21 Next to Sharon Perry and third to John Mattis.

22 MR. BOWMAN: Good afternoon everyone. Good
23 afternoon. How are you? I know that we're all here on
24 different sides, but we are all in this together. My
25 name is Reginald Bowman and I'm the Chairperson of the

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1 New York City Housing Authority's Resident Council, which
 2 actually represents more than 400,000 New Yorkers that
 3 live in public housing in the five boroughs of the city
 4 of New York. And all the speakers that have come before
 5 me have sort of outlined what I had to say and I just
 6 wanted to make sure that when I came up here today looked
 7 around this room I encouraged all of us who are here,
 8 regardless of which side we are on, to understand that
 9 we're all in this together and there's a domino effect
 10 that takes place when policy decisions are made about
 11 major facilities like this that provide a life source of
 12 energy for all of us that live in the State of New York.
 13 Last summer, gas and electricity bills skyrocketed for
 14 the renters, homeowners, businesses across the country.

15 In New York City in public housing, people say
 16 well, people in public housing don't pay electric bills.
 17 That's no longer true. We that live in public housing
 18 were hit with rent increases that were directly related
 19 to the fact that the energy cost for the New York City
 20 Housing Authority have escalated along with the cost for
 21 everything else that is provided for people in public
 22 housing through those budgets. Those of us that live in
 23 those developments were directly impacted by those
 24 things. It is vitally important to keep Indian Point
 25 open as one of the few sources of energy with reliable

1 output and stable prices. You've heard that over and
2 over again this afternoon and when someone repeats
3 something over and over again, some part of that has to
4 be true.

5 During this period of economic insecurity, we
6 cannot afford to make already struggling families and
7 businesses pay more just to keep our houses warm and you
8 know what happened this winter, it was a brutal winter
9 here up-state. It was a brutal winter down-state. We're
10 paying more and more to keep a houses warm. And if we're
11 going to think about the next 10, 15, 20 years of energy
12 provision for this region, we have to really
13 realistically look at the fact that we're going to have
14 to keep Indian Point online if we're going to provide
15 this energy and then do the intelligent type of thinking
16 together to create policy for the future and to keep the
17 energy and businesses in our community alive. The re-
18 licensing of Indian Point will not only protect families
19 from overly expensive energy costs. It will also help
20 the economy stabilize in this difficult economic time.
21 High prices for gas and oil effect costs across the
22 economy from making and shipping products to subway and
23 bus fares.

24 Indian Point, however, represents stability in
25 this unpredictable atmosphere. The reliability and

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1 stable course of nuclear energy are one of the keys to
2 keeping the economic crisis from spiraling out of control
3 for the people that I represent in public housing in the
4 city of New York. So, as the president of the Council of
5 residents of the New York City Housing Authority, I
6 cannot stand by as opponents of Indian Point threaten to
7 force New York City families to pay higher rents,
8 outrageous energy bills and more for the products and
9 services that we need. New York must move together
10 towards making sure that all families in this state and
11 in the city have access to affordable energy. Re-
12 licensing Indian point is the first step in making that
13 goal a reality. Thank you.

14 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Sharon Perry and
15 then John Mattis and Cheryl Anthony.

16 MS. PERRY: Okay, I just want to make a
17 correction. Good afternoon, my name is Sharonee Perry.
18 I am a community activist and consultant. As a former
19 chairperson of community Board 3 in Brooklyn, I would
20 like to take this time to discuss the many reasons I
21 believe that Indian Point Energy Center should receive a
22 new license valid for 20 years. In this time of
23 financial crisis, we much carefully examine any proposal
24 that would cause costs to rise for New York City
25 families. Currently Indian Point helps to stabilize

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1 energy costs in Brooklyn. While the cost of oil and gas
2 energy can change dramatically based on factors beyond
3 our control, nuclear energy costs are relatively
4 consistent. Many of the lower income communities of
5 Brooklyn, rising costs are making it increasingly
6 difficult for families to survive in order to heat their
7 homes.

8 Independent studies show that closing Indian
9 Point can raise energy costs for families by thousands of
10 dollars per year. Stabilizing energy costs isn't the
11 only reason to keep Indian Point open for our
12 communities. The quality of air that we breathe
13 decreases as more and more people move into Brooklyn,
14 increasing the number of cars that are being used. New
15 York City's air is already harmful. It violates federal
16 safety standards. Because of the poor air quality, our
17 children suffer from asthma. I am a witness to that who
18 has a grandson who is a chronic asthmatic, who I almost
19 lost twice. The poor air quality in our community is
20 particularly caused by the same dirty power plants that
21 would replace Indian Point if it closed.

22 Brooklyn cannot afford to have more of these
23 dirty plants pumping toxic fumes into the air, putting
24 our families in more danger. Unlike dirty plants, Indian
25 Point provides clean and affordable energy to New York

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1 City. Re-licensing Indian Point would keep Brooklyn's
2 air-quality from becoming more harmful and pave the way
3 for New York to develop clean energy sources throughout
4 the city. As Chair of Community Board 3, I've worked
5 with many people, businesses and institutions that keeps
6 Brooklyn strong. Indian Point is part of the larger
7 community affecting Brooklyn that we cannot afford to
8 lose. Thank you.

9 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I'd like to go to John
10 Mattis, then Cheryl Anthony and then Mayor Al Donahue.

11 MR. MATTIS: Good afternoon. My name is John
12 Mattis and I've been a proud resident of the town of
13 Cortland for 36 years. I'm also the chairman of the
14 town's Zoning Board of Appeals. But more importantly,
15 I'm a member of the town's Economic Challenge Committee.
16 The committee is responsible for assisting small business
17 owners, promoting economic development issues and
18 ensuring economics are part of the town's future planning
19 process. As an advocate for those small-business owners,
20 I can tell you that closing Indian Point would be a
21 devastating action for them. As well as the residents of
22 Cortland, like me, who depend on these local businesses
23 for many goods and services as well as feeding the tax
24 base, which includes the school district. Businesses and
25 residents alike depend upon Indian Point for its low-cost

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1 reliable energy, the jobs provided by the site, the taxes
2 paid by Entergy, the support of our community programs,
3 as well as the emergency planning technical expertise we
4 have received being a close neighbor of the site.

5 We hear many negatives about Indian Point in
6 the media. But we never hear the positives associated
7 with the site, which is a shame. Entergy and the workers
8 at Indian Point have been good neighbors to all of us.
9 And in difficult times, as we are facing now, neighbors
10 stick together. This community will not survive without
11 Indian Point. Look across the river at Rockland County,
12 if you want to see what happens to a neighborhood, to a
13 school district, when a power plant leaves you. It's
14 devastating. Your taxes increase dramatically and the
15 higher your taxes move, the more hard-working residents
16 will take flight and leave the area, leaving those behind
17 with an even greater financial burden to carry. There a
18 lot of people here today who do not live here and yet
19 they're telling us how to live our lives. For years,
20 they have spoken of the devastation Indian Point would
21 cause. Yet, it is some of their very greedy Wall Street
22 donors who have destroyed this region.

23 In closing, I'll say to those of you who oppose
24 the re-licensing of this plant, if you are successful,
25 God forbid, and this plant is not re-licensed, I invite

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1 you to move here. Move in this area so that you can
2 share in our economic devastation. So you can share in
3 our runaway taxes. So you can share in our regional
4 brownouts and our regional blackouts. Thank you.

5 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to a Cheryl
6 Anthony, Mayor Alan Donahue and then third to Alfred
7 Placeres.

8 REV. DR. ANTHONY: Good afternoon, my name is
9 Reverend Dr. Cheryl Anthony and I am the pastor and CEO
10 of Jude International Christian Center. Jude
11 International Christian Center is a multi-faceted inner-
12 city ministry that serves as an intermediary to
13 government agencies, the private sector, churches,
14 mosques, temples and synagogues. I have served as a
15 faith-based liaison and advisor to Presidents Bush and
16 Clinton helping them to implement programs within our
17 local community. I'm here today representing my
18 congregation as well as the African-American clergy and
19 elected officials, the Brooklyn Council of Churches and
20 Woman of Faith advocating change. We are here in support
21 of the Indian Point Energy Center.

22 Over the past years, we have seen the air
23 quality in Brooklyn get worse and worse as more people
24 move into our neighborhood and fill our streets with cars
25 and diesel trucks that pollute the air that we breathe.

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1 In fact, the air-quality throughout New York City is
2 dangerously below federal standards. I support the re-
3 licensing of Indian point because I know that nuclear
4 power is a safe way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
5 and pollution in our community and keep Brooklyn safe for
6 future generations. The dangers of rising greenhouse
7 gases and pollution are visible even today, particularly
8 in Brooklyn's low income families.

9 Our children, exposed to dangerously poor air
10 quality are developing, and it's been said previously,
11 but I need to reiterate, are developing asthma at a rate
12 that is four times a national average. Many of
13 Brooklyn's families cannot afford to pay for the mental
14 care and medicines that children need, leading to
15 hospitalization and missed school days for low income
16 children. Yet, because of this disease, poor air quality
17 can be prevented through smart policy decisions and a
18 dedication clean air technology. Re-licensing the Indian
19 Point Energy Center is a critical step in improving air
20 quality in our communities and lowering the number of
21 those that suffer from asthma. Religious leaders
22 throughout Brooklyn see Indian Point as a clean, safe and
23 affordable option for New York City's energy supply.

