



# Today's Students

# Tomorrow's Teachers

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[www.tstt.org](http://www.tstt.org)

Betty H. Perkins, Ed.D.  
President and CEO

September 6, 2012

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

I represent Today's Students Tomorrow's Teachers, an organization that mentors underprivileged high school students with career plans in education. I am writing to express my support for license renewal of Indian Point Units 2 and 3 in Buchanan, NY. It is my understanding that the NRC is considering numerous issues in connection with the license renewal application, including environmental justice concerns.

Indian Point is essential to reducing harmful emissions from fossil fuel-powered plants disproportionately located in low income and minority communities. The plant plays a vital role in fighting for environmental justice to protect New York's most vulnerable groups.

Indian Point is an essential power source to reduce harmful emissions from fossil fuel-powered plants disproportionately located in low income and minority communities. The plant plays an important role in fighting for environmental justice to protect New York's most vulnerable groups of people.

According to the New York Independent System Operator, Indian Point provides 30 percent of New York City's electricity with no carbon emissions. There is currently no emissions-free alternative readily available to generate enough power to replace the 2000 megawatts produced by Indian Point each day. If Indian Point Units 2 and 3 were forced to retire, the replacement power would come from large, polluting fossil fuel plants.

The devastating effects of carbon pollution have been well documented in recent years. Yet, air pollution, soot, smog, and particulate matter, continue to pose a public health risk today. The New York City area is one of the worst in the nation for particulate air pollution. Roughly 2,000 people die annually in the downstate region from heart and lung diseases related to soot. Children and the elderly are at greatest risk.



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Low-income communities in our area are disproportionately subject to the toxic emissions from fossil fuel generators. Most of the 24 power plants in the New York Metropolitan area exist in areas mostly comprised of minorities. The rate of hospitalization from air pollution in New York City for African-Americans and Hispanics is twice that of Caucasians. Indian Point's closure would compound this problem by making our state more dependent on power from these pollution-generating plants. Emitting

Indian Point's continued operation is fundamental to reducing New York's reliance on power from fossil fuel plants which are mainly located in environmental justice areas. We urge you to consider our concerns and renew the license for Indian Point.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Bettye H. Perkins, Ed.D.