April 17, 2020

Mr. Mitch Behm
Acting Inspector General
Office of Inspector General
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE, 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Behm,

We are writing to you to urge that an immediate and thorough investigation be undertaken in order to determine if the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has complied with 49 CFR 192 and 49 U.S.C. 601 et seq. relating to the pipelines in the vicinity of Indian Point in Buchanan, NY. In light of the troubling report by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Office of the Inspector General, Concerns Pertaining to Gas Transmission Lines at the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant Case No. 16-024, it is clear that no suitable analysis was conducted. With a nuclear power generating facility sitting above high-pressure natural gas pipelines, complying with the above regulations is the absolute minimum.

We support the request Mr. Paul Blanch made to you in a letter dated April 7th, 2020 calling for your investigation of this matter. As the New York State representatives covering Indian Point and the surrounding communities, we implore you to shutdown and purge the pipelines pending the outcome of an independent risk assessment and any corrective action it might require. We are endangered because of failure to follow through on existing regulations. This is unacceptable. Our constituents should not bear this risk.

We look forward to your response to our two requests.

Sincerely,

Sandy Galef
95th Assembly District

David Buchwald
93rd Assembly District

CC:
NRC Chairman Kristine Svinicki
PHMSA Administrator Howard Elliott
Paul Blanch
U.S. Congresswoman Nita Lowey
U.S. Senator Charles Schumer
U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Chairman of the NYS PSC John Rhodes
New York State Senator Peter Harckham
Cortlandt Manor Town Supervisor Linda Puglisi
Village of Buchanan Mayor Theresa Knickerbocker
Hendrick Hudson School District Superintendent of Schools Joseph Hochreiter
Westchester County Executive George Latimer
Westchester County Legislator Catherine Borgia
Westchester County Legislator Colin Smith