24 By re-licensing Indian Point, New York has the
25 opportunity to invest in a future that reduces greenhouse

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1 gases and is safer for our children. Thank you for
2 giving me this opportunity to speak today. I hope that
3 through my testimony and that of other supporters, you
4 will see how keeping Indian Point open is the right move
5 for New York. Thank you.

6 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Mayor Al Donahue
7 of the Village of Buchanan, then to Alfred Placeres, U.S.
8 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and then to Reverend Smith,
9 AME Mount Zion Church.

10 MAYOR DONAHUE: Okay, thank you. As Mayor of
11 Buchanan, I have had the distinct honor of representing
12 the more than 2000 residents of the village of Buchanan
13 before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I take this
14 role very seriously as Buchanan is the home to the twin
15 nuclear reactors now known as Indian Point Energy Center
16 under its current owner and operator Entergy. Buchanan
17 has thrived as a community in the shadow of these plants,
18 but never shirked away from its responsibility in
19 ensuring the operator of Indian Point ran these plants in
20 a manner that preserved the health and welfare of area
21 residents. The Village of Buchanan grew side-by-side
22 with the construction of the site as has our appreciation
23 for Entergy's dedication to running these plants well and
24 remaining an involved community partner. Indian Point is
25 responsible for providing approximately 37% of Buchanan's

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1 total operating budget as well as provide substantial
2 financial support to the nearby Hendrick Hudson High
3 School District attended by many of Buchanan's children.
4 In addition, Entergy has invested in local
5 infrastructure, provided critical funding to the library
6 system and even paid for the lighting system at the high
7 school so residents could enjoy football games at night.
8 Entergy has been an outstanding corporate citizen at a
9 time when other corporations are either fleeing the
10 region or significantly cutting back on their corporate
11 philanthropy.

12 Most important, Entergy employees are involved
13 in the community, donating hundreds of hours in
14 volunteering their time. Everything from sitting on a
15 local committee to supporting our great St. Patrick's Day
16 parade. They are here. They are involved. They are
17 part of our community. Since the Indian Point opened in
18 the early 1970s, Buchanan residents have seen Indian
19 Point host its share of dignitaries and detractors,
20 politicians and pundits, friends and foes especially
21 after 9/11. The people in opposition to the Indian Point
22 will always be in opposition to nuclear power. I cannot
23 change their opinion and neither can you. These critics
24 will never see what so many others see, that Indian Point
25 provides 2000 Mw of clean, affordable and reliable

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1 electricity. These plants are absolutely vital to
2 regional community. Our local economy is struggling
3 under the weight of the latest recession. Yet, you're
4 hearing from some individuals today, who, without thought
5 of even a short-term consequences of their actions want
6 to shut down this site plant. I have seen opponents take
7 some outrageous actions, yet your arguments are always
8 the same. In good economic times or bad, before 9/11 or
9 after 9/11, certainly the NRC knows them all by heart.
10 They will say the plants are unsafe. The plants are
11 unsecured and would add easily replaced nonsense. And
12 other times study and study, the opposite has been shown
13 to be true and these opponents proven wrong.

14 MR. RAKOVAN: Sir, if you could please finish.

15 MAYOR DONOVAN: Yeah, one more second. Entergy
16 has proven itself as reliable operator. They have
17 invested hundreds of millions of dollars in Indian Point.
18 When problems have arisen, they have responded
19 appropriately. And when their responsibility was
20 insufficient like with the replacement of the existing
21 siren system, the company paid the appropriate price and
22 the NRC and FEMA acted accordingly. Their security force
23 is top notch. And as a former state police officer, I
24 can say that with great confidence and conviction. To
25 the final piece, now more than ever, the economy

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1 interests of the entire Hudson Valley region are tied to
2 the outcome of the regulatory process to determine if
3 Indian Point remains on the job for the next 20 years.
4 The economic facts are clear. Indian Point provides
5 anywhere from 18 to 38% of our regional electricity and
6 there's currently no viable alternative for replacing its
7 2000 Mw of power. The environmental case is equally
8 compelling. Replacing Indian Point with fossil fuel
9 plants would trigger a 20% increase in carbon monoxide
10 emission according to a recent study by the National
11 Academy of Sciences. The citizens of Buchanan are
12 already suffering from polluted Hudson Valley area air,
13 which is not caused by the nuclear plant, but will --

14 MR. RAKOVAN: Sir, I'm going to have to ask you
15 to close. We've got to many speakers.

16 MAYOR DONOVAN: I understand that, but it's in
17 my village and I timed people that talked for six or
18 seven minutes. I've only got one more page.
19 -- definitely get exponentially worse if these plants
20 were replaced by more coal or gas plants. Let me be
21 critically clear at this point, the many economics and
22 environmental benefits of Indian Point can never outweigh
23 safety. Personally, I was impressed with the
24 thoroughness of the recent independent safety evaluation
25 conducted by a panel of distinguished experts who

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1 announced it concluded that Indian Point is a safe plant
2 of course. Many of the Indian Point critics here today
3 dismiss this report, even before it was released. That
4 is why I take comfort from the fact that the NRC and the
5 local officials working together will continue to
6 judiciously review the ability of India Point's owners,
7 Entergy, to continue to run these plants as safely and
8 efficiently as they have taken over the operation. I
9 strongly support the continual operation of the Indian
10 Point Energy plant for another 20 years and beyond its
11 current license and strongly recommend you listen to the
12 voices of recent and scientific fact, rather than those
13 individuals who use fear. Thank you.

14 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, thank you again to those who
15 have stuck to the three-minute limit that I requested you
16 do at the beginning of the meeting and thanks also to
17 those of you who are sticking on point and giving us
18 comments on our draft environmental scoping statements.
19 I'd like to go next to Alfred Placeres, U.S. Hispanic
20 Chamber of Commerce then to Reverend Smith, AME Mount
21 Zion Church and third to Bill Mooney, Westchester County.
22 Alfred Placeres? He's not here. Okay. Okay Reverend
23 Smith, AME Mount Zion Church. Thank you, sir.

24 DR. SMITH: Good afternoon. My name is Dr.
25 Gregory Robeson Smith and I am the senior pastor of the

1 Mother AME Mount Zion Church in Harlem. New York State's
2 oldest church. Organized in 1796, we will celebrate our
3 213th year. Mother Zion, also known as the freedom
4 church throughout its long history. Mother Zion has many
5 of its luscious members who were leaders in our historic
6 fight for freedom. They included Harriet Tubman,
7 Frederick Douglass, Sternon Tooth [sp], Paul Robeson,
8 Madame C.J. Walker and many others who fought so
9 valiantly to free African-Americans socially, politically
10 and spiritually.

11 Today, Mother Zion is the Mother Church of the
12 AME Zion denomination, which is located on five
13 continents and has a membership of 1.5 million members.
14 Public forums like this have historically granted
15 citizens a unique opportunity to have their concerns
16 heard by decision-makers and power brokers. From ancient
17 Rome to Birmingham, Alabama, the people who rise to
18 address these forums have helped shape public opinion and
19 policy. One such policy I would like to speak to this
20 afternoon is the re-licensing of Indian Point Energy
21 Center and how it continues operation in the best
22 interests of the children and the families of Harlem, who
23 make up my congregation. Regrettably, the debate over
24 re-licensing has taken place without input from
25 communities like Harlem which are under siege by the

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1 dirty air, not to mention the health aspects that come
2 along with poor air quality. The debate over re-
3 licensing has raged on without input from those who can
4 ill afford to pay electricity bills. This debate over
5 re-licensing has taken place without the reassurance that
6 the dirty air power plants built to replace Indian Point
7 will not once again end up in our neighborhoods. It's
8 only through conversations in communities most benefited
9 by Indian Point like Harlem, Bronx, and Brooklyn, we can
10 begin to fully appreciate the need for clean and reliable
11 energy Indian Point provides.

12 Last year we sponsored such a dialogue with my
13 fellow members of the Harlem clergy. It is through this
14 dialogue that we learned the full scope of the crisis
15 situation facing Harlem families if Indian Point is
16 closed. We learned that the closing of Indian Point
17 comes with additional threats to our air quality and
18 drastic increases in electricity bills. There are too
19 many cases of seniors in our neighborhoods and to many
20 families forced to choose between heating their home and
21 buying groceries just to justify closing Indian Point.
22 An open Indian Point means continued clean emissions-free
23 energy that will help improve air quality. An open
24 Indian Point means continued affordable energy that helps
25 keep electricity bills stable. An open Indian Point

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1 means continued reliable energy which would provide for
2 our homes, schools, mass transit, hospitals and religious
3 institutions. I am not only here to support Indian Point
4 Energy Center, but I'm also here today in the spirit of
5 corporation and unity. Thank you for allowing the to add
6 my concerns and that of my congregation to this debate
7 and we're hopeful that any decision reached will be one
8 that ensures continued supply of reliable, clean and
9 affordable electricity for all New Yorkers.

10 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, Bill Mooney from Westchester
11 County, then we'll go to Paul Vitale, Business Council of
12 Westchester and third to Carol Smith Orange County
13 Chamber of Commerce.

