

# **No Need to Worry**

## **NYC Does not Need the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant to Keep the Lights On**

Despite claims from industry that the lights will go out in NYC if we shut down the Indian Point nuclear reactors, dangerously sited on two intersecting earthquake faults only 25 miles up the Hudson River from the city, numerous studies show that we don't need the power from Indian Point. In fact, one of the two reactors shut down unexpectedly twice in just two days in May, with no loss of power whatsoever.

Luckily, a nuclear accident did not occur, but these incidents highlight the danger and increasing unreliability of the aging reactors -- and the fact that we really do not need Indian Point to keep the lights on. One shutdown occurred because of a steam leak, and the other because of an explosion of the main transformer. The transformer explosion was the third at Indian Point in just eight years, and not only leaked thousands of gallons of oil into the Hudson River, but resulted in flooding the power supply room for the reactor's safety systems -- a problem the plant's owner should have identified years ago.

New York State energy regulators have already evaluated any potential reliability issues that Indian Point's closure might cause and created a plan to ensure they are addressed: the Indian Point Replacement Contingency Plan, which is already being implemented by ConEd and the New York Power Authority.

Indian Point's two reactors can generate a total of 2,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity, enough to light 130 million household light bulbs. The plan addresses a possible gap of just 1,450 MW when Indian Point shuts down, and the necessary measures are being implemented to reduce that to zero.

- 1) A new 660 MW powerline from NJ to NYC, already operational.
- 2) 600 MW in electric transmission upgrades, now being installed.
- 3) 185 MW of energy efficiency, demand response, and energy storage under the plan.

The State Public Service Commission said of the plan in 2013, *"This suite of projects accepted today represents the least-cost and least-risky portfolio for the IPEC reliability contingency plan."*

So no need to worry -- any possible gap will be closed before Indian Point shuts down. In fact, we are on track to beat the plan's goals. ConEd says efficiency programs are so much more successful than expected that it is already able to cancel other expensive electricity system upgrades in New York City.

**Find more info on the Indian Point Replacement Plan and other energy issues at:**

**[www.nirs.org/CloseIndianPoint/CloseIndianPoint.htm](http://www.nirs.org/CloseIndianPoint/CloseIndianPoint.htm)**



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