New Yorkers have long been concerned with the close proximity of major metropolitan areas to the nuclear reactors of Indian Point Energy Center, Westchester County, NY. Entergy, the owning corporation of the plant, is asking for a twenty year operating extension starting in 2013. New York’s governor Andrew Cuomo wants to shut both of the plant’s nuclear reactors down in 2013 and 2015 with no extension. NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg thinks the plant should get an extension. Both options create serious problems.

This policy will have the state of New York tackle a number of topics to force compromise between both sides of the issue on Indian Point and see that New York City’s energy future is a secure one. The State and the NRC have teamed up to create a decommission timeline that is fair to all parties involved. This decommission timeline is based two major factors. First, Indian Point Energy Center must improve safety standards and decommission funds. Second, New York City and State must replace the loss in electricity supply by new generation or electricity reductions. All this will be accomplished while keeping in mind the importance of fighting global climate change by keeping CO2 emissions low.

Public opposition has arisen from the following concerns:
(1) Risk of nuclear devastation due to earthquake and the recent discovery of new fault lines in the area raising this risk.
(2) Risk of nuclear devastation due to terrorist attack. NYC is a known target of terrorist groups such as al-Qaeda. The facility is known to have inadequate security against such attacks.
(3) Heat pollution to the Hudson River affects wildlife.
(4) Evacuation plans are outdated and do not consider millions that may be affected in a disaster scenario.
(5) The high cost of storing nuclear waste threatens to leave waste material in the area.

"THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WE NEED REPLACEMENT POWER IF WE ARE TO CLOSE INDIAN POINT. THERE IS ALSO NO DOUBT THAT WE CAN FIND IT,"

-NY GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO