

**Docket, Hearing**

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**From:** Paul Jaffe [pdjaffe@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 14, 2012 6:49 AM  
**To:** Docket, Hearing; Siarnacki, Anne  
**Subject:** Indian Point Relicensing

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing with regard to the issue of Indian Point Relicensing.

I am writing with regard to my 6 year old son and all the other children in the NY Metropolitan Area, and more broadly in the world. I am currently in the process of relocating my home to Chestnut Ridge, NY. Given the relative proximity to Indian Point, it is not a place I would have chosen otherwise, but my wife and son are both studying here. I previously spent most of each year in Kyoto Japan, and my son and wife spent some of the year with me there. However, after the Fukushima NPP accident in March of last year, I decided to quit my job and leave Japan.

My move back to the US was primarily precipitated by the desire not to have my son exposed to contamination in the food chain when he visited me in Japan for 2-3 months each year, and further, I did not like the fact that I had no reliable information about radiation dispersion, and thus did not know whether he should be allowed to play innocently in a spring or summer rain, or whether I needed to keep him indoors. Once during March and once during April, I had the experience of being caught in a hot rain. I was out when it began to rain and though I had an umbrella, the lower part of my body got quite wet. When I arrived in my house, I noticed that my legs were very hot. It was a weird sensation, something like a cross between a sunburn and the tingling you get when your legs have fallen asleep and are coming back to feeling. It is hard to describe. I called a friend of mine in Kyoto who said he had been riding on his bicycle and experienced a burning sensation in his throat and sinuses. When he got home he received a call from friends of his who told him that Kansai was under a medium level radiation cloud.

In Chestnut Ridge we are much much closer to Indian Point than we were in Kyoto to Fukushima. Almost half the children living at the same distance from Fukushima now have growths on their thyroids. Children are listless, many get nosebleeds, and nausea is not uncommon. As you know, after the accident, the Japanese government raised the legally allowable level of exposure to radiation by ordinary citizens, including children, by twenty times. This allowed them to argue that they didn't need to evacuate most people beyond the 20 kilometer radius. What most people don't realize about the change in the law was that it also relieved the government from responsibility for evacuating Tokyo, which by many reports of scientists, would not exceed the 1 milisievert per year limit that was formerly in place.

Of course if there were an accident at Indian Point, the chaos ensuing in the attempt by people to escape would be terrible, and roads including the Thruway would probably be closed or totally jammed up with cars. Emergency access in and out of the NPP would be virtually impossible except by helicopter. The few bridges in the area would be other causes of complete logjams. Given the population density, a realistic evacuation plan is probably impossible. In the case of a meltdown, that area would also include NY City. After the Fukushima accident, the US embassy recommended evacuation up to 50 miles away. How can NYC be evacuated?

Without belaboring my point, let me say that I have a deep personal interest in this issue, and that I consider it of the highest importance. Nuclear power is one of the worst ideas ever. We have a history of maintaining some things in human civilization for hundreds and even thousands of years, but nuclear power plants are not among them. We have see that the danger increases dramatically after a few decades, and the risk is not acceptable in the first place, in my view. This is not only an issue of current risk, but of how we will store nuclear waste safely for several hundred thousand years, far beyond the scope of anything ever done by human civilization. Further, we already know that we have contaminated both the air and water around Indian Point with radionuclides, although we have no way of measuring the damage done to the health of the population. Nevertheless, there are a number of studies done in England showing significantly increases in serious illnesses around nuclear power plants due to leaks and venting, both of which have been taking place at Indian Point. Given the proximity to NYC and the risk of unprecedented harm to the population, it is clearly time to close down Indian Point and clean it up.

Thank you for your kind attention and thank you in advance for your sound and rational judgement in refusing to relicense Indian Point NPP.

Sincerely yours

DOCKETED  
USNRC

September 14, 2012 (8:15 a.m.)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
RULEMAKINGS AND  
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF