



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO PREPARE SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR PLANT LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff plans to issue a supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement it prepared for the Indian Point nuclear power plant's license renewal application based on new information that has become available since the report was issued in December 2010. The update will address new information about possible impacts of the Buchanan (Westchester County), N.Y., facility on the aquatic environment.

Indian Point is the site of two pressurized-water reactors. The initial 40-year operating license for [Indian Point Unit 2](#) is set to expire on Sept. 28, 2013, while the initial license for [Indian Point Unit 3](#) runs through Dec. 12, 2015. Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc., which owns and operates the reactors, is seeking a 20-year license extension for each unit. The company submitted an application for the extensions to the NRC on April 23, 2007.

As part of its review of the application, the NRC staff performed a detailed assessment of potential environmental impacts if the plant continues to operate for the extended period. During the course of this assessment, the NRC solicited comments from members of the public, local officials and representatives of state and federal agencies and tribal governments. The supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement, totaling more than 2,000 pages, was published on Dec. 3, 2010. The report recommended approval of a license extension for the plant.

One of the impacts studied for the assessment involved the plant's effects on the aquatic environment. New information that will be evaluated for a supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement will include:

- Additional details provided by Entergy on the field data units of measure for impingement and entrainment. (Impingement refers to the trapping of fish and other aquatic organisms against intake screens by the force of the water being drawn through a cooling water intake structure, while entrainment refers to the drawing of small aquatic organisms through a cooling water intake structure into the cooling system of a power plant.)

- A new study completed by Entergy and submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation characterizing the plant's thermal plume in the Hudson River.
- New developments concerning the staff's consultation under the Endangered Species Act with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding endangered species.

The NRC staff expects to issue a draft of the supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement for public comment later this year.

The Indian Point license renewal application and the final Environmental Impact Statement are available on the NRC's [website](#).

In addition, documents related to the application are available at the following locations: The White Plains Public Library, 100 Martine Ave., White Plains, N.Y.; the Hendrick Hudson Free Library, 185 Kings Ferry Road, Montrose, N.Y.; and the Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave., Peekskill, N.Y.

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NOTE: Anyone wishing to take photos or use a camera to record any portion of a NRC meeting should contact the Office of Public Affairs beforehand.

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