14 MR. MOONEY: My name is Bill Mooney, President
15 of the Westchester County Association and I come to you
16 today in support of the Indian Point re-licensing by the
17 NRC. Focusing on the long-term region needs of our
18 region, the issue of energy is one of the most identified
19 issues most often identified by our members. The
20 availability of affordable, reliable base-load power is
21 critical to creating jobs, stimulating investment and
22 growing our economy. Indian Point does that obviously.
23 Not only does Indian Point produce over 2000 Mw of
24 reliable base-load power, but it produces it in an
25 emissions-free manner. It's also responsible for an

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1 economic impact approaching three quarters of \$1 billion,
2 a huge economic engine. And also responsible for more
3 the 1000 jobs. In these tight economic times, those
4 facts speak clearly for themselves. Indian Point operator
5 Entergy is also an important presence in our community.
6 Donating millions of dollars to schools, health care
7 facilities and other worthy causes. Indian Point is also
8 important steward of the environment helping New York
9 with the distinction of having one of a lowest per capita
10 carbon emissions count in the region. In the nation, as
11 a matter of fact. As you continue your deliberations, I
12 ask you to look at the facts carefully when evaluating.
13 Using a sober and reasonable approach, I'm sure you'll
14 agree that Indian Point remains a critical component of
15 the region's energy supply, which provides the economic
16 and environmental benefits that our region deserves.
17 Thank you for the opportunity in sharing my thoughts.

18 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, let's go to Paul Vitale,
19 Business Council of Westchester, then to Carol Smith and
20 third to John McCormick.

21 MR. VITALE: Good afternoon, my name is Paul
22 Vitale. I'm vice president of the government relations
23 for the Business Council of Westchester. Business
24 Council of Westchester is Westchester's largest business
25 organization, representing over 1200 members ranging in

1 size from large multinational corporations and mid-size
2 businesses to professional firms not for profit
3 organizations and small-business owners in every sector
4 of the county's diverse economy. The economic situation
5 in Westchester is increasingly distressing. As such, the
6 closure of Indian Point, which is the backbone of
7 Westchester County and the lower Hudson Valley's
8 electricity network, would be economically devastating.
9 It should be emphasized that Indian Point provides more
10 than 75% of the electricity consumed within the lower
11 Hudson Valley. Indian Point contributes over \$50 million
12 paid in local taxes, including sales taxes, payroll
13 taxes, property taxes and state and local income taxes.
14 Losing Indian Point could potentially cause major power
15 disruptions, the loss of up to 11,000 jobs and \$2.1
16 billion in cumulative lost wages, while Westchester's
17 unemployment rate continues to increase.

18 The closure of Indian Point could result in the
19 doubling of the electricity rates of the second highest
20 rates that New York homeowners and businesses currently
21 pay. Many businesses in Westchester County already
22 having trouble managing their increasing costs, including
23 the cost of reliable electricity. The alternatives laid
24 out to replace Indian Point do not make sense
25 economically or environmentally for this region.

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1 Replacing Indian Point with any fossil fuel equivalent
2 would greatly increase the carbon emissions of the region
3 at a time when we can ill afford to do so. Indian Point
4 has been very important to this region and our
5 communities. The renewal of the operating license for
6 Indian Point is crucial more than ever before. Thank you
7 for the chance to address this audience.

8 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Carol Smith,
9 Orange County Chamber of Commerce. I know the crowd's
10 thinning out a little bit and so if I could ask people
11 having side-conversations as such, to please take them
12 outside. Carol, please. So if we can keep the noise
13 level down so we can focus. We do have at least another
14 hour to go and we'd like to keep taking comments. I'm
15 going to be done with the pre-registration comments soon
16 and we'll be able to go to the yellow cards that we
17 collected for people who walked in and signed up. I do
18 have a question, is Tamisha Hurley here today? I had her
19 signed-up to talk and I just wanted to see if she was
20 here. Okay, I don't see a hand, so. Ms. Smith, please.

21 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon. I'm Carol Smith and
22 I'm vice-president for the Orange County Chamber of
23 Commerce. Our chamber represents more than 2000
24 businesses in Orange County and the surrounding areas.
25 It is an indisputable fact that Indian Point generates

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1 more than 2000 Mw of electricity, which has been said is
2 enough to provide between 18 and 38% of the lower Hudson
3 Valley's and New York City's electricity needs on any
4 given day. More important though, is that this is clean
5 and affordable power whose generation produces none of
6 the greenhouse gases or other pollutants that contaminate
7 our environment and contribute to global warming.

8 Of course, alternative sources of energy such
9 as wind and solar power should be actively pursued, but
10 in the meantime, it would be economically and
11 environmentally irresponsible to close Indian Point. The
12 Orange County Chamber of Commerce believes that Entergy
13 should be granted the renewal of its license to operate
14 Indian Point. Assuming that safety of our residents and
15 security of this facility are always its paramount
16 concerns. Since purchasing Indian Point in 2001, Entergy
17 has invested hundreds of millions of dollars in enhanced
18 security and safety features for the facility. We are
19 sure they will continue to do so.

20 The Indian Point Energy Center is vitally
21 important to the economic and environmental health of the
22 entire region. Electricity demands are rapidly
23 increasing and no new power plants are being built or
24 even planned. These are two additional reasons why the
25 re-licensing of Indian Point is so important. To answer

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1 those who call for Indian Point to be shutdown, a recent
2 national Academy of Science study said that although a
3 shutdown would be technically feasible, it would lead to
4 significantly higher electricity bills and would worsen
5 the volatile price swings within the natural gas market.
6 For an environmental point of view, loss of Indian
7 Point's 2000 Mw of energy would result in higher levels
8 of environmentally harmful greenhouse gas emissions
9 because of the bulk of the replacement power would
10 require burning the dirtier fossil fuels. We know the
11 Nuclear Regulatory Commission will be carefully
12 evaluating Entergy's request for the license renewal of
13 Indian Point and this process will include a
14 comprehensive review and evaluation of the facility. We
15 support this license renewal and we know that Entergy
16 will continue to operate Indian Point with impeccable
17 high standards of quality and excellence. Thank you for
18 the opportunity to speak.

19 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I have John McCormick, then
20 we'll go to Miguel Blanco and Peter Wolf. Mr. McCormick.

21 MR. MCCORMICK: I'm John McCormick and I'm
22 speaking for the Center for Environment Commerce and
23 Energy where I'm a volunteer consultant. When people
24 ask, well what does the Center represent, we like to say
25 we're speaking for asthmatic children. I want to thank

1 the NRC for this opportunity make the presentation and I
2 want to compliment Lance, you certainly do run a tight
3 ship, sir. I want to focus specifically on the
4 Environmental Impact Statement at page 8-16 in lines 9-
5 17. I'll read just a small portion of it. Replacement
6 power required during a 42-week outage could increase air
7 quality effects depending upon the location and
8 characteristics of generation units to replace Indian
9 Point's 2 and 3.

10 Now of course, that 42-week outage is related
11 to the outage required if Indian Point was required to
12 put in cooling towers or -- to change its cooling system.
13 But, I use that 42-week outage as a subtext for the much
14 larger question, which is permanent outage if in fact NRC
15 does not grant the re-licensing of Units 2 and 3. One of
16 the advantages I have in speaking later in the program is
17 that I get to agree with everyone who supports re-
18 licensing. Now, it's really a question of what is
19 available in the city of New York to provide New York's
20 power on any given time. If you took all the capacity
21 that New York City has available to keep its lights on,
22 you're talking about 12,600 Mw. That includes Indian
23 Points 2 and 3. So, if you take that out, you're looking
24 at 10,500 Mw. The impact statement doesn't really look
25 at the very specifics of what would be the energy demand

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1 on a peak hour. So, I looked at 2007. August 8th, in
2 fact. At two o'clock in the afternoon, the peak load for
3 New York City or Zone J, as the New York ISO calls it,
4 was about 11,000 Mw.

5 So again, if you took Indian Point off-line,
6 New York City couldn't meet its own supply of
7 electricity. But, if you put everything online,
8 equipment that was running at two o'clock on August 8th,
9 you're looking at power plants that are 30 and 40 years
10 old, they're small peaking units. But, they all burn
11 natural gas. So, we're seeing an increase of oxides of
12 nitrogen at a peak time during which is probably an air
13 inversion and we see deteriorating air quality.

14 So, it's a combination then of the ozone coming
15 from the plants that would run if Indian Point was also
16 supplying energy and that's about five tons of oxides of
17 nitrogen at two o'clock in the afternoon. Now, you add
18 the additional oxides of nitrogen from units that would
19 have to come online to replace Indian Point's 2 and 3 and
20 you're looking at almost 10 tons the oxides of nitrogen
21 at two o'clock in the afternoon at a peak period. This
22 is what is the problem, there is not the capacity to
23 replace Indian Point's 2 and 3 and if you ran everything
24 that you had, you still wouldn't meet load, but you're
25 increasing the nox emissions. Therefore, you're

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1 exacerbating the ozone problem and you're hurting the
2 children who are asthmatic and certainly the elderly as
3 well. Thank you for your time. I'll just conclude by
4 saying that this impact statement is incomplete if it
5 doesn't really take apart what is the demand at a peak
6 hour? What kind of increased air pollution at that peak
7 hour on a typical day in say July or August. Thank you.

