RAS E-1050

DOCKETED USNRC

September 14, 2012 (9:48 a.m.)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY RULEMAKINGS AND ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

September 14, 2012

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

Re:

Indian Point Units 2 and 3 License Renewal Application NRC Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and 50-286-LR ASLBP No. 07-858-03-LR-BD01

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing on behalf of the Westchester County Association and our members to express our strong support for the license renewal of Units 2 and 3 at the Indian Point Energy Center, in Buchanan, New York. The continued operation of Indian Point is vital to economic development and the preservation of land values in the region.

Since Indian Point 2 and 3 went into operation, local property values and the associated revenues from property taxes have continued to increase in Westchester County. In fact, the plant contributes \$75 million annually in property taxes and revenue sharing with New York State. A large portion of those revenues goes to local school districts, acting as a direct investment in our future. This helps mitigate high property taxes and boosts economic activity.

Indian Point's 2000 megawatts of generation accounts for 30% New York City's electric supply, and 11% of power used statewide. It powers our homes, businesses, and critical transportation, health, and municipal systems. The numerous benefits of Indian Point's continued operation, including electric reliability, affordable power costs, and increased public safety. These factors have contributed to economic growth of the region by attracting new businesses, industries, and people. Westchester County has experienced steady population growth since Indian Point Units 2 and 3 went online nearly 30 years ago, with a nearly 10 percent increase in population size in the last decade alone.

Numerous studies show that without Indian Point, there would be a significant rise in electricity prices in New York and drastic reductions in grid reliability, factors that hurt the bottom lines of all ratepayers. This would no doubt impact thousands of businesses and industries in Westchester County – many of which may be forced to lay off workers; or worse, relocate elsewhere. The consequence of higher energy costs will reduce our ability to keep and expand jobs as well as have serious negative implications for the local tax base and property values.

Given these factors, a shutdown of Indian Point would have significant, long-term impacts on both the public and private sectors in Westchester County: from schools to businesses and public safety services. We encourage the ASLB to diligently consider the many contributions that Indian Point provides to downstate New York and substantial benefits to the local economy and local land values resulting from its continued operation.

Respectfully,

Wale Welfry

cc:

Administrative Judge Lawrence G. McDade c/o Anne Siarnacki, Law Clerk
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
Mail Stop T-3F23
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Fax to: (301) 415-5599 (verification (301) 415-7550)

Email to: anne.siarnacki@nrc.gov

## September 14, 2012

Office of the Secretary Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001 Fax to: (301) 415-1101

Email to: <a href="mailto:hearing.docket@nrc.gov">hearing.docket@nrc.gov</a>

Re: Economic Impact of Indian Point Units 2 and 3 License Renewal Application

NRC Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and 50-286-LR

ASLBP No. 07-858-03-LR-BD01

## Dear Secretary:

I am Marissa Brett, Executive Director of Economic Development with The Westchester County Association, which represents approximately 500+ companies, ranging from professional/entrepreneurs to multi-national companies with over 300,000 employees in Westchester County. I am writing to urge your board's approval for license renewal of Indian Point Units 2 and 3 in Buchanan, New York. Indian Point Energy Center serves as an economic driver for the communities which surround the plant. It has been and still remains a vital contributor to the region's expanding population and continued rise in local land values.

Energy and economic development are inherently linked. Businesses take electric rates into account when looking at their bottom lines and what their operating expenses are going to be for the next year. High power costs will affect a business' ability to continue operating. Numerous studies show that without Indian Point, there would be a significant rise in electricity prices in New York. Sky-high electricity prices would force many business owners to close or relocate to less expensive areas of the state, or even out of state. Further, according to the New York Independent System Operator, without Indian Point, electric reliability would be degraded to the point that there would likely be brownouts and blackouts. This scenario would place public safety in jeopardy.

Major electric service disruptions and exponential increases in electricity rates would affect my members' bottom lines. It would result in layoffs and a lack of new hires. Some might be forced to relocate their businesses elsewhere. This would result in an exodus of business, residents, and the loss of associated capital would have serious negative implications for the local tax base and on property values.

Indian Point has an annual economic impact of \$1 billion on New York State's economy. It plays a significant role in driving economic development and population growth in the region and is vital to the maintenance of land values in communities near the plant. Those values would surely decrease if the facility were closed. I encourage you to renew the license for Indian Point.

Thank you for your time and considering my comments on this issue.

Sincerely,

**Executive Director of Economic Development** 

cc: Administrative Judge Lawrence G. McDade

c/o Anne Siarnacki, Law Clerk

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel

Mail Stop T-3F23

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555-0001

Fax to: (301) 415-5599 (verification (301) 415-7550)

Email to: anne.siarnacki@nrc.gov

## **Docket, Hearing**

From:

Dorothy Forcina [DForcina@westchester.org]

Sent:

Friday, September 14, 2012 9:48 AM

To:

Docket, Hearing

Cc: Subject: Siarnacki, Anne

Subject: Attachments: NRC Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and 50-286-LR- ASLBP No. 07-858-03-LR-BD01 Indian Point Support Ltr (1) 092012.pdf; Inian Point Support Ltr (2) 092012.pdf

Dear Secretary Vietti-Cooki:

Please find attached a signed copy of this letter for "Docket Nos. 50-247-LR and 50-286-LR/ASLB No. 07-858-03-LR-BD01" to you and a carbon copy to Administrative Judge Lawrence G. McDade via Law Clerk Anne Siarnacki. This letter was also faxed to Law Clerk Anne Siarnacki at 301-415-5599 for the NRC matter noted above and in the Subject of this email.

Also, please note that a hard copy of this letter was also placed in the mail to you and a carbon copy was sent to Administrative Judge Lawrence G. McDade via Law Clerk Anne Siarnacki.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cordially,
Dorothy Forcina- Managing Director
The Westchester County Association
1133 Westchester Avenue
Suite S-217
White Plains, NY 10604
(914) 948-5689
dforcina@westchester.org