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timesunion.com

ALBANY, NY ■ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2010

Costly retrofits risky business

April 16, 2010

In light of the state Department of Environmental Conservation's recent edict demanding that certain power producers utilize closed-cycle cooling systems, the "Power Trends" report issued by the New York Independent Systems Operator is timely and quite significant ("Policy may hit supply," April 6).

The report describes how power demand is expected to increase as New York emerges from recession. Additionally, it points out that retirement of only one of the two reactors at Westchester's Indian Point Energy Center would undermine the reliability of New York's power infrastructure.

It is unfortunate that regulators have yet to learn the lessons of the 2003 blackout and are pushing policies that could undermine the reliability of New York's grid.

Forcing Indian Point to undertake costly and unnecessary retrofits places working families at risk and will cause great harm to the state's energy supply and economy.

John Durso Jr.
Executive Director
New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance New York
New York City