

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs, Region I
475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19406
Fax: 610/337-5241
Internet: dps@nrc.gov or nas@nrc.gov

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Contact: Diane Screnci (610/337-5330) Neil A. Sheehan (610/337-5331)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC SETS PUBLIC MEETING ON INDIAN POINT 1 DECOMMISSIONING PLANS

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a meeting on Wednesday, January 20, to discuss Consolidated Edison Co.'s decommissioning plans for the permanently shut-down Indian Point 1 nuclear power plant in Buchanan, N.Y.

The meeting, which will be open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at the New York State Armory building, 955 Washington St., Peekskill, N.Y.

NRC staff will make a presentation on agency oversight of the decommissioning process, while Consolidated Edison representatives will discuss the facility's status and decommissioning program. In addition, there will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and make comments relating to the plant's decommissioning.

Indian Point 1, which was first licensed by the federal government to operate in 1962, ceased operations on October 31, 1974. Since January 1976, all of the spent fuel from the reactor has remained in an on-site storage pool. The spent fuel is expected to remain on site until a federal repository for the permanent storage of spent fuel is available.

NRC approved Indian Point 1 decommissioning plans in February 1996. Those plans call for the utility to maintain the reactor in long-term safe storage (SAFSTOR) until the adjoining Indian Point 2 reactor, also owned by Consolidated Edison, is permanently shut down. Both units will be dismantled concurrently.

Under NRC regulations, the company has 60 years to complete decommissioning and terminate its license. The regulations also require the company to periodically update its plans for decommissioning. Before any significant dismantlement of Indian Point 1 can occur, Consolidated Edison will be required to inform the NRC and public of its plans and provide a schedule.

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