

Commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services Adam Stiebeling was first to speak.

Commissioner Stiebeling thanked the Health Committee for the opportunity to lead the discussions this evening.

Commissioner Stiebeling stated he was very disappointed with this Committee, as well as the members of the Legislature, having passed this template Resolution without the input of the Planning Professionals, Emergency Responders, the Health Department as well as the members of the Law Enforcement and the over 100 volunteers that are participating in preparedness efforts. It was disappointing that these professionals were unable to have an opportunity to provide critical information.

Chairman Oliverio stated that we were not criticizing anyone; we simply wish to increase the evacuation radius and also for safer storage of the Spent Fuel Rods. This Resolution intended to make things safe.

Commissioner Stiebeling went on to state that he does support the County Executive's Veto, and is asking that this Resolution be sustained.

Chairman Oliverio asked Mr. John McCann, Vice President of Nuclear Safety, Emergency Programs & Licensing and Mr. Mike Slobodien, Director Emergency Programs who will be representing Entergy, to come forward to address the Committee.

Mr. McCann handed out literature pertaining to what he was going to speak about to the Committee.

Chairman Oliverio made a motion to accept the additional. Seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

Mr. McCann stated that he as well as Mike Slobodien will be focusing on the issues that have been raised in the Resolution.

Topics discussed: Earthquakes, and the damage that it causes to the Nuclear Power Plant, explaining the power sources and their functions, electric pumps that are used at the Power Plant and the rules that apply to them. Spent Fuel Rods (radioactive rods) were also discussed as to how they are now being stored and how to make it safer to be stored. The mileage for the safe zone beyond the Nuclear Power Plant was also discussed, as the County would like the span for the safe zone to be increased up to 50 mile radius instead of the 10 miles that it is at this time. Size and design of the Indian Point Plant facility was discussed. All the information was very well received by the Committee.

Chairman Oliverio thanked Mr. McCann for attending the meeting and presenting all of the valuable information to the Committee. He himself has toured the facility and his only fear is that in this day in age we never know what will be coming next, such as 911 and the mega tsunami that happened in Japan.

Director of Emergency Programs, Mr. Slobodien, was next to speak.

Mr. Slobodien stated he has been working along with Health and Safety since 1970. He had been a Responder when he had worked for Three Mile Island and subsequently in charge of the radiological clean up. He has tremendous experience in the emergency aspect, and he has also worked in response with Chernobyl for the United States.

Mr. Slobodien went on to speak about the Emergency Planning Zone, which would be the worst case accident to the core, and the radioactive effects. NRC and FEMA have recommended a 10 mile zone as it is a conservative and adjustable planning zone. There had also been a twenty year study done on the Health Effects for Three Mile Island, and there were no health effects.

Chairman Oliverio called on the Hudson River Program Director, Phillip Musegaas to comment.

Mr. Musegaas stated that the Riverkeeper urges the Committee and the Legislature to pass this Resolution. From their perspective, the Resolution contains logical as well as reasonable requests for actions that would increase safety at Indian Point, especially relating to the matter of Nuclear Waste at the site, especially the storage of nuclear waste at the site.

Chairman Oliverio asked Mr. Musegaas to please speak about the storage of the Spent Fuel Rods as that is a very large part of our Resolution.

Mr. Musegaas stated that the emergency exercises that Entergy does that are evaluated by the NRC and FEMA do not include accidents or attacks. Emergency planning is solely focused on Reactor accidents. This is really a concern purely due to how the nuclear Waste is stored. These tests are only done every six years and he does not believe that this is enough frequency. Indian Point is also not required to plan for emergencies at both Reactors at the same time. Under their regulations, they drill only for accidents at one Reactor or the other. They are not required to address safety issues having to do with an Earthquake or a Fire Hazard.

Nuclear waste on site is over 1,500 tons, and if the plant goes on it will create another thousand pounds of waste. A large majority of that waste is stored on site in pools. When the spent fuel rods are removed from the reactor core, they are extremely hot and must be cooled down. Most nuclear power plants have a temporary storage pool next to the reactor. The spent rods are placed in the pool, where they can cool down. The pool is not filled with ordinary water but with boric acid, which helps to absorb some of the radiation given off by the radioactive nuclei inside the spent rods. The spent fuel rods are supposed to stay in the pool for only about 6 months, but because there is no permanent storage site, they often stay there for years. Many power plants have had to enlarge their pools to make room for more rods. As pools fill, there are major problems. If the rods are placed too close together, the remaining nuclear fuel could go critical, starting a nuclear chain reaction. Thus the rods must be monitored and it is very important that the pools do not become too crowded. Also, as an additional safety measure, neutron-absorbing materials similar to those used in control rods are placed amongst the fuel rods. Permanent disposal of the spent fuel is becoming more important as the pools become more and more crowded. All of the nuclear waste should be moved to dry storage which would be much safer. The spent fuel pools are the same size as in 1975 and only designed for 7 years of fuel. The

building is not a sealed building and that has to be addressed. The Fuel Rods should be removed from the pools and stored in a dry space.

Chairman Oliverio asked that any member of the public come forward to express their concerns and comments.

Mr. Shaw stated he would like the Plant “closed”. He has many concerns regarding the radiation effects. Three Mile Island was the fault of human error as well as Chernobyl. There will never be anything that can totally eliminate human error.

Ms. Paula Clair stated that the Indian Point Nuclear Plant, is a very large risk, and safe guards need to be put in place which are welcomed and appropriate. Cost should not be a priority.

