

Sept. 6, 2000

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

SUBJECT: REPLY TO A NOTICE OF VIOLATION

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Dale Mitchell, am responding to the notice of violation (NRC Investigation Report 3-1999-037)

During the month of June 1999 I was responsible for signing the evaluations of four operators that were to have had on the job training of the freezer/sublimator digital process control system by another FLM. I made the mistake of signing the four operators evaluations when I assumed they had adequate training by that FLM, when in fact they had not. I signed that my operators had adequate training, which in fact they had.

While this does not excuse my actions, I would like to add that this was not a deliberate action to falsify a document. The operators that I was responsible for training had in fact received their required training before any evaluation was performed. I sincerely believed the four operators I was to evaluate had done the same. This assumption was a grave mistake on my part, and I deeply regret any violation that occurred due to my actions. This matter has affected all aspects of my life, including my personal, professional, and physical well being. I cannot stress enough that I deeply regret not taking the adequate time needed to make sure these operators were sufficiently trained, even if meant deadlines were not met.

In the future I will adhere to all procedures as they should be performed, and inform those above me that more time was needed while doing this task while performing my other duties as well. I feel that during my employment of over twenty six years I have worked to not only get the job done right, but to display integrity as well. I assure anyone concerned that this was an isolated case on my part.

Disciplinary action was taken against me regarding this violation that caused not only suffering and hardship for me, but for my wife and three children as well. At this time, I am moving forward with the assurance that nothing of this nature will happen again concerning any procedures I am responsible for.

IE07

In closing, I would like to say that I believe I have expressed my regrets throughout this letter and hope that this matter can be put to rest so that we can all move forward with what we have learned and continue on toward a positive future.

Sincerely,

Dale Mitchell

Dale Mitchell

DM:bm