

April 21, 2000

Mr. David A. Lochbaum
Union of Concerned Scientists
1616P Street NW, Suite 310
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

In Mr. Roy Zimmerman's April 5, 2000, correspondence to you, Mr. Zimmerman indicated that my office would provide you with the results of our review of your comments and examples of problems you encountered in obtaining public documents from the ADAMS system.

The petition cites five documents with lag times ranging from 3-work days to 10-work days. One of those (8-day lag) was an externally generated document dated February 15, 2000. The elapsed time between the date of an externally generated document and its availability in ADAMS will vary depending on the time it takes for the document to reach NRC through the U.S. mail. The document in question apparently took several days to reach the agency, was entered into ADAMS on February 23rd, and was released 3-work days later on February 28th - in accordance with the policy.

Three of the remaining four internally generated documents took longer than our established target of 3-work days to be made publicly available; the fourth was released after 3-work days in accordance with the policy. Our intention is to consistently meet the performance goals established by the agency. To this end, we have been in the process of reviewing our quality control procedures. On March 9, 2000, we changed our centralized quality control processes for ADAMS documents created by the staff to ensure that such documents are released to the ADAMS Publicly Available Records System (PARS) by their specified release dates. Since March 9, 2000, we have been following these new procedures, and on March 24th, we issued an internal network announcement reminding NRC staff of the procedures for making documents publicly available in the ADAMS environment.

We believe ADAMS will significantly improve public access to NRC material and hope that you and other members of the public will bear with us and not become frustrated with the new system as technical and procedural issues are identified and resolved.

I encourage you to continue to report issues to the staff of our Public Document Room (PDR) at 1-800-397-4209, so that we can address them. The PDR staff will do everything possible to

- 2 -

assist you in obtaining the information you need to participate in the regulatory process. Should you wish to escalate any future concerns, please contact Thomas Smith, Acting Chief, Public Document Services Section, at 301-415-7204, or Francine Goldberg, Director, Information Management Division, at 301-415-7545. I can be reached at 301-415-8700.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Stuart Reiter
Acting Chief Information Officer

cc: Michael Mariotte, Nuclear Information & Resource Service
Edward Smeloff, PACE Law School Energy Project
James P. Riccio, Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy Project
Governor George E. Pataki
Eliot Spitzer, New York Attorney General
C. Scott Vanderhoef, County Executive

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ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML003695488

ADAMS DOCUMENT TITLE: OCIO Input for Response to Lochbaum 2.206 Petition re Indian Point 2 Steam Generator Tube Event

OFFICE	OCIO		OCIO		NRR		OCIO	
NAME	F. Goldberg: FFG		L. Scattolini: LBS		S. Black: SCB		S. Reiter: SR	
DATE	04/ 10 /2000		04/ 10 /2000		04 /20 /2000		04/ 21 /2000	

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