

Lowey: Nuclear Reg Commission Inspector General Report Reveals Dangerous Failings by Federal Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 27, 2020

CONTACT:

Elizabeth Stanley, [202.225.6506](tel:202.225.6506)

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Lowey Calls on NRC Chairman Svinicki for Immediate Briefing

Approval for Gas Line Near Indian Point was Based on Faulty Analysis by NRC, which is also Charged with Protecting Public During Facility's Decommissioning

Washington, DC – Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey (D-Westchester/Rockland), Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, today said that a report by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Inspector General (IG) reveals that NRC failed to properly analyze the safety impact of the placement of a natural gas pipeline near the Indian Point Energy Center as part of the process for the pipeline's approval by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

"The IG findings show outrageous failings by an agency charged with the important responsibility of protecting the health and safety of our communities," Lowey said. "This report indicates repeated failings to use proper analysis by the same commission that oversees the decommissioning of Indian Point. NRC must immediately explain to our communities the risks they face as a result of the agency's faulty processes and take steps to protect the public from any dangers that have resulted from the pipeline's approval and installation. That is why I have called for an immediate briefing on this critical matter from NRC Chairman Svinicki."

The IG report indicated that FERC relied upon NRC to assess the impacts of the pipeline that now traverses Indian Point property as part of the Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) Project. [Lowey, who repeatedly raised concerns](#) about the safety of this pipeline project along with other stakeholders, today wrote a letter to NRC Chairman Kristine Svinicki calling for an immediate briefing in the wake of the IG report's release. She said

the report is all the more alarming at a time when the NRC must ensure the safety of local residents as Indian Point's nuclear plants are decommissioned.

"The NRC must do its job to protect the public first and foremost," Lowey said. "As we work to mitigate the impact of the decommission of Indian Point on our communities, we simply must have reliable partners to ensure that we don't face increased environmental and public safety concerns."