March 24, 2000

Mr. David Lochbaum Union of Concerned Scientists 1616 P St. NW., Suite 310 Washington, DC 20036-1495

SUBJECT: PETITION PURSUANT TO 10 CFR 2.206 - INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 2

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

This is in response to the telephone conversation we had on March 21, 2000, concerning your 2.206 Petition dated March 14, 2000. During this telephone conversation, I requested that you provide the additional information regarding the adequacy of the calculations for auxiliary feedwater (AFW) heat transfer following accidents and transients. You had referenced this issue during our March 16, 2000, telephone conference regarding your 10 CFR 2.206 Petition. We are addressing the issues in your Petition; however, we have not undertaken a review of the AFW issue you raised in the telephone conversation because we believe that we need additional information to address your specific concerns.

All information relevant to a Petition under 10 CFR 2.206 should be submitted with the Petition. We understand that you cannot meet with the NRC staff until April 7, 2000; however, if you intend that we consider your AFW or any other safety concerns as part of your March 14 Petition, we request that you provide any additional information that may have an impact on safety by April 3, 2000, and explain how it relates to your Petition. Our intent is to assure that any information, including any additional information provided at the April 7 meeting, be considered to the extent feasible in our final decision regarding this Petition prior to restart. Our review of your Petition is continuing and the Director's Decision will be based on consideration of all information that is available to us. Your request for a decision on Dr. Hopenfeld's ability to attend the April 7, 2000 meeting is under consideration and we will provide you an answer by March 31, 2000, as you requested.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Suzanne C. Black, Deputy Director Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

cc: See next page

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SUBJECT: PETITION PURSUANT TO 10 CFR 2.206 - INDIAN POINT NUCLEAR GENERATING UNIT NO. 2

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

This is in response to the telephone conversation we had on March 21, 2000, concerning your 2.206 Petition dated March 14, 2000. During this telephone conversation, I requested that you provide the additional information regarding the adequacy of the calculations for auxiliary feedwater (AFW) heat transfer following accidents and transients. You had referenced this issue during our March 16, 2000, telephone conference regarding your 10 CFR 2.206 Petition. We are addressing the issues in your Petition; however, we have not undertaken a review of the AFW issue you raised in the telephone conversation because we believe that we need additional information to address your specific concerns.

All information relevant to a Petition under 10 CFR 2.206 should be submitted with the Petition. We understand that you cannot meet with the NRC staff until April 7, 2000; however, if you intend that we consider your AFW or any other safety concerns as part of your March 14 Petition, we request that you provide any additional information that may have an impact on safety by April 3, 2000, and explain how it relates to your Petition. Our intent is to assure that any information, including any additional information provided at the April 7 meeting, be considered to the extent feasible in our final decision regarding this Petition prior to restart. Our review of your Petition is continuing and the Director's Decision will be based on consideration of all information that is available to us. Your request for a decision on Dr. Hopenfeld's ability to attend the April 7, 2000 meeting is under consideration and we will provide you an answer by March 31, 2000, as you requested.

Sincerely, /RA/

Suzanne C. Black, Deputy Director Division of Licensing Project Management Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

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