



NAACP New York State Conference of Branches
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Hazel N. Dukes
President

September 16, 2007

Senior Project Manager Bo Pham
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: September 19, 2007 Environmental Scoping for Entergy 's Indian Point Energy Center re-licensing application September 19, 2007.

My name is Hazel Dukes. I am the President of the New York State Conference of NAACP Branches. The NAACP is the nation's pre-eminent social justice organization working to make our country and our state a better place for all Americans to live and work. In that capacity I have had the unique opportunity and pleasure to work with Entergy on the front lines as it were, in New York and in fact, across the country.

I have been impressed with Entergy and its work which I have seen first hand. I point out that I am not the only one who has seen and recognized Entergy's significant contributions to this family of New York--and to other communities across the country. The Dow-Jones Sustainability Index, which measures not only exceptional financial results, but also environmental and social responsibility of Fortune 500 companies, has recognized Entergy as the only U.S. utility company to be included in the sustainability index for six years running. And they have won countless local and national awards from organizations such as the Red Cross, the Urban League, the Association of Development Officers, Easter Seals, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, the City of Mt. Vernon and others that would take up more space than I have here.

The NAACP knows first-hand of Entergy's commitment to social responsibility, as it was one of the first companies to sign on to our fair-share principles to help provide opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses to participate in the utility and nuclear power industry. Great strides have been made by Entergy in working with organizations like the NAACP, and that work must continue to go forward.

Entergy has also supported our programs for youth, the NAACP's Academic, Cultural and Technical Olympics (ACT-SO), which provides scholarships and enhanced study in science and the arts for high-school students recognized Entergy earlier this year as an "outstanding corporate citizen."

In the discussion on global climate change and the quality of the air that we breathe, some environmentalists have come forward to highlight the importance of nuclear power as an emission-free source of electricity. I know that in black and brown communities across the

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country, our seniors and young people are choking to death on the fumes of pollution and suffer from high rates of asthma and respiratory illness.

According to a study by the Black Leadership Forum, "An Air of Injustice," African Americans and Power Plant Pollution, "The air in our communities violates air-quality standards" (71% of African Americans live in counties that violate federal air pollution standards) and our "death rate from asthma is twice that of other Americans (38.7 deaths per million population)." The study further states, "Global warming could enhance ozone formation, which could in turn exacerbate ozone-related health problems such as asthma attacks."

For that reason, social justice organizations such as the NAACP have special interest in working to combat climate change and drastically reduce air pollution from nitrogen oxide (NOx), sulfur dioxide (SOx), and carbon .

In that framework, as Congressman Greg Meeks of New York , Senators Barak Obama and Christopher Dodd, and others have pointed out, nuclear power must be a part of the clean air and global warming solution. We at the N.Y. conference recognize that the Indian Point nuclear power plants avoid millions of tons of pollution every year while providing us with 2,000 megawatts of electricity for our schools, mass transit, hospitals, and government institutions. We are proud to partner with Entergy and look forward to continuing our work together for many years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hazel N. Duker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H".

Hazel N. Duker