

TIERED COMMUNICATIONS PROCESS

Tier 1: Discuss as a group within one day.

Tier 2: Discuss as a group within one week.

Tier 3: Read and share as needed.



INDIAN POINT ENERGY CENTER

Here is another in a series of “What Does Indian Point Mean to Me” that we will share over the next several months:

What Does Indian Point Mean to Me?

By Andy Goerres, Unit 3 Reactor Operator and Operations Instructor

I have worked at Indian Point for nearly 20 years. In that time, the plants, the people, and myself have shared a lot.

The New York Power Authority became my briefest employer when I showed up after my Navy tour in October 2000, and I promptly “chased NYPA away” the very next month.

What does Indian Point mean to me?

We worked together under beautiful blue skies one late summer day, until the darkest clouds ever rolled in at 8:46 a.m. on 9/11/01 and changed just about everything. The Unit 3 Control Room provided refuge during the attacks.

You picked me up after a bad day when I decided to write on my gloves (Teaching Moment: don’t do that) and trusted me to stand the watch again the next day. You were there later to say “thanks” when I redeemed myself with a circuit breaker.

Along the way, you introduced me to my wife, Janis.

Within five years, I started license class and began to learn the greatest job I have ever had (and I’m still learning that job). School went well, although I could have done without the NRC investigator questioning me under oath in my dining room toward the end.

We rose from the ashes of the original 31 Main Transformer fire, then proceeded to run for 678 days straight after its replacement. Two subsequent main transformer replacements completed in stride are further evidence of the resolve of Indian Point.

A “Class of 2015” balloon provided some of us the unique opportunity (these days) to experience a reactor trip and restart to criticality during the same shift.

I will never forget chasing down a runaway Main Boiler Feed Pump and tormenting just about every one of my supervisors over the years with my Service Water leak detector (a sixth sense of mine, I have been told).

My experiences with the plants and the people I shared them with are what Indian Point will always mean to me.

Thank you for trusting me to operate one of your reactors, and to get up in front of you and teach (even in my dining room). Both have been amongst the great honors of my life.

Andy Goerres, a Unit 3 Reactor Operator and Operations Instructor, lives with his wife Janis in Walkkill.

Please note: To share your story about “What does Indian Point mean to me?” please email Greg Garvey (ggarve1@entergy.com) or Kathleen Ryan (kryan2@entergy.com) Typical submissions are around 150-200 words, but there is no limit or minimum.