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September 19, 2007

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

Re: September 19, 2007 Environmental Scoping for Indian Point NuclearPowered
Electric Generating Station's License Renewal Application

My name is Michael Otis. I am a lecturer at the State University of New York at New
Paltz School of Science and Engineering.

I am also active with members of the SUNY New Paltz Foundation. who along with
myself and other faculty, have taken a special interest in trying to do as much as we can
to bring along the next generation of engineers that this country so desperately needs. Our
shared special passion is to develop more diverse engineering students at the college level
and help create career paths and hands on experience for these bright young people.

It is in that capacity that I have had the pleasure of working with Entergy and some of its
senior managers to help provide pathways for engineering students at SUNY New Paltz,
as we try to build our program and pave the way for new students and recruits. Therefore,
I know first hand that Entergy, the operators of Indian Point and many other nuclear
powered electric plants, is a committed and socially responsible corporate citizen.
I also interface with many business people on our Engineering Advisory Board, who
understand the needs and demands of small businesses and entrepreneurs. High energy
and electric costs here in New York State are driving small businesses out of the state and
stifling innovation and economic activity. I forget who said that computer chips without
electricity are just sand."

With regard to nuclear power and Indian Point, here s what I think

It's Affordable: Nuclear power consistently remains one of the cheapest sources of power
in the world Its price is predictable and stable, unlike oil or natural gas. Indian Point has
saved NYC and Hudson Valley businesses and residents billions of dollars on the price of
energy.

It's Clean: This is of particular importance to me since my wife and I have recently
increased our family size by one; our daughter Katelyn was born almost a year ago. I
want Katelyn to have the same opportunities I did growing up and not be affected by

changes in quality of life due to global warming. Case in point: Indian Point emits almost zero greenhouse gases. Increased reliance on non-polluting nuclear energy represents our best chance to meet the region's clean air goals and maintaining our standard of living while improving the environment. The same cannot be said with the world's coal-fired plants which emit nearly 2 billion tons of CO₂ annually.

It's critical: There is currently no viable energy alternative to replace the more than 2,000MW of power generated by the Indian Point Energy Center. Indian Point provides between 20-40% of the region's power.

It's American Technology that creates American Energy. This is a source of energy that does not depend on international production and is not affected by international pressures or politics. As an educator at an engineering school whose focus is on educating and training more diverse engineering students to help move our state forward, what could be more important than continuing to develop and utilize "home grown" technology rather than just exporting our best engineers for other countries to benefit?

Yeah, but they say...

It shouldn't be here: Actually, from both an environmental and reliability standpoint, Indian Point couldn't be in a better location. Nuclear power in New York avoids 42,000 tons of nitrous oxide [NO_x] (equivalent to 22 million passenger cars), which would otherwise be polluting the air due to the output from a natural gas or coal facility. It is also a critical base load source of power close to its utility center – the further electricity has to travel, the less reliable it is.

For all my reasons mentioned above, I strongly support the application for renewal of Indian Point's operating license as a benefit to the region and hope to continue to work with Entergy to train and mentor young engineers.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Otis