

SHUT DOWN INDIAN POINT COALITION

CONTACTS

Ken Gale 212-249-6689 nuffsaid@riseup.net

Tim Judson 212-729-1169 timj@nirs.org

Alice Slater 212-744-2005 aliceslater@gmail.com

Catherine Skopic 212-227-7847 catherineskopic@yahoo.com

Statement of Support for Res. 0694-2015: Indian Point Closure and Just Transition Resolution

Dear Speaker Mark-Viverito, Chairman Constantinides, and Members of the New York City Council:

We the undersigned groups support Res 0694-2015, introduced by Councilmember Donovan Richards and co-sponsored by a growing number of your colleagues calling for the closure of the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant and urging the State of New York to implement a just transition plan for the plant's workforce and local communities. We ask you to support the resolution and the efforts of Governor Cuomo and Attorney General Eric Schneiderman to prevent the federal relicensing of Indian Point.

As the recent explosion and shutdowns at Indian Point show, the plant's aging reactors pose an unnecessary and unacceptable risk to New York City residents. Indian Point is only 25 miles directly upwind of the city, lies at the intersection of two active seismic faults, and is rated the most vulnerable nuclear plant in the country to an earthquake-induced meltdown. It is also known to be a potential target for terrorism because of its proximity to NYC, presenting a tremendous security risk.

This is an unacceptable level of risk, and the city has a direct stake in ensuring that Indian Point is not relicensed and closes when its federal operating licenses expire by the end of this year. A 2011 Natural Resources Defense Council report found a major accident at the plant could require the evacuation or sheltering of nearly 10 million people from radiation exposure (including most city residents) and render much of NYC too radioactively contaminated to live in. A 2004 Union of Concerned Scientists study determined the economic costs of an accident could be as high as \$1.1 trillion, primarily because of the impact on NYC.

The good news is, due to the efforts of Governor Cuomo, the NYS Public Service Commission, Consolidated Edison, and the New York Power Authority, Indian Point can close as scheduled without compromising the reliability and affordability of the city's power supply. The implementation of the Indian Point Replacement Contingency Plan, developed in 2013, is proceeding on schedule, and will ensure there is no risk of blackouts or electricity price spikes when Indian Point ceases operations. There is simply no need to choose between the health, safety, and security of New York City and reliable, affordable electricity.

The replacement of fossil fuel energy sources necessary to meet these goals also requires that we ensure workers and communities impacted by plant closures are supported through just transition policies and programs. Just as we need fair and just trade policies that do not create a global race to the bottom, we must do a better job of managing the economic transition necessary for environmental sustainability and mitigating climate change. Res 0694-2015 is visionary in starting this essential conversation.

We are grateful for your leadership on environmental sustainability, renewable energy, resiliency, and climate justice. The closure of Indian Point will promote and support those initiatives by removing a major sustainability and resiliency threat and by creating even more incentives for clean, renewable energy sources. We urge you to join Councilmember Richards by cosponsoring Res 0694-2015 and supporting the efforts of Governor Cuomo and Attorney General Eric Schneiderman to prevent the federal relicensing of Indian Point.

Respectfully,

Local Organizations

Lisa Di Caprio, 350NYC
Bernadette Evangelist, Big Apple Coffee Party
Jennifer Scarlott, Bronx Climate Justice North
Joanne Landy, Campaign for Peace and Democracy
Rosalie Seylen, Code Pink Long Island
Barbara Harris, Granny Peace Brigade, NY
Marilyn Elie, Indain Point Safe Energy Campaign
Mari Inoue, Manhattan Project
Evan Giller, NY Metro Progressives
Edie Kantrowitz, NYC Friends of Clearwater
Ken Gale NYC Safe Energy Campaign
Ken Baer, NYC Sierra Club
Mercy Van Vlack, NYC Metro Raging Grannies
Clare Donohue, Sane Energy Project
Carl Lundgren Shut Down Indian Point Now!
Rick and Kitty Ufford-Chase, Stony Point Center
Ling Tsou, United for Action
Donna Stein, Trade Justice Metro NY
Cecil Corbin-Mark, WE ACT for Environmental Justice
Robert Croonquist, Youth Arts, NY
Charlie Olson, The Environment TV
Annie Wilson, Environmental Law and Justice Project
Alice Slater, Code Pink, NY
Rosemarie Pace, Pax Christi Metro New York

National Organizations

Kevin Kamps, Beyond Nuclear
Eric Weltman, Food & Water Watch
Ben Schreiber, Friends of the Earth
Jim Riccio, Greenpeace
Mali Lightfoot, Helen Caldicott Foundation
Tim Judson, Nuclear Information and Resource Service
Rick Wayman, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
Alfred Meyer, Physicians for Social Responsibility
Roger Downs, Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter
Catherine Skopic, Interfaith Moral Action on Climate

State Organizations

Jessica Azulay, Alliance for a Green Economy
Kristina Andreotta, Citizen Action, NY
Manna Jo Greene, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
Julia Walsh, Frack Action
Sylvia Rodriguez Case, Peace Action NYS
Paul Gallay, Riverkeeper
Mark Dunlea, Green Education and Legal Fund