

Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition

1-888-474-8848

Mayor Leo Weigman
C/o Village of Croton-On-Hudson
1 Van Wyck Street
Croton-On-Hudson N.Y. 10520



Dear Mayor Weigman:

March 11, 2012 marks one year since an earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster struck the coast of Japan and started what is an on-going disaster. The consequences of this triple tragedy are still unfolding and it will take the country decades to recover. We would like to invite you and members of your board to a vigil to commemorate what happened at Fukushima and stand in solidarity with the people of Japan as they embark on the long road to recovery.

The vigil will be held at 300 Bleakley Avenue, Buchanan, NY, at 3:30pm on **Sunday, March 11** as the No More Fukushimas Peace Walkers will be making their way from Croton on Hudson to Indian Point. A press conference will precede the Vigil and there will be a Commemorative Program at the old school house in Verplanck at 6:00pm.

Currently there is a 12 mile exclusion zone surrounding the reactors in the rural province of Fukushima and there is little possibility that the farmers who have worked the land for generations will ever be able to return home. A much wider area has been affected as the radiation spread and hot spots have been discovered next to distant apartment buildings and schools. Many in Japan refuse to buy food produced anywhere in the entire region for fear of contamination so those that remain outside the exclusion cannot sell their produce.

While the Hudson River Valley does not have to worry about a tsunami, the nuclear complex in our back yard sits in the middle of two earthquake fault lines and seismic data from the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory has determined that this convergence of faults could yield an earthquake far more powerful than the 5.3 magnitude design basis for the plant. Further, the Spring 2011 earthquake in Virginia that cracked buildings and shut down the North Anna Nuclear Plant for months showed the NRC that their assumptions for seismic safety in Northeastern nuclear plants were greatly underestimated.

While seismic events and nuclear meltdowns may be of relatively low probability, public health and safety consequences and the enormous financial losses that could result are enormous. It is important to look at the lessons still being learned from Fukushima and ask ourselves how much risk the two reactors at Indian Point pose to the health and safety of our communities.

Recent hearings NYS Assembly Committees concluded that we do not need the electricity from Indian Point, and our deregulated market has the capacity to deliver all of the electricity we need without major cost increases to ratepayers. Studies from Synapse and other groups have found the same thing. The Brenner Hearings made it clear that the 2,000MW of electricity produced at Indian Point is not all being used in our grid but is being sold elsewhere.

Please join us at the gates of Indian Point on March 11 at 3:30pm and represent your community in demanding a safer, greener and healthier Hudson River Valley. If you have questions or would like additional information please feel free to call me 914-954-6739 at your convenience. I hope to see you on March 11. Please RSVP if you can attend so that we can include you in introductions to the press.

Please note that there will be a First Responders Regional Conference at Manhattanville, on Monday, March 5, starting at 6:30pm. Former County Executive Andy Spano will deliver opening remarks. A panel of experts from Japan will discuss what happened in Fukushima based on their own professional and personal experiences. A panel of American experts will also present information and answer questions. Call Manna Jo Greene, Environmental Director of Clearwater at 845-265-8080 for information regarding this important meeting at Manhattanville College. I hope that your community will be represented at this meeting.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Elie
Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition
914-954-6739