

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC TO BEGIN INSPECTION AT IP2

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will begin a previously-scheduled inspection Tuesday (January 16) at the Indian Point 2 nuclear power plant. The plant, in Buchanan, NY, is operated by Consolidated Edison Company of New York.

Consolidated Edison Company was notified of the agency's intent to conduct this inspection in an October 11 letter (available at www.nrc.gov/OPA/gmo/nrarcv/00-071i.html). In that letter, NRC Region I Administrator Hubert J. Miller said "several cornerstones in the NRC regulatory framework are degraded at the IP2 facility."

The NRC's revised inspection program includes three parts: baseline inspections conducted at each of the nation's 103 operating nuclear plants, special inspections, and supplemental inspections performed as a result of performance issues. The intent of this supplemental inspection is to provide the agency with supplemental information regarding licensee performance to determine the breadth and depth of safety, organizational and programmatic issues. The results of this inspection will aid the NRC in deciding whether additional regulatory actions are necessary to assure public health and safety.

The 13-member team will spend three weeks at Indian Point 2 collecting information. A meeting to discuss the findings with the public will be scheduled several weeks after the conclusion of the on-site portion of the inspection.