8 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I've got Miguel Blanco,
9 Peter Wolf and then Sean Murray. Is Miguel Blanco still
10 here? Okay, Peter Wolf. If you've noticed, I have made
11 it to the cards. So, I am going through in the order
12 that I received them from the people that registered to
13 speak when they did come to the meeting. We are past the
14 pre-registered people. We've got about an hour left in
15 the meeting. So, I'm going to get to as many of these
16 cards as I possibly can. Sir.

17 MR. WOLF: Good afternoon. While I am certainly
18 sympathetic to the comments that have been made about the
19 environment, I believe this meeting is about the
20 environment and specifically the environmental statement.
21 Rather than going through the thousand of pages of
22 material, I'd like to get back to basics. Because
23 sometimes we're so inundated by the information that is
24 contained in these documents that we lose sight of what
25 we really need to consider and what the NRC needs to

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1 consider. The NRC's 2008 citizen's report states that
2 the NRC's vision is quote excellence in regulating the
3 safe and secure use and management of radioactive
4 materials for public good unquote. They also say that
5 their number one strategic goal is safety, as evidenced
6 by the first strategic outcome, which is to quote prevent
7 the occurrence of any releases of any radioactive
8 materials that would result in significant radiation
9 exposures unquote and/or quote adverse environmental
10 impacts unquote. Which is on page 8. Their factors,
11 which singly or certainly in combination, create an
12 untenable environmental risk regarding the releases of
13 radioactive material regarding Indian Point. Including
14 but not limited to number one: the type of above ground
15 storage of spent fuel.

16 Again this report on page 7 says, typically the
17 spent fuel from nuclear power plants is stored either in
18 water filled pools at each reactor site or as a storage
19 facility in Illinois unquote. And that quote several
20 nuclear power plants have also begun not using dry-cask
21 to store spent fuel and that the heavy metal in concrete
22 casks rests on concrete pads adjacent to the reactor
23 facility. My understanding is that this type of storage
24 is not as safe as underground in water. Now, we know
25 that a lot of this has come because Yucca Mountain cannot

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1 accept the nuclear waste that was envisioned when the
2 plant was created. But nonetheless, we have to deal with
3 the reality of what this means in storing these casks
4 above ground.

5 Two: the unusual high number of leaks or
6 shutdowns and other indications of mismanagement of the
7 facility has compromised the safety for the community
8 around it and the apparent continuation of its
9 radioactive leaks is indicated that Indian Point is not
10 responsibly dealing with the environmental and safety
11 aspect of this plant.

12 Three: the plant falls on a fault-line creating
13 an earthquake risk, which means that if there is an
14 earthquake and storage facilities are not adequate that
15 radiation will go throughout the community.

16 Four: again, it's not Indian Point's initial
17 problem because they didn't build the plant, but the fact
18 is that it is perilously close to high population areas.

19 Five: there is the possibility of the
20 continuation of radioactive leaks and further
21 contamination into the Hudson River.

22 Six: even though we're now in the year 2009,
23 the threats that were created in 2001, still exist and
24 are still a problem, especially when you're talking about
25 aboveground storage of spent nuclear waste.

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1 And seven: we don't know and I don't think from
2 what I've seen that the report adequately deals with the
3 fact that you're now going to have a plant that's 40 to
4 60 years old. And we don't have a very good safety
5 record dealing with the first 40 years, and I think that
6 the NRC needs to look at this as well.

7 We all take risks every day. Even driving here
8 to make this statement involved risk. But we must
9 evaluate the risk/reward ratio and make a determination.
10 The NRC also must make a determination as to the
11 continued safety and viability of having Indian Point
12 operate for another 20 years. Based on the risks
13 outlined above as well as other risks that have been
14 discussed in these reports, it would seem incumbent upon
15 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in its primary goal of
16 excellence in regulating safe and secure management of
17 radioactive materials for the public good to turn down
18 the application for the re-licensing of Indian Point.
19 Thank you.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, do we have Sean Murray,
21 trustee Village of Buchanan? Sean, if you are here?
22 Okay, Peter Pockriss from the historic Hudson Valley.
23 Okay, the crowd has thinned out quite a lot. So, Andrew
24 Fraiser from NextGen Network. Okay, let's go with Andrew
25 and then I will try -- I can't read this one, so I'll

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1 have to comeback. Andrew.

2 MR. FRAISER: Great, good afternoon everyone.
3 My name is Andrew Fraiser and I'm a member of the NextGen
4 Network. I've served in various leadership positions
5 over the years. The NextGen Network has partnered with
6 Entergy for several years. The Entergy Corporation has
7 upheld a high standard of corporate citizenship and has
8 remained an influential supporter of the communities it
9 serves.

10 Entergy Nuclear's support of the NextGen
11 Network is one example of its commitment to communities
12 of color. It's partnership has enabled our organization
13 to continue to provide world-class career and
14 professional development and community service
15 opportunities, while continuing to be a point of
16 connectivity within the African-American community.
17 Through Entergy, the nuclear partnership with NextGen
18 Network, we were able to fill a much-needed void by
19 providing mentoring and scholarships to deserving
20 individuals.

21 Entergy Nuclear has a role ensuring that
22 African-American high school students can take full
23 advantage of higher education opportunities and receive
24 coaching and mentoring in doing so. This shows how much
25 they care about the culture in the diverse community and

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1 an inclusive global marketplace. With the help of
2 Entergy Nuclear, we have been able to offer 15
3 scholarships to individuals at nationally accredited
4 universities each year for the past five years.

5 The NextGen Network has reach thousands of
6 students as well as over 700 students have submitted
7 essays and participated in our business case
8 competitions. Both competitions encourage seniors in
9 high school around the country to think critically and to
10 address important issues regarding the environmental
11 justice, climate change and nuclear power and taking a
12 look at how that can impact and lessen the disparate
13 impact on the minority communities around the country.
14 The NextGen Network has also been able to attract highly
15 respected senior business leaders seeking our knowledge
16 and expertise in developing African-American
17 professionals, who possess business acumen, as well as
18 community consciousness.

19 Our membership has been recognized in part
20 because of Entergy's continued support, which enables
21 members to reach back in service to generations of
22 leaders who follow us. Because of our mission to develop
23 African-American leaders, the NextGen Network believes
24 our communities are best served by leaders who are
25 thoroughly knowledgeable about the gamut of zero

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1 emissions energy standards and sources. If we are to
2 ensure the health of our communities as an important part
3 of this ongoing conversation about strategies to improve
4 air quality and the health of our communities throughout
5 New York, the Indian Point facility is a critical source
6 for the region. We appreciate the opportunity to provide
7 feedback about Entergy Nuclear's record of corporate
8 citizenship and good environmental stewardship. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I believe that Peter
11 Pockriss from Historic Hudson Valley has joined us. So,
12 Peter, if you could please come up. Then we'll go to
13 Andrea Dherman. And then to Judy Allen from IPSEC.

14 MR. POCKRISS: Good afternoon. I'm Peter
15 Pockriss, Director of Development for Historic Hudson
16 Valley. And I appreciate the opportunity to say a few
17 words to you today. We're a non-profit organization that
18 operates six historic sites along the Hudson River,
19 including Van Cortlandt Manor, which is not too far from
20 here and is the site of the great Jack-o-lantern Blaze
21 which many of you may be familiar with. Our museum
22 properties are treasured community resources. They're
23 tourist destinations that attract thousands of visitors
24 from across the world. They are learning laboratories
25 that serves some 35,000 school children a year. Many

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1 from disadvantaged backgrounds. Entergy has been a
2 longtime philanthropic investor in our mission. The
3 companies partnership has enabled us to launch the great
4 Jack-o-lantern Blaze and Winter Wonderlights. These
5 family events have become cherished holiday traditions
6 for the people of our communities. These heritage
7 tourism events are also important engines of the local
8 economy.

9 Many of the 85,000 people who attended last
10 year stayed in area hotels, dined in restaurants and
11 shopped on our main streets. Blaze and Wonderlights
12 have also had a tremendous impact on Historic Hudson
13 Valley's own work, boosting revenue, our membership base
14 and awareness about our sites and educational programs.
15 Entergy truly represents the gold standard for corporate
16 philanthropy here in Westchester County. Historic Hudson
17 Valley and other non-profits across the county and across
18 the nation have benefited from millions of dollars in
19 philanthropic support from Entergy.

20 But beyond contributed dollars, we also benefit
21 in a variety of other meaningful ways. From the guidance
22 and expertise of the leadership team at Entergy's
23 regional headquarters. From the volunteer hours donated
24 by Indian Point employees. From Entergy sponsored
25 workshops and seminars, which empower our staffs. From

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1 networking opportunities, which foster greater
2 cooperation among those of us in the non-profit sector.
3 And from promotional initiatives that drive people to our
4 programs and our events. All of us at Historic Hudson
5 Valley are proud to call Entergy a friend, a committed
6 neighbor and a partner in our efforts to enrich the
7 quality of life along the Hudson. It's our great hope to
8 continue to work side-by-side with Entergy for many years
9 to come. Thank you.

10 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, the next card I have is
11 Andrea Dherman. Is it Sherman? I apologize, okay. Next
12 we'll go to Judy Allen from IPSEC. And third to John
13 Federspiel from Hudson Valley Hospital Center.

14 MS. SHERMAN: Good afternoon. My name is Andrea
15 Sherman and I'm a resident of the city of White Plains,
16 Westchester County, New York. Since moving to the county
17 in 2001, I have kept a watchful eye on news stories of
18 the Indian Point nuclear power plant and I'm here today
19 to lend my comments as a citizen to the discussion of its
20 re-licensing. To be brief, the issue at hand seems to be
21 one of risks, benefits and alternatives. Undeniably,
22 Indian Point brings benefits of the region. It provides
23 a source of energy to fuel our consumption, which is a
24 precious commodity, as we know. It also brings economic
25 benefits to its parent company Entergy. To the employees

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1 who depend on it for their livelihood and to the
2 surrounding local towns and other communities who enjoy
3 lower taxes and other economic benefits from having the
4 plant in their midst. These benefits are all positive
5 and no one is disputing that.

6 However, when one looks at the risk column,
7 suddenly these economic benefits begin to pale in
8 comparison to the overwhelming risks to health and safety
9 imposed on an entire region of millions by the close
10 proximity of such a potentially toxic entity as the
11 Indian Point nuclear plant. Whether through unfortunate
12 technical accident, all too common human error,
13 unforeseeable natural disaster, terrifying attack or the
14 aftermath of the parent company's decision someday to
15 divest itself of this asset, the devastation to both life
16 and habitat in our region would be catastrophic and
17 largely irreversible, certainly for this generation and
18 possibly for generations to come.

19 Since the long-term risks to health and safety
20 outweigh the shorter-term and mutable economic
21 considerations, I urge, no, I plead with Entergy and our
22 government officials to seek similar economic benefits by
23 means of reasonable alternatives to the operation of a
24 hazardous nuclear power plant in New York. Speaking as a
25 citizen, my vote will follow those who recognize and act

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1 on this imperative. To address the concerns raised by so
2 many of today's speakers, there are other ways to keep
3 energy affordable and to improve air quality without
4 exposing our region to the dangers of nuclear production.
5 It would be morally bankrupt for our government to permit
6 primarily economic interests to co-opt those of public
7 health, safety and environmental integrity. Safer
8 alternatives can be sought if there is the public and
9 political will to do so. Thank you for allowing me to
10 speak today.

11 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we now have Judy Allen from
12 IPSEC and then we'll go to John Federspiel from Hudson
13 Valley Hospital Center and third to Betty Cypser, Raging
14 Grannies.

15 MS. ALLEN: Hi, I'm Judy Allen. I live in
16 Putnam Valley. I do not get any electricity from Indian
17 Point because Putnam County does not. However, I live 14
18 miles away from the plant. So, I am actually going to
19 address the environmental impact and I would like to see
20 who are the people here from the NRC, so I know who I'm
21 talking to? Okay, thank you very much. The slide that
22 I'm addressing is the Example Common Issue: Radiological
23 Impacts and it says, Preliminary findings: no new and
24 significant information. GEIS conducted impacts are
25 SMALL. So, you're not going to want to know about the

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1 Wall Street article in November 21st that says, surprise
2 drop in power worries utilities. You're not going to
3 want to know about cover story in Time of December 31st
4 that says, America's untapped energy resource boosting
5 efficiency. This is not about conservation. This is not
6 about putting on a sweater or turning the lights off.
7 This is just about increased efficiency.

8 You're not going to know about, you're not
9 going to want to know about the study on rising child
10 leukemia rates near U.S. nuclear plants because Joe
11 Mangano, I believe is going to be submitting written
12 information about that. So, what I'm going to talk about
13 is the study that faults regulators for relying on
14 reference-man radiation dose standard. A study from the
15 Institute for Energy and Environment Research indicates
16 that U.S. radiation exposure regulations and compliance
17 assessment guidelines often underestimate the risk of
18 radiation for women and children because they are based
19 on standards of the reference-man. A hypothetical 20 to
20 30 year old white male. Could I have a show of hands
21 please, how many people fall into that category of 20 to
22 30 year old white male. That's one. Anyone else?

23 Okay, so at least three federal agencies: the
24 Environmental Protection Agency, Nuclear Regulatory
25 Commission and Department of Energy, still use reference-

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1 man criteria to guide radiation dose regulations and
2 compliance assessment. A woman is 52% more likely than a
3 man to develop cancer from the same radiation doses
4 according to the study. Children are at greater risk
5 than adults. A female infant has about an 11 times
6 greater chance of eventually developing cancer than a 30-
7 year-old male in the same radiation dose. Pregnant women
8 and the developing fetus are particularly vulnerable, but
9 non-cancer reproductive effects are generally not part of
10 U.S. regulatory framework for radiation production.

11 Okay, so, the last thing about this in the
12 report recommends that compliance with radiation
13 protection always the estimated by calculating doses for
14 those at greatest risk. It calls for a significant
15 reduction in the maximum allowable dose to the general
16 public from 100 mrem per year to 25 mrem per year. So, I
17 believe that would be considered new information and I
18 will hope that the NRC will consider that new information
19 in determining whether Indian Point should be re-licensed
20 and after 20 years. Thank you very much.

21 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to John Federspiel
22 from the Hudson Valley Hospital Center. Then to Betty
23 Cypser and Valery Karamaty from the Raging Grannies.

24 MR. FEDERSPIEL: Okay, thank you. My name is
25 John Federspiel and I am the president at the Hudson

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1 Valley Hospital Center. Hudson Valley Hospital Center is
2 a major health care provider in the region, as well as an
3 emergency planning partner working closely with Entergy
4 employees and many first responders throughout the area
5 as part of Indian Point's emergency planning program.
6 Since Entergy purchased Indian Point, this partnership
7 between the hospital and the site has grown exponentially
8 to the benefit of the residents we both serve.

9 For example, when we were seeking a substantial
10 investment for upgrading the hospital's existing
11 emergency room into a full-service state-of-the-art 24-
12 hour No Wait emergency department, Entergy was there for
13 us. And today I'm proud to say, we have one of the
14 finest emergency rooms in the entire New York
15 metropolitan region.

16 Over the years, this partnership as grown
17 beyond a donor and charity relationship to Entergy
18 providing insightful training and true community
19 leadership to our boards, physicians, nurses and the
20 entire staff of the Hudson Valley Hospital Center. We
21 are a stronger health-care provider because of their
22 presence in the community and would rather not think of
23 how we would survive without the low-cost power the site
24 provides, as well as the substantial investments Entergy
25 makes into the local health-care system. The short-term

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1 outlook for health-care in New York State is dire. And
2 the long-term prognosis is becoming even worse. We
3 cannot afford to lose one of the area's few remaining
4 economic lifelines. That is why on behalf of the
5 employees and the entire Hudson Valley Hospital Center
6 family, I strongly recommend extending the license of
7 Indian Point for another 20 years. Thank you.

8 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I've got Betty Cypser and
9 Valery Karamaty from the Raging Grannies. And then we'll
10 go to John Yanofsky from the Paramount Center for the
11 Arts.

12 MS. CYPSEER: This afternoon, we represent the
13 Raging Grannies and their friends of Westchester, New
14 York. The Raging Grannies are in international protest
15 group that works for peace, the environment, social and
16 economic justice. We work to make the world a better
17 place for all the grandchildren and their grandchildren.
18 We express our thoughts on issues through new lyrics to
19 old familiar tunes.

20 Many people in this country say that nuclear
21 energy is safe enough and green enough, but what does the
22 rest of the world say? What do they say when
23 representatives from all of the countries of the world
24 gather and discuss all the facets of the issue? They
25 refused to give nuclear energy greenhouse gas credits at

1 the U.N. Climate Change in the Hague in November 2000.
2 They refused to label nuclear energy a sustainable
3 technology at the U.N. Sustainable Development Conference
4 in April 2001. We support replacing Indian Point with
5 solar generated by private residences and businesses.
6 New York State allows us to run our electric meters
7 backwards. Europe is moving ahead with sustainable
8 energy and we can too.

9 MS. KARAMATY: I am against nuclear toxicity.
10 My complaint is about the destructive power of nuclear
11 waste. First, there is no guarantee of its safety when
12 nuclear waste is in transit. There are no realistic
13 plans for cleanup of a spill or accident of a truckload
14 or trainload of nuclear waste.

15 Secondly, there is no place to store the waste.
16 The Native Americans don't want it on their lands. No
17 place on earth wants it. And we cannot send it to outer
18 space as it might return. What goes up, must come down.

19 Thirdly, what I find to be the worst thing
20 about nuclear waste is that it has been used for
21 hardening the tips of bunker bombs and reliable
22 replacement warheads. These weapons have been used
23 against the civilians in Iraq because they penetrate
24 deeper and kill and maim with more intensity. Can the
25 Iraqi people ever forgive us? Do people who make or use

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1 electricity from a nuclear power plant ever think about
2 where the waste product goes and about the people who
3 have been destroyed or may be destroyed in the future?
4 Seeing we're Raging Grannies, we have a song that we're
5 going to sing.

