

# EXHIBIT 18

Case No. 2-1998-023

Information in this record was deleted  
in accordance with the Freedom of Information  
Act, exemptions 7C  
FOIA- 2001-0012

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EXHIBIT 18

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:                                 :  
INTERVIEW OF   :  
WALTER LEWELLYN                                 :    OI Case 2-1998-023  
(CLOSED)   :  
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Watts Bar Nuclear Plant  
1260 Nuclear Plant Road  
Spring City, Tennessee  
Wednesday, May 12, 1999

The above-entitled matter came on for interview,  
pursuant to notice.

BEFORE:

GARY H. CLAXTON, Special Agent

APPEARANCES:

On behalf of the interviewee:

ED BIGLUICCI, Esquire  
Senior Nuclear Licensing Counsel  
Office of General Counsel  
TVA Nuclear

ANN RILEY & ASSOCIATES, LTD.  
Court Reporters  
1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1014  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 842-0034

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C O N T E N T S

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| WITNESS         | EXAMINATION |
| WALTER LEWELLYN |             |
| BY MR. CLAXTON  | 4           |

E X H I B I T S

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| NUMBER  | IDENTIFIED |
| [NONE.] |            |

P R O C E E D I N G S

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MR. CLAXTON: For the record, today is Wednesday, May 12th, 1999. This is an interview of Walter Lewellyn. This interview is being conducted at the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant at 1260 Nuclear Plant Road in Spring City, Tennessee.

Also present at the interview is Ed Bigluicci who is corporate counsel for Tennessee Valley Authority, and myself, I am Gary Claxton, Special Agent, Office of Investigations, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

MR. CLAXTON: Mr. Lewellyn, we talked earlier about Mr. Bigluicci being here. Is he here at your request?

MR. LEWELLYN: Yes.

MR. CLAXTON: Okay. And you understand that he is an attorney for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

MR. LEWELLYN: Yes.

MR. CLAXTON: And that he can share anything he hears with the TVA?

MR. LEWELLYN: Yes.

MR. CLAXTON: Okay. And you are also aware that you can provide information at any time in confidence to the NRC?

MR. LEWELLYN: Yes.

MR. CLAXTON: Do you have any objections to providing this information under oath?

MR. LEWELLYN: No.

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1 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. If you would raise your right  
2 hand, please.

3 Whereupon,

4 WALTER LEWELLYN,

5 the interviewee, was called for examination and, having been  
6 first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

7 MR. LEWELLYN: Without the God part, I swear.

8 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. That's fine. If you would  
9 put your hand down.

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. CLAXTON:

12 Q What is your full name? 7C

13 A William Walter Lewellyn.

14 Q Okay. Would you spell your last name, please?

15 A L-e-w-e-l-l-y-n.

16 Q And where do you reside Mr. Lewellyn?

17 A 

18 Q What is your residence telephone number?

19 A 

20 Q Are you presently employed?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q Okay. Do you maintain an office or a business of  
23 any kind?

24 A No, sir.

25 Q Okay. Were you formerly employed by the TVA?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Can you give me a little bit of background as to  
3 what you did here, if you could just work backwards and how  
4 long you have been gone from TVA?

5 A I retired in November 1996, employed in the  
6 nuclear licensing and compliance in 1990. And prior to that  
7 I was a supervisor in civil engineering for around 10 years,  
8 and prior to that I was a mechanical engineer for TVA  
9 approximately 10 years experience.

10 Q So total time employed with TVA was --

11 A Twenty-six years.

12 Q Twenty-six years. And from 1990 to 1996 you were  
13 in compliance?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. And what were your responsibilities there?

16 A Liaison officer for 22 years in licensing -- in  
17 NRC, response to violations, 55(e), various compliance  
18 responsibilities.

19 Q Also, before the interview we talked about a  
20 meeting that occurred on June 14th, 1995 and what led up to  
21 that meeting. I have shown you a sign-in list that you  
22 acknowledge that your name is on there. Do you recall  
23 anything about that meeting or the purpose of the meeting?

24 A It had to do with the ice condensers and some  
25 problems that were identified with the ice condensers, and I

1 vaguely remember the screws as being part of the issue. I  
2 think some of them had fallen out. That's about it.

3 Q Do you recall who moderated the meeting or who was  
4 responsible for calling the meeting?z

5 A No.

6 Q Do you recall how you learned of the meeting or  
7 why -- what your purpose was in being there?

8 A Well, it was through my management, and I guess I  
9 was assigned to that as a liaison in covering the issue.

10 Q Do you remember any more specifically what the  
11 issue involved?

12 A No.

13 Q Other than ice screws, ice baskets?

14 A I remember there was more than one issue with the  
15 ice condensers, something to do with the doors at the  
16 bottom, and I think it was having difficulty in closing the  
17 doors, or something. There was more than one issue with the  
18 ice condensers.

