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**UNION OF
CONCERNED
SCIENTISTS**

March 22, 2000

Mr. Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

SUBJECT: 2.206 PETITION ON INDIAN POINT 2

Dear Mr. Collins:

By letter dated March 14, 2000, the Nuclear Information & Resource Service, the PACE University School of Law's Energy Project, Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy Project, and the Union of Concerned Scientists submitted a petition pursuant to 10 CFR 2.206 regarding the Indian Point 2 nuclear plant. In our petition, we requested the NRC to take three actions. Additionally, we requested a public meeting to present our concerns to the NRC staff and to obtain publicly available information relevant to the steam generator tube rupture event. The NRC held a Petition Review Board meeting on March 16, 2000, which determined that our petition satisfied the screening criteria of Management Directive 8.11. A public meeting has been scheduled for Friday, April 7, 2000.

The purpose of this letter is to request permission for Dr. Joram Hopenfeld to attend the April 7, 2000, public meeting and to discuss the technical concerns he has documented via the NRC's Differing Professional Opinion (DPO) process. The second of the three actions we requested in our 2.206 petition was that the NRC resolve Dr. Hopenfeld's DPO and the related generic safety issue prior to restart of Indian Point 2. If permitted by the NRC to speak during this public meeting, Dr. Hopenfeld will discuss his technical concerns and the petitioners will discuss why we feel his DPO must be resolved prior to restart.

In order to facilitate the petitioner's planning for the April 7th meeting, we request a decision from the NRC regarding Dr. Hopenfeld's ability to discuss his safety concerns on or before March 31, 2000. If you or a member of your staff would contact me at (202) 332-0900 or via e-mail at dlochbaum@ucsusa.org, I pass along the decision to the other petitioners.

Sincerely,

David A. Lochbaum
Nuclear Safety Engineer

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