Mr. Victor Tiship of Putnam Valley stated that it is heartening seeing the public body putting public safety first. The NRC is not really a safety body. They are agents of the industry and consistently and repeatedly downgrade safety regulations, wiring, fire regulations, and anything they can do to keep Indian Point operating. Indian Point has been called the most dangerous nuclear plant in the entire country. Indian Point would never be allowed to build where it is located now, and the reason being safety issues. With that being said, why would anyone consider a 20 year extension for a plant that is built the way it is at this time? What it boils down to is private profits verses public safety.

Mr. Tiship also stated that he applauds the Legislature for putting the public safety first. The safety concerns need to be updated.

Ms. Ann Fanizzi stated that every corporation and government has Risk Managers and you the Legislators are our risk Managers. You take into consideration the risks for all the residents and again she applauds and commends the Legislature for taking common sense measures to minimize the risk to us your constituents.

Mr. Bill Nulk President of the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce stated that Entergy is a member of the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce. They disagree with many of the assumptions that are listed in the Resolution and therefore feel this is not a valid request.

Mr. Nulk feels the Resolution should be re-written, to again agree with the safety of the law.

Chairman Oliverio stated that he agrees with Mr. Nulk that Entergy has been a good neighbor and no one faults what they have done to this point. All that we want to do at this point is to increase that safety cover and he believes that is a very reasonable request. We can always get better. We need to always be prepared at the highest level and that is what we did by presenting our template. No one is faulting what they have done to this point. We need to be prepared at our highest level. We are not faulting Entergy.

Ms. Allen stated that she lives 14 miles from Indian Point in Putnam Valley. She would need to use Peekskill Hollow Road as an escape route if there were a situation at Indian Point. She would like Entergy to be more forthcoming with important information.

Mr. Mark Jacobs, a resident of Philipstown is very concerned for the dangers that are presented at Indian Point. Mr. Jacobs lives within 5 miles of Indian point and this is about being conservative. In recommending this Resolution, they have proposed something conservative. In looking at the evacuation zone, it should be extended to 50 miles and stand firm.

Chairman Oliverio stated that on May 22, 2013 @ 6:30 pm in room #318 of the Putnam County Office Building, 3rd floor conference room, there will be a Special Full Legislative Meeting to decide whether to sustain the Veto or to override the Veto. That will be the only Agenda item for that meeting.

Legislator DiCarlo stated just for clarification, once this Resolution was Vetoed, the County Executive clearly asked that we as a Committee to go back and have a hearing as we are now, because part of this was thought that we did not give both sides an opportunity to present what they had. This is what we are discussing this evening. Now it is up to this Legislative body upon hearing what had to be said, to then either sustain the Resolution or override it.

Legislator DiCarlo stated he would like this to be clear that we are doing our fiduciary duty by listening to what has to be said. We have said one of our charges as a Legislative body is the Health, Safety and Wellbeing of the public. Two and a half weeks ago, we had a meeting where we instituted money for the wellbeing of children with disabilities. Well, this is the wellbeing of the public. That is the decision that we have to make. He feels that it was very well said by Mr. Jacobs, as well as Chairman Oliverio that we are not, nor did we ever ask for this to be closed down. The issue at hand though is common sense, if we do not learn from the mistakes of history; we will continue to repeat them. What any company should be doing when it pertains to the Health/Safety and Wellbeing is to always go to the maximum of what can happen. For transparency sake, he had been the principal at the Copper Beach Middle School in Lakeland from 2002 thru 2005. They had to run a drill where they had to get 50 bus loads of students, mocked on a bus to get ready to go down to Purchase. Then they had to give out mock iodine pills, and the parents were required to sign if they wanted their children to have it or not. He has been through this and moving forward these are conservative requests that we are being asked to go on. It seems to him that the NRC is going to do what they want and however they want to do it. We are doing this for the people in Putnam County and we feel that this is a statement moving forward. We want Entergy to continue to be good neighbors, and want them to be involved in the community. However moving forward, and in speaking for himself, now having this hearing is not going to change his vote, but it is going to be the vote of the collective Legislative Body about how this wants to move forward. That was important because that was part of the charge that we did not quote on quote, have an open dialogue and we are now doing it as a Committee. Based on what we have heard here tonight, we now have to make that vote on the May 22, 2013 Special Meeting.

Ms. Lourdes Lapper of Cold Spring stated that the minimum safe distance is 50 miles, and urges the County to override the Veto.

Ms. Mary Ellen Finger stated that she wanted to ask a personal question regarding her farm. She is concerned about the contamination risks. She is also questioning if they will be building a new Emergency Operating Center on her property.

Mr. McCann stated the building that is being spoken about would be a new Emergency Operations Facility. This has not been carried out as yet.

Mr. Philip Lykes of Putnam Valley stated he lives 10 minutes from Indian Point. What would prevent the spent rods from falling into each other from an earthquake?

Mr. McCann stated that the pools are designed sizably for the worst case scenario. The Indian Point Plant is built on bedrock and designed so that the question of spent rods falling into each other is not an issue.

Chairman Oliverio questioned Mr. McCann if he had backups of diesel fuel?

Mr. McCann stated that there is 7 days of stored fuel to be able to run at maximum load. There is also a hundreds of thousands of gallons of fuel oil available at Indian Point. There is a tanker truck specifically designated to those tanks as well.

Chairman Oliverio thanked everyone for attending this meeting tonight. On the 22nd of May this Legislature will take a vote whether to sustain the vote or to override the Veto.

Chairman Oliverio went on to state that Health and Safety is paramount and government was created to protect the common good, and to make it whole.

Chairman Oliverio stated that he believes that in Putnam County, we have that type of government.

There being no further business to discuss, at 8:20 P.M., Legislator Scuccimarra made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Legislator DiCarlo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Claire E. Muller, Administrative Assistant.

