

Close Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant—Volunteer Today

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has stated that Indian Point Reactor 3 has the highest risk of earthquake damage in the country among the 104 plants currently operating. Entergy, the plant's owner, has filed an application to extend Indian Point's licenses for 20 years. Governor Cuomo has told the press Indian Point should be closed; Attorney General Schneiderman has called for an immediate assessment of all public health and safety risks posed by Indian Point.

We call on Governor Cuomo to publicly oppose relicensing. The safety of all New Yorkers mandates that Indian Point's licenses not be renewed.

Construction began on the plant in 1966—before the disasters of Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, 9/11, and, of course, the Fukushima reactor spawning horror in Japan. Today, no one would build a nuclear reactor just 24 miles from a major city on an earthquake fault line. Twenty million people, including all New York City residents, live within a 50-mile radius of Indian Point, which is plagued with mechanical and operational problems and makes an attractive terrorist target. There is no viable evacuation plan.

Indian Point generates radioactive waste in the form of 12-foot long spent fuel rods kept in tanks—1500 tons of waste are stored on site at Indian Point; an additional 1000 tons would be generated under new licenses. This waste is deadly for up to 250,000 years. One of the spent fuel tanks has been leaking tritium—a cancer-causing toxin—into the groundwater and the Hudson River. IP's spent fuel tanks are nearly full; Entergy has been transferring some of the waste to dry casks to be stored onsite indefinitely. There is no alternative storage site.

We also call on Governor Cuomo to tell the State Department of Environmental Conservation to continue withholding a water-use permit for Indian Point. In April 2010, the DEC ruled that Indian Point's cooling systems, even if modified in a less expensive way proposed by Entergy, "do not and will not comply" with New York's water quality standards. Indian Point sucks in and returns more than 2.5 billion gallons of Hudson River water daily to create steam for turbines and to cool the reactors, while pulling in and killing fish, eggs, larvae and plant life. The water is then pumped back in to the Hudson, 20 or 30 degrees hotter. The DEC insisted on a new cooling system that would cost over \$1 billion; Entergy should be encouraged to avoid this expense altogether by withdrawing its license renewal application now.

Studies have shown that with the permanent retirement of Indian Point at the end of its current licenses, there would be more than enough power available from existing and approved generating units in New York State and neighboring grids, through import over existing transmission lines, to meet the area's electricity needs.

We call on Governor Cuomo to start now to develop genuinely clean alternative energy sources and institute conservation and efficiency measures that would further help generate the energy Westchester and New York City need to replace the 12 percent of their energy currently supplied by Indian Point.

How You Can Help

EMAIL: <http://www.governor.ny.gov/>; click on "Contact" to send the Governor a letter

TELEPHONE: (518) 474-8390

MAIL: The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, NYS State Capitol Building, Albany, N.Y. 12224

JOIN: Three Parks Independent Democrats

Cathedral Station P.O. Box 1316, New York, N.Y. 10025

212-866-6378, www.ThreeParksDems.org, ThreeParksDems@aol.com