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Market Learn Advocate Grow September 14, 2012

DOCKETED USNRC

September 14, 2012 (2:50 p.m.)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY RULEMAKINGS AND ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

> Office of the Secretary Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555-0001

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 writing to provide the Atomic Safety Licensing Board of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with an addendum to the Business Council of Westchester's letter of support for license renewal of-Units 2 and 3 at Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan, New York. The addendum provides new evidence to further reinforce the business Council of Westchester's position that Indian Point's continued operation is essential to preserving land values in Westchester County.

Included with this letter is a copy of a study, released September 7, 2012, which indicates the major economic impacts to Westchester County resulting from the loss of Indian Point. The Business Council of Westchester commissioned Dr. Howard Axelrod of Energy Strategies, Inc., well-respected energy and economics consultant, to develop the study titled, "An Assessment of Energy Needs in Westchester County." Dr. Axelrod has more than 40 years of energy industry experience conducting business analysis and strategic planning for an array of clients including utilities, power suppliers, state and federal regulatory agencies, and large energy users.

The study concludes that if the operating licenses for Indian Point Units 2 and 3 are not renewed, and the plant is forced to cease operations, the impact to the region would be catastrophic, resulting in higher electric rates for businesses and consumers, more power outages, a rapid rise in carbon emissions, and a devastating blow to Westchester's economy.

Key study findings include:

- Westchester County alone would lose more than 3,300 high-paying jobs if Indian Point were to close. In addition to the loss of 1,400 jobs at Indian Point via employees and contractors, sectors with heavy job losses include: construction; professional, scientific and technical services; and healthcare.
- Losing these 3,300 jobs means losing \$200 million annually in lost wages, much of which is put back in Westchester's economy. Cumulatively, these lost wages amount to \$4.15 billion over a 20-year period.
- The lost regional commercial output from Indian Point would also be enormous: \$11.5 billion over 20 years. Clearly, Indian Point is important for New York's economic infrastructure.

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• Closing Indian Point means that Westchester residents alone will pay more than \$374 million per year in added electric charges, even if natural gas prices stay at their current, very low levels. Wholesale electric prices could increase by 13 percent.

Indian Point's significant economic output is an important contribution to the land values in Westchester, which would surely decrease if the facility were to shut down.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important and illuminating study.

Sincerely,

cc:

John Ravitz Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Enclosure – Business Council of Westchester Study

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: <u>anne.siarnacki@nrc.gov</u>

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Docket, Hearing

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Attachments: Maria Smith [MSmith@westchesterny.org] Friday, September 14, 2012 2:50 PM Docket, Hearing Siamacki, Anne Addendum to NRC Docket Nos. 50-247-LR DOC_20120914143810.PDF; Addendum.docx

Good Afternoon,

Please find attached a signed copy of this addendum 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.

Also, please note that a hard copy of this addendum 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.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cordially,

Maria Smith