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September 12, 2012

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

DOCKETED
USNRC

September 19, 2012 (8:30 a.m.)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

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 Secretary Vietti-Cook:

I am writing to express my support for the license renewal of Units 2 and 3 at the Indian Point Energy Center. I have decades-long experience working in the energy industry, from startup manager of the Calvert Cliffs 1 and 2 plants, Licensing Manager of the Black Fox plant, plant manager of Indian Point 2 and later chief mechanical engineer, chief fossil power engineer, and chief distribution engineer with Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. It is my understanding that the NRC is considering numerous issues connected with Indian Point's license renewal application, including the effect on the potential for alternative energy sources and environmental justice concerns.

Indian Point generates 2,000 megawatts of power, accounting for 30 percent New York City's electric supply, and 11 percent of all power used across the State of New York. It powers our homes, businesses, and critical transportation, health, and municipal systems; it is essential to grid reliability, preventing blackouts, economic disruption, and serious safety issues. A recent report on current and future grid reliability by the New York Independent System Operator found serious reliability issues would occur in 2016 if Indian Point were to be retired at the end of 2015.

Indian Point's operation ensures that we continue to have enough power to support our growing demand for electricity in New York while also keeping our air clean. Because Indian Point does not emit pollutants, it mitigates pollution from other generating facilities, thereby helping to improve the environment. If this plant is closed, there will be significant pressure to replace the megawatts generated at this carbon-free facility with fossil-fuel power plants, which tend to be located disproportionately in minority and low-income communities. According to a report conducted for the City of New York Department of Environmental Conservation, those replacement options for Indian Point would create an approximate 15 percent increase in carbon

emissions and a seven to eight percent increase in nitrous oxide emissions, further degrading air quality in the neighborhoods where those plants are located.

The health effects from pollution-emitting fossil fuel generators are well documented: the nonprofit Clean Air Task Force estimates there are 799 deaths, 698 hospitalizations, 1,541 heart attacks annually attributable to power plant pollution throughout the New York metropolitan region. These effects are borne disproportionately by our most vulnerable populations – minorities, low-income families, immigrants, and the disabled. Any further reduction in air quality would worsen what is already a serious public health problem.

I encourage the ASLB to consider these facts, as well as the many benefits that Indian Point brings to downstate New York and renew its operating license with the greatest expedience.

Sincerely,



John A. Basile

cc: Administrative Judge Lawrence G. McDade
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