6 MS. CYPSEY: Try.

7 MS. KARAMATY: That we're going to try and sing
8 and we have one mic, and we don't sing that well. So --

9 MS. CYPSEY & MS. KARAMATY [singing]: Would you
10 like a world safe and clean, where the air is fresh good
11 to breathe, and the water's so sweet to drink or would
12 you rather have a nuke? A nuke is an industry that piles
13 up its waste, which leaks from containers to the ground.
14 The terrorists know, where it's to be found and blowing
15 it up kills for miles around. Eons pass before poison
16 leaves the ground. There is no place to store the waste.
17 Would you like to have your home warm, with your power
18 from earth and sun, that costs almost nothing to run
19 compared to what you pay for nukes? A nuke is a
20 monstrosity that we all finance. It sucks all us
21 taxpayers dry. It costs less to build and more to fix,
22 to keep it going takes a lot of tricks. And by the way
23 if you count external costs, it's quite a monetary loss.
24 Would you like to breathe good fresh air, grow your kids
25 up Strontium free? Don't live in our neighborhood then,

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1 or did you know we have a nuke? Our nukes have emissions
2 that have poisoned our air, we've more thyroid woes than
3 our fair share. We're told it's safe and we know it's
4 not. Evacuation plan don't work, it's rot. And by the
5 way, if the sirens ever blow, there will be millions dead
6 and gone. Would you like your groundwater pure? Want to
7 drink be healthy still for sure? Eat fish without
8 needing a cure or would you rather have a nuke? Our nuke
9 makes the riverwater too hot for fish, endangered ones we
10 are sure to miss. The cooling pipes leak. You don't
11 hear much about. Fish eggs and fish in, radiation out.
12 The antiquated coolers poison us and the fish. It's all
13 because we have a nuke. Do you want your world safe and
14 sane. Government for the people are game? By the will
15 of the people we are bound, people want that nuke shut
16 down. Or don't you wish we had no nuke?

17 MS. KARAMATY: In case you didn't see our sign,
18 it says, Nuclear Waste Is Unhealthy for Human Beings As
19 Well As for Fish. But down at the bottom in small print
20 it says, Save Jobs: Transform Nuclear Plants To Solar and
21 Wind.

22 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, let's go to John Yanofsky
23 from the Paramount Center for the Arts, then to Dan
24 McCann, Hendrick Hudson School District and third to
25 Brian Skanes from the Boys and Girls Club.

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1 MR. YANOFSKY: Boy, that's a tough act to follow
2 and I'm in the performing arts. I'm violating the
3 cardinal rule which is never follow a great act. But my
4 name is John Yanofsky and I'm here under three auspices.

5 The first is I'm the executive director of the
6 Paramount Center for the Arts, which is a non-profit
7 organization housed in an historic theater built in 1930
8 located in downtown Peekskill. I'm also a board member
9 of the Westchester Arts Council, which now goes by the
10 name of Arts Westchester, which is a countywide
11 organization that not only re-grants to non-profits
12 throughout the county, but also does an extensive amount
13 of direct services and programs out of their headquarters
14 in downtown White Plains. And thirdly, I'm a homeowner
15 and resident here in Peekskill.

16 I am here to strongly urge the renewal of the
17 Indian Point license. The parent company of Indian
18 Point, Entergy has been a model corporate citizen to the
19 Paramount, to Arts Westchester, to dozens of arts
20 organizations through out the region as well as non-
21 profits. There are few corporations in the county who do
22 more for the non-profit sector than Entergy. Their
23 commitment to the quality-of-life issues that we all face
24 is reflected in their demonstrative commitment to
25 supporting essential programs and services that non-

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1 profits like the Paramount provide and serve in the
2 community and to our residents. Specifically with
3 respect to the Paramount, Entergy was there for our
4 organization during a very critical period when we began
5 our revitalization and restoration of our historic
6 theater and they were the lead supporter of our ability
7 to renovate a historic theater, which now draws tens of
8 thousands of people to downtown Peekskill to support
9 local businesses and restaurants and have become, our
10 theater has become a major anchor to the downtown
11 revitalization in Peekskill. We could not have
12 accomplished that without the support of Entergy.

13 I've also had the personal honor and privilege
14 to serve with several Entergy employees in my role as a
15 board member of Arts Westchester, as well as on the Board
16 of Trustees at the Paramount Center. In addition to
17 volunteers and colleagues that I've come into contact
18 with, not only through my work at the Paramount, but in
19 other organizations who donate their time and services to
20 the quality-of-life and improving the quality of life in
21 our county. Entergy's support is also instrumental to
22 the vitality of other arts organizations, as I alluded
23 to. And certainly, given our current financial
24 situations becomes even more desperate and dire
25 situation. For some organization's, Entergy's support

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1 really means and make the difference between staying open
2 and closing its doors. As a business professional, as a
3 resident of this county, someone who lives and works here
4 and has dedicated his professional life to the ongoing
5 improvement through culture and artistic expression, I
6 strongly urge the NRC to re-license Indian Point for
7 another 20 years and to keep Entergy a vital force in our
8 communities and in the lives of our county. Thank you.

9 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, if we can have Dan McCann,
10 Hendrick Hudson School District and then we'll go to
11 Brian Skanes from the Boys and Girls Club and third to
12 Michael Lee, Council on Intelligent Energy and
13 Conservation Policy.

14 DR. MCCANN: Good afternoon. My name is Dr.
15 Daniel and I'm the superintendent of schools for the
16 Hendrick Hudson School District. The district
17 encompasses many of the communities surrounding Indian
18 Point. Including Buchanan, Verplanck, Krugers, Montrose,
19 Cortland Manor, Croton and part of the city of Peekskill.
20 Many of these residents were students themselves of the
21 Hendrick Hudson school's and they send their children, if
22 not their grandchildren, to our school's. We strive for
23 excellence by ensuring every student receives a quality
24 education and that includes providing a balanced view of
25 the world. Encompassing all opinions and ideas, in such

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1 a way, or I should say, that has not always been a case
2 in a debate over the future of Indian Point. In fact,
3 Indian Point's story is a rich part of the region's
4 history and certainly a large part of its growth and
5 success as a thriving community. The site remains a
6 considerable component in the economic expansion of the
7 area because Indian Point provides a firm financial
8 foundation upon which we maintain and continuously evolve
9 a well respected school district, a homeowner's main
10 yardstick for measuring the current viability and future
11 value of a home. Those men and women who tolled on the
12 construction of the two Indian Point plants remain in the
13 area and laid down roots.

14 Today, area residents are operating the site,
15 guarding the parameter, maintaining the site's critical
16 systems. Even serving lunch in the cafeteria. They are
17 taxpaying residents, members of the PTA, coaches on our
18 fields, and are even those who buy the baked goods during
19 our local fund-raising efforts. We teach our students
20 about the importance of service to the community and
21 Entergy employees clearly represent a fine example of
22 getting involved and staying involved. As much as we
23 look at the past and present, we also teach our students
24 about looking towards the future. Now the consequences
25 of actions today will impact the future. The

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1 consequences of today's recession are forcing many school
2 districts throughout Westchester County to consider the
3 impact on tomorrow's educational programs. So too are
4 we, as we consider the impact of potential higher
5 electricity costs, reductions in state aid and a quickly
6 diminishing tax base on the quality of education we
7 provide to our children.

8 When taking all the facts into consideration,
9 there is no more direct way of saying it than the loss of
10 Indian Point will simply devastate the quality and depth
11 of education we provide to the students we proudly served
12 in this community. Indian Point is a major source of
13 low-cost power for us and provides a stabilizing revenue
14 stream to the district. It provides 28% of the revenue
15 of our schools.

16 We welcome the site's employees as neighbors
17 and enjoy their participation in the educational process
18 of our children. Over the years, Indian Point has been
19 very generous to our schools. Their donations to our
20 schools have provided lights on our athletic fields,
21 outdoor education programs and textbooks in our
22 classrooms. All of the gifts to our schools are too
23 numerous to mention. Our community greatly appreciates
24 their generosity. The students of this community demand
25 thoughtful discussion of the future of Indian Point and

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1 so at a minimum, we owe them a civil debate and well
2 reasoned facts. That is why I'm asking the Commission to
3 remain faithful to this process, demonstrating to the
4 Hendrick Hudson school students that when all is said and
5 done, this will be a fair, honest and open debate. Thank
6 you for the opportunity to speak to you this afternoon.

7 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll now go to Brian
8 Skanes, I was corrected, of the Boys and Girls Club.
9 Then Michael Lee and third to Terry Kardos.

10 MR. SKANES: Good afternoon. I'm not going to
11 sing to you although I did notice the grannies got about
12 seven or eight minutes. I guess that's the trick, if you
13 sing, you get a longer time. I'm Brian Skanes and like
14 John Yanofsky, I wear a number of hats. Number one, I'm
15 a 10 year resident of Mount Kisco. I'm the executive
16 director to the Boys and Girls Club of Northern
17 Westchester. I'm also a member of the local Rotary Club,
18 the Business Council, the Westchester Community
19 Association, member of the President's Council of
20 Northern Westchester Hospital Center, but more
21 importantly, I'm a really concerned citizen.

