

# WHY WE MUST CLOSE INDIAN POINT NOW :

## **A Growing, Inescapable Threat**

Indian Point is aging, embrittled, leaking, obsolete and a growing threat to public safety. Residents could not escape a serious accident if one occurred, because the evacuation plan has been shown to be ineffective and unable to protect the public.

Indian Point is reaching the end of its designed 40-year lifespan. Though still highly profitable for Entergy, and despite the millions Entergy spends to assert the plant is “safe, secure and vital,” it is in fact an increasingly dangerous liability for our region. Since it was built, the population density of our area has greatly increased (a consideration which was excluded from the NRC relicensing process).

Critical plant systems are located only 15 feet above the Hudson River water level and are vulnerable to flooding from extreme weather, fires, terrorist attack, prolonged power outages and earthquakes.

IP2 has long been at the bottom of the NRC’s safety ranking of the 104 US nuclear reactors, and is number one on the NRC’s list of US reactors most vulnerable to core damage from earthquakes. Located at the convergence of two faults and a gas pipeline, it was designed to withstand Richter 5.8-6.2 earthquakes in a region that can expect up to 7.0 (New York State raised this contention with the NRC but it too was excluded from the relicensing process).

Indian Point’s unfortified, vulnerable spent fuel pools contain about three times the radioactivity contained in the entire Fukushima complex – much more than they were designed to handle (yet another consideration excluded from the relicensing process). The pools are getting packed tighter and tighter with hotter, more radioactive spent fuel as the plant continues to run. Indian Point already has a track record of significant accidents, including a steam boiler rupture, transformer explosions, siren failures, and planned and unplanned releases and ongoing leaks of radioactivity into the environment. Entergy also has a track record of seeking, and obtaining from the NRC, exemptions from basic **continued....**

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... safety regulations, such as fire safety, that effectively increase the risk of more serious accidents. When and if one occurs, it's been independently demonstrated that the evacuation plan won't protect us. Evacuating our densely populated area would be virtually impossible. Our roads are regularly overwhelmed by ordinary commuter traffic; they would quickly become gridlocked in a radiological emergency at Indian Point.

The evacuation plan, drafted by consultants hired and paid by Entergy, is utterly unrealistic for evacuating the 10-mile planning zone around the plant, and makes no provision at all for the 50-mile peak injury zone the NRC said was necessary to evacuate around Fukushima. Under the Indian Point plan, parents can't pick up their schoolchildren. Those without cars, such as institutionalized populations and others dependent on public transportation, are largely ignored. [An independent review by former FEMA Director James Lee Witt found that the plan was inadequate to protect the public](#), yet it's still the basis on which Indian Point is allowed to keep operating.

[Read the findings of Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Institute on Indian Point's earthquake risk](#)

[Download the Witt report on emergency preparedness at Indian Point](#)

### **GET INVOLVED!**

Contact Manna Jo Greene Clearwater Environmental Action Director, at [mannajo@clearwater.org](mailto:mannajo@clearwater.org) , 845 265-8080, ext 7113 to find out about volunteer opportunities for the Indian Point Campaign.