

UPDATE ON INDIAN POINT RELICENSING:

Challenging Spin, Leveling the Playing Field

Entergy seeks to dominate the regulatory process, spin media discourse and fund “astroturf” front groups to manipulate public opinion. But Clearwater is determined to challenge that, level the playing field, and help nurture a genuine, broad-based movement of people who want to close the plant.

The NRC often accepts and even repeats the company’s self-serving assertions without challenge. Entergy makes large donations to political campaigns and spends millions on advertising and representation by elite public relations firms and [Giuliani Partners LLC](#).

Entergy also funds front groups that repeat its talking points that the plant is safe, essential to our area’s economy and power supply, and that closing it or even incurring outages from needed retrofits would trigger more air pollution and health impacts on minority populations from fossil fuel plants, none of which is true. These groups advocate relicensing and purport to represent environmental justice populations and interests, but don’t.

We’ve testified about this to the NRC, which refused to consider the contention in the relicensing decision. [But investigative reporter Brian Palmer did dig into it in a 2011 article](#). Astroturf tactics “make it seem that these are community-based advocacy groups, when it’s just the corporation in another guise,” Common Cause told him. Meanwhile, Clearwater is working with genuine, independent community-based groups across our region to help mobilize a real, empowered grass-roots movement to close Indian Point.

Read the investigative reporter piece, [“The Nuclear Industry’s Astroturf Movement in Communities of Color”](#).

Read [Clearwater’s testimony on Entergy front groups to the NRC and the judge’s response](#)

GET INVOLVED!

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