22 I have to say, I'm very encouraged about what
23 I've heard today on the positive side. I think it's been
24 mentioned many times and all the reasons why I too
25 believe that we have re-license Indian Point. Especially

1 because of, in my role as executive director of the Boys
2 and Girls Club's, 3500 kids who come from better than the
3 best circumstances, they really need the corporate
4 partner that Entergy really offers our organization.
5 It's been mentioned before, not only the Boys and Girls
6 Club, but non-profit after non-profit after non-profit
7 benefit from the employees who help us on our boards and
8 come to our events. The financial support we get, and by
9 the way, in 35 years of working in Boys and Girls Club's
10 and working with all kinds of corporations, I can say
11 without hesitation, that Entergy is the best corporation
12 working with non-profits that I have ever seen. The non-
13 profit summit they run every year. The opportunity to go
14 to Yankee Stadium and be part of some marketing and
15 public relations training and also the opportunity to
16 receive some pro bono advertising. All these things add
17 into a lot of good things for kids in this community and
18 that's why I stand for and support re-licensing Indian
19 Point. Again. Thank you.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Michael Lee from
21 the Council on Intelligent Energy and Conservation
22 Policy. I'm sorry, Michel. Sorry about that. Next
23 we'll go to Terry Kardos and third to Susan Shapiro from
24 the Sierra Club.

25 MS. LEE: I seem to be in a minority today

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1 because my group does not receive funding from Entergy.
2 However, I did represent Wall Street and the tobacco
3 industry for 20 years, so I'm very well aware of how easy
4 it is to buy support. I would like to devote my points
5 simply to what the purpose of this meeting is, which is
6 the EIS report, the draft report. I'll make four main
7 points. I'll make them quickly.

8 First of all, the no action alternative
9 analysis is inadequate, incomplete and cursory. The
10 principle data relied upon by Entergy is from Entergy,
11 which is a self-serving environmental report and from
12 some hand cherry picked reports from the Department of
13 Energy. It's completely ignores, not just hundreds, but
14 thousands of reports that have come out in recent years
15 from major universities as well as from the United States
16 National Renewables Laboratories about the numerous
17 alternatives to Indian Point which would be available,
18 which would put us truly on the path of a clean
19 sustainable energy future. Which I'm sorry, but giving
20 money to coal and to nuclear does not do.

21 Number two, the draft EIS completely ignores
22 the impact of global warming upon the Hudson River
23 ecosystem particularly the affects of warming and the
24 interaction of that warming with the fish and other
25 aquatic populations.

1 Number three, the report ignores potential, and
2 I would argue almost inevitable, long-term impact of
3 spent-fuel kept on premises. The evidence supports the
4 conclusion that the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant site
5 will become a permanent high-level nuclear waste dump on
6 the banks of the Hudson River and it is absolutely
7 egregious omission of duty on the part of the NRC staff
8 not to even examine this issue or to give it any kind of
9 consideration whatsoever. That it in fact suggests very
10 strongly that this draft report is nothing else but a
11 rubberstamp for this re-licensing.

12 And number four, my final point, is that the
13 fact that the environmental impact ignores, again
14 completely ignores, the possibility and the impact of an
15 accident and what the real effects of an accident,
16 including the NRC's own studies, as well as ignoring that
17 possible effects on the environment and public health of
18 another terrorist attack, particularly in light of the
19 events of 9/11, absolutely unethical. Thank you.

20 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, we'll go to Terry Kardos and
21 then to Susan Shapiro.

22 MS. KARDOS: Good afternoon my name is Terry
23 Kardos. I'm a 20-year resident of Cortlandt Manor. For
24 the past 15 years, I have worked as an environmental and
25 outdoor educator, mainly teaching about nature to

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1 children at Teatown Lake Reservation for the town of
2 Cortlandt recreation department and in other capacities,
3 but I'd like to emphasize I'm here speaking on my own
4 behalf. I am here to oppose the re-licensing of Indian
5 Point. I agree with the comments of the New York State
6 representative, Riverkeeper, Clearwater, the Sierra Club
7 and the Grannies. I'm sort of sorry that it looks like
8 our visitors, or most of the visitors, for New York City
9 have left because I would like to say, I share their
10 concerns about air quality. I would not like to see any
11 kind of fossil fuel power plant in replacement, but I
12 just hope that these people are as pro-active in their
13 opposition to increased vehicle traffic in the City and
14 increased development in the City as they are supportive
15 of Nuclear Plant re-licensing.

16 I'd also like to say that these concerns about
17 air quality and keeping the price of electricity low are
18 going to be completely irrelevant if there is a major
19 accident with radioactive release as the area will become
20 uninhabitable. I am puzzled that in considering
21 alternative energy sources, tidal power was not
22 considered, since the Hudson River is tidal all the way
23 up to the Troy dam. It seems to me that this avenue
24 should be explored. While I do question the data
25 analysis of the NRC as to the impacts on aquatic life,

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1 even they admit that there are some impacts that range to
2 large, especially on endangered species. However, in
3 light of the fact that we are already starting to
4 experience the negative effects of climate change, it is
5 quite likely that what are estimated to be small effects
6 today, will become large ones with the increased stresses
7 of climate change on ecosystems. Estimated large effects
8 could become catastrophic. I think we also have to pay a
9 lot more attention to conservation, perhaps in the short
10 term, there shouldn't be a limit on how late into the
11 night Christmas lights should go. Maybe even the lights
12 in Times Square, but I think there are viable
13 alternatives besides relicensing Indian Point. Thank
14 you.

15 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, Susan Shapiro from the
16 Sierra Club and Ms. Shapiro is the last card that I have
17 as anyone who registered to speak. So if someone wants
18 to try to duck in the last couple minutes of the meeting,
19 stick your hand up now and I can bring a card to you.
20 Oh, that was more than I was expecting. Okay, Ms.
21 Shapiro.

22 MS. SHAPIRO: Yes, hi. I represent the Sierra
23 Club and before I get into my comments on the draft EIS,
24 which I believe this meeting was for, I want to
25 congratulate Entergy on there really great PR campaign

1 for giving lots of money to not-for-profits that came
2 here today to call for their support, which is not what
3 this meeting was really about and I think there was a lot
4 of misinformation that was told to these groups and I
5 think that's a sad comment on Entergy though. I hope the
6 NRC understands that, you know, if you use money to pay
7 for people to come and support you that doesn't mean that
8 is a public safety evaluation. I also wanted to say I'm
9 sorry these people left from the City, but the reality is
10 no one who is calling for the closure of Indian Point for
11 safety reasons believes that we should be putting coal-
12 fired plants that would increase asthma in their
13 communities or any community. That's never been a
14 replacement factor. Going to the GEIS, which I believe
15 is an incomplete and inadequate document because, there
16 are a few reasons, which I'll go through.

17 The first one is that it doesn't consider the
18 long-term impacts of this new superseding license that
19 Entergy is planning to grant with regard to seismology
20 evacuation possibility and the increased population
21 density in this area. Because it is a new license as
22 acknowledged by Entergy, these factors must be
23 considered. The EIS and the re-licensing document does
24 not consider those and therefore it's fully inadequate
25 and incomplete. This environmental report also does not

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1 include the fact that Entergy nor the NRC actually knows
2 the current licensing basis of the plant at the moment.
3 They don't actually have that knowledge because over of
4 the time, the last 40 years the plant has been operating,
5 they've been granting exemption on top of exemption on
6 top of exemption on top of exemption on safety standards
7 at the plant. So, it's running not at design basis.
8 Those issues will be carried over into the new
9 superseding license period. That must be included in the
10 EIS because those are large impacts when you have a
11 degraded system.

12 For example, currently, the fire safety
13 standards at Indian Point are highly degraded. They
14 exempted, NRC granted an exemption from a one-hour fire
15 rating because the rack that was used was inadequate and
16 they allow them now to operate with a 24-minute fire
17 rating. Which means, if there's a fire in this crucial
18 part of the planet that's needed for safe shutdown, you
19 have to detect and put out the fire within 24-minutes or
20 there'll be a melt down. That's what we in this area and
21 all of the New York City people are living under that
22 danger. The other things that have been recently
23 exempted in the last year are that the spent-fuel pool,
24 which we know is leaking, which has been acknowledged to
25 be leaking, they cannot inspect 60% of it. They could

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1 inspect it, but the cost to Entergy, the cost analysis to
2 Entergy is too much. So the NRC has granted an
3 exemption. That makes this report highly incomplete and
4 inaccurate. Without a full inspection of the spent-fuel
5 pool that is known to be leaking, this report is not
6 complete.

7 Further, they called it a relaxation of the
8 standards, to inspect a design basis required inspection,
9 which is the rust in the dome. They know there's rust in
10 the dome. Five years ago they got an extension for this
11 inspection. Now, they decided this year it's too
12 difficult, it's too expensive, to actually inspect this.
13 So, they've given them a permanent, permanent, which
14 means they will never inspect this part of the plant,
15 which is known to have rust in the dome. Which is truly
16 an aging management problem. They've granted that as an
17 exemption. These have great, large environmental impacts
18 which are not included in this. Additionally, 60% of the
19 underground piping at Indian Point and the cables are not
20 being inspected. Further, the last two things I'd to
21 mention is that recently at Indian Point a small camera,
22 a digital camera, actually shut down the plant because
23 when Indian Point was built there were no RF signals.
24 Therefore, in the aging management of Indian Point, it is
25 required, it's new information, that they must include

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1 how they're going to deal with new technologies. Like
2 cell phones and cameras and various RF signals that are
3 going to be used by outside contractors and visitors to
4 the plant. Finally, the overall problem with this report
5 is that it is done on a cost-benefit analysis basis,
6 which is a violation of NEPA. They actually evaluate how
7 much the cost to the benefit to the public, to the safety
8 of the public. That's not the way you do an
9 environmental impact statement. So, this reliance on the
10 cost to the industry versus the safety to the public
11 makes this report incomplete and inadequate. So,
12 basically, I would request that -- there'll be one more
13 pass at this report? I don't think you're ready to do the
14 final pass. I think you need another step. I think
15 there's got to be another draft because you're far from
16 there. Thank you.

