

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 year. Be sure to watch Brian Vangor’s video of how Unit 2 shut down safely on April 30 [here](#).

What Does Indian Point Mean to Me? By Brian Vangor, Dry Cask Supervisor



First, it is an extraordinary engineering accomplishment. It was built by our fathers, uncles and neighbors right here in our backyard. It was built by New Yorkers for New Yorkers. When I was a young boy, I remember my family getting into our starlight blue 1961 Ford Fairlane and driving from Yonkers up to Indian Point. My dad wanted to see it. I remember a big guy in a blue Con Ed hard hat handing out pamphlets in the (now gone) visitors’ center. I remember staring out at the Unit 1 Containment Dome and wondering, “That’s it?” As a kid who watched *Star Trek* and *Lost in Space*, I expected something different besides a pale white round building. Years later when I was a college senior, I came up the river on the Hudson River Day Line. I hadn’t thought about Indian Point in years. I stared at it as we slowly floated by. Little did I know that within four years, I would have a Senior Reactor Operator’s license and would spend over 40 years here. Today, I realize just how well it really was designed and constructed. I still roam the plant in the middle of the night and am constantly in awe at the amount of concrete, size of the pipe supports and the amount of equipment, instrumentation and controls. Sometimes, I think it runs despite some of our actions and would laugh at us if it could. In the end, it is an incredible machine that did its job brilliantly.

Secondly, it is a place of truly amazing people – the best that this area had to offer. It has been an honor to work with each one of you through the years. I always felt very proud to say “Indian Point” when asked where I worked. We faced numerous and immense challenges and overcame them together by working long hours, holidays, nights and outages, etc. We can tell incredible stories and have countless memories. I have forged lifelong friendships here and my best friends either worked here or work here now. My daughter Jennifer sat in the Unit 3 Control Room when she was just five years old. She’s now 31 and just toured the plant with my wife Cathy in 2019.

Personally, Indian Point has been one of the major highlights of my life. How fortunate I, and many of us have been to have found this place. The job has been interesting, exciting and I always felt I was part of something bigger than the sum of its people and parts. I spent 32 years in the Operations Department, of

which I am very proud. My first boss in Operations was the legendary Ed Tagliamonte, or “Tag.” To my knowledge, he was the only person to have an operating license in all three units. He kept “his” Operations Department in a bubble and you answered only to him. At first, you were scared to death of him. But over time, you came to adore him. He was the smartest guy I ever knew. Throughout my career, I got to do everything here that I ever wanted to, and more. For a kid who just wanted to be Captain Kirk, sitting in the Unit 3 Control Room with my two RO’s was as good as it gets.

THANK YOU, Indian Point for everything that you have done for me and my family. And thank you to all my friends and co-workers. I will never forget you.

Brian Vangor, Dry Cask Supervisor since June 2015, began working at Indian Point Unit 3 in March 1980. He obtained his Senior Reactor Operator's License in September 1983 and spent more than 30 years in Control Room positions that included Control Room Supervisor, Field Support Supervisor, Shift Technical Advisor and Fire Brigade Leader. He is also a photographer and videographer and produced the popular video about Indian Point, “Destiny Calling.”

Photo: Brian Vangor, from right, is pictured with his wife Cathy, daughter Jennifer and son-in-law Travis.