17 MR. RAKOVAN: Thank you for your comments. I
18 had three additional speakers who wished to take the
19 microphone, Mark Jacobs from IPSEC, John Sullivan and
20 Nancy Burton from the Mothers Milk Project. So, Mr.
21 Jacobs.

22 MR. JACOBS: Thank you. My name is Mark Jacobs.
23 Most of you know me. I live within 5 miles of Indian
24 Point. I work within 5 miles of Indian Point. There is
25 no financial interest that I receive from trying to close

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1 down the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant, which should
2 indeed be closed down. Now, I listened to a lot of
3 speakers here today. I was late because I had to work.
4 I listened to others to hear what had been spoken about
5 today. You know, the most amazing thing is very little
6 of what this meeting is supposed to be about was spoken
7 about here today. Now, there are two points about that.

8 One point is that Entergy did a really good job
9 of bringing all of the groups that they have paid off to
10 come, without any research, without any knowledge,
11 particularly about the dangers or threats of Indian
12 Point, without any knowledge about the potential
13 environmental hazards of Indian Point. They've gotten
14 the these groups to come here and say, Entergy's Indian
15 Point is a good neighbor. And why are they good?
16 They're good because they have given us money and helped
17 our programs. Well, it's great that Entergy is giving
18 back the tiniest fraction of the million dollars per day
19 per reactor profit that they are receiving from these
20 plants. But I hope that nobody lets themselves be
21 deluded that this has any significance whatsoever on
22 whether Indian Point is safe or not safe.

23 Now the second reason that nobody's talking
24 about, what this meeting is supposed to be about, is
25 because the Nuclear Regulatory Commission under the

1 guidance of the nuclear industry, has done a very good job
2 of limiting what is to be discussed at this meeting, so
3 that almost nothing of significance can be discussed
4 here. In the broader sense, we're here to talk about the
5 environment, but when you look at the specific
6 environmental impacts we can talk about, we can only talk
7 about a very small fraction of the ones that are going to
8 cause the grave impact on my community and many of your
9 community who live here. And to me, that is awful.

10 To me that is a the large number of people
11 working for our government and the Nuclear Regulatory
12 Commission who are taking their paycheck in the same way
13 that the organizations are taking the contributions from
14 Entergy and they're not standing up and saying, what I'm
15 seeing is not acceptable and it is not worth the money
16 they pay me to work for an agency that is not going to do
17 its job to regulate. And that's what the NRC doesn't do.
18 It doesn't regulate. So I urge any of you who are left
19 sitting here to stand up and walk away from your agency
20 and find a way to help the environment, to help your
21 society in a way that is not with a captured agency and
22 that's what the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, our last two speakers for
25 the afternoon will be John Sullivan and then Nancy

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1 Burton. Mr. Sullivan.

2 MR. SULLIVAN: Hi, I'm John Sullivan. I live
3 probably about 2 miles from the plant. I have been here
4 before. I've been on the list serve for IPSEC, but I'm
5 really here for my own self. I just want to add my voice
6 to the fact that I believe that the license should not be
7 extended. I think the most egregious error of the report
8 is that it does not look into the future. The reality is
9 we are going to have nuclear waste on this site for the
10 next hundred years and unless that is addressed in the
11 report, it's incomplete.

12 I'd also like to extend the challenge to the
13 folks that do get money from IPSEC, that are supported,
14 that feel that -- I'm sorry, not IPSEC, from Entergy,
15 that feel that Entergy is a good corporate citizen.
16 People in the environmental movement, IPSEC, Riverkeeper,
17 have proposed many things that would make the plants
18 safer. God forbid from my point of view, if in fact the
19 plant is re-licensed, these things should be put into
20 place. A closed-water cooling tower. Hardened onsite
21 storage of nuclear waste and with deterrents for
22 terrorist attacks. Please speak to your corporate
23 sponsor and urge them to do the right thing and not just
24 by good publicity. Thank you.

25 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, our final speaker for the

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1 afternoon will be Nancy Burton from the Mother's Milk
2 Project and then I'll ask Bo Pham to come up and give a
3 closing. So, Ms. Burton.

4 MS. BURTON: Thank You. Good afternoon. I'm
5 Nancy Burton and I've come here all the way from Redding,
6 Connecticut with three pals of mine: Cindy-Lou and Luna
7 and The Dude. They are outside in the car for anybody
8 would like to make their acquaintance. I'm here on
9 behalf of the Mother's Milk Project, which was launched
10 this past June involving New York and Connecticut
11 directors.

12 Our purpose is to collect and sample, at a
13 certified laboratory, milk that is collected from
14 mothers, including human mothers. This has never been
15 done before on a formal basis by citizens near a nuclear
16 power plant. We're also collecting milk from mammals,
17 including goats and cows and sheep and any other mammals,
18 who are willing to share their milk with us. The reason
19 we are doing this is that Entergy is not. Entergy does
20 not engage in any sampling of milk as part of its
21 radiological effluent sampling program at Indian Point.
22 They do in Vermont sample milk from dairy cows near
23 Brattleboro.

24 In addition, the NRC does not independently
25 sample milk for purposes of evaluating environmental

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1 contamination by Indian Point, nor does New York state's
2 Department of Health or its environmental agency and
3 neither does Connecticut's Department of Health and
4 environmental agencies. I'm here today specifically to
5 tell you that we have so far collected some 60 samples of
6 milk from the all kinds of mothers and we have received
7 to date 30 results from our independent laboratory, which
8 is charging us a commercial, competitive rate.

9 I have with me a statement, which I have left
10 at the front desk to be inserted in the record, but I'd
11 like to share a couple of highlights from our first
12 results with you today. I'll begin with Cindy-Lou. We
13 have guaranteed absolute confidentiality to all of the
14 participants in the project who share their milk unless
15 they choose to go public and they possibly may in the
16 future when we have a large event and invite them all to
17 come and speak. These are preliminary results that we
18 have received and so the only donor so far who has waived
19 confidentiality is my friend Cindy-Lou the goat. She has
20 given seven samples that we have received results for so
21 far and one of those results, in particular, has
22 potentially grave significance for all of us and that is
23 her milk has tested for levels of Strontium-90, 3.4, and
24 Strontium-89, 3.7. Strontium-90 is a potent carcinogen.
25 It's routinely released by Indian Point. It doesn't

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1 disappear and go away. Even though you can't see it or
2 smell it or hear it or taste it. Also, the same for
3 Strontium-89. Both are routinely released. Strontium-90
4 has a half-life of 28 years. It's around for a long
5 time. Strontium-89 decays within 50 days. The
6 significance of that is that if you have a sample that
7 has both radioisotopes, as Cindy-Lou's milk did, then it
8 means that there's a very good probability that the
9 source of the radiation was a recent fission event
10 because otherwise the Strontium-89 would have decayed to
11 a point beyond detectability.

12 MR. RAKOVAN: Ms. Burton --

13 MS. BURTON: Yes.

14 MR. RAKOVAN: If you could summarize. We asked
15 everyone to stick to about three minutes.

16 MS. BURTON: I'm very sorry. To move to the
17 mothers, we have one mother of 11 who gave us samples who
18 tested positively for both Strontium-90 and Strontium-89.
19 She lives about 10 miles from Indian Point and that is
20 extremely troubling. All our goat and dairy cow samples
21 tested positively for Strontium-90. Of the 11 mothers,
22 human mothers, who gave us samples, only two tested clear
23 for Strontium-90. There was no detectable level. The
24 others, nine mothers living within 50 miles and most very
25 close to Indian Point are in the process or recently were

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1 feeding their babies breast milk that is radioactive.
2 With these comments, I am asking the NRC to suspend its
3 re-licensing proceedings. To do a thorough investigation
4 of this very, very fundamentally serious issue and new
5 information. To the extent that you are able to verify
6 the preliminary numbers I'm giving you today, I believe
7 it calls for cessation of the operations of this
8 facility. Thank you very much.

9 MR. RAKOVAN: Okay, I'd like to introduce Bo
10 Pham. Bo, you've got three minutes to close the meeting.

11 MR. PHAM: Thank you everyone. My name is Bo
12 Pham. I am a branch chief at the NRC. My group is
13 actually the group that is primarily going to be
14 responding to the comments that you provided today. It's
15 actually amazing that we got through all the speakers
16 that we did today. While the opinions varied and
17 perspectives varied regarding the licensing of Indian
18 Point, I just want everyone to know that the NRC does
19 consider all that has been provided today. In some
20 cases, we have in the past, unfortunately, we have to
21 respectfully disagree with what has been provided. But
22 nonetheless, we do give it full consideration.

23 As Lance and Drew indicated earlier, this is
24 not the only opportunity to provide comments and if I
25 could plug for technology a little bit. The e-mail

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1 address is probably the most expedient way to get your
2 comments to us if you do have follow-up comments beyond
3 this meeting. With that, I would like to thank everyone
4 for coming tonight and close out the meeting. The staff
5 will be available for the next half hour, I believe,
6 after the meeting to answer any questions you might have.

7 **(Whereupon, at 4:47 p.m., the public meeting was closed)**

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