19 Q Do you recall whether or not someone brought some,  
20 for what of a better word, some props to the meeting, some  
21 screws and ice basket collars?

22 A I think I do, yes, vaguely. I do remember there  
23 were some props there.

24 Q Okay. Do you recall whether you took any action  
25 or whether you were required to do anything as a result of

1 the meeting?

2 A No, I don't recall that. That is part of the  
3 specifics I don't recall.

4 Q As best as you can --

5 A I will volunteer. Yes, as best as I can remember  
6 it was just an informative meeting, you know, to do some  
7 looking into what the problem was, best I can remember.

8 Q Did you ever see the reports dated June 2nd or  
9 June 19th regarding the ice basket screws that were produced  
10 by the Central Labs?

11 A I am sure I did, but I can't remember any of the  
12 specifics. I think those -- there was reports there, at  
13 least one report and I don't remember the specifics of those  
14 reports.

15 Q And as I ask you these questions, it is not like  
16 you are supposed to remember the information, but if I don't  
17 ask you, I don't know. Do you recall whether you read that  
18 report before or after the meeting?

19 A No, I don't -- I am thinking that that report was  
20 available during the meeting. But I can't say for sure, I  
21 don't think it was after the meeting. I think it was at  
22 least during the report that I was exposed to the report.

23 Q Do you recall whether you discussed the ice basket  
24 screw issue with Terry Woods or Jim Adair?

25 A I don't think I discussed it, I think I was more



1 of an observer. I remember taking notes, but I do not have  
2 those notes.

3 Q Did you typically carry a personal notebook to  
4 meetings like that?

5 A Yes. Yes.

6 Q Okay. And have you checked to see if you have  
7 those notes?

8 A Yes. I did not keep any.

9 Q Okay. Did you have any involvement in the ice  
10 basket screws after the meeting of June 14th that you  
11 recall?

12 A I don't remember, I don't remember what  
13 involvement I had. I do not remember that.

14 Q If I understand what you are telling me, you  
15 acknowledge that you were at the meeting on June 14th as one  
16 of probably many meetings you were attending routinely?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Well, you know, let me -- I don't want to invent  
19 the word.

20 A Right.

21 Q But did you consider this a routine meeting --

22 A Yes.

23 Q -- where you represented compliance and licensing  
24 group?

25 A Uh-huh. Yes, it was just a routine meeting,

1 informative type meeting is what I remember.

2 MR. CLAXTON: I don't think I have any other  
3 questions. Ed, do you have anything?

4 MR. BIGLUICCI: No, I don't have any other  
5 question.

6 BY MR. CLAXTON:

7 Q Do you have any questions, any additional  
8 information about what we have talked about?

9 A The only thing that I can remember is that we did  
10 discuss the problems of the screws and the failures of the  
11 screws, and I do remember that one of the possibilities was  
12 -- I do remember thermal cycling possibility as to why the  
13 screws failed. I definitely remember that. And it really  
14 made some sense to me, but I didn't have any input one way  
15 or the other to that. I was observing. That is the only  
16 thing that I do remember, was that that was a possible cause  
17 of the screws failing.

18 Q Do you recall whether anything was said about a  
19 subsequent report due to be issued?

20 A I hope you are not putting words -- I hope you are  
21 not -- you know, sometimes people can imagine things, you  
22 know. I hope I am not doing that, but I think I do remember  
23 about a subsequent report to be issued, but other than that,  
24 that's as far as I can go.

25 Q Did you have any reason to read that second

1 report?

2 A I can't remember. I really, really can't  
3 remember. I do vaguely remember there probably was a second  
4 report, but this is speculation on my part, really. I can't  
5 go any further.

6 Q I think I asked you earlier if you had any  
7 involvement in the ice basket screws, and I think I recall  
8 you saying that you did not have any further involvement.

9 A No, not that I know of. It is very cloudy. I  
10 will just be honest with you, it is very cloudy.

11 Q That happens after four years, doesn't it?

12 A Yeah, a lot of other things.

13 Q I understand. All right. Do you have anything  
14 else that you recall?

15 A No.

16 Q Or just anything come to mind as we talk about  
17 that meeting?

18 A No.

19 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. Well, if you have no further  
20 questions, we will conclude the interview at 11:00 a.m.

21 THE INTERVIEWEE: Okay.

22 [Whereupon, at 11:00 a.m., the interview was  
23 concluded.]

24

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CERTIFICATE

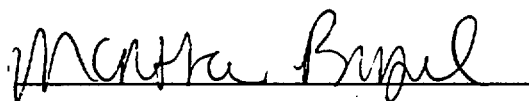
This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the matter of:

Name of Proceeding: INTERVIEW OF  
WALTER LEWELLYN  
(CLOSED)

Docket Number: 2-1998-023

Place of Proceeding: Spring City, TN

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript thereof for the file of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission transcribed by me from recorded tapes provided by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and that the transcript is a true and accurate record of the foregoing proceedings to the best of my belief and ability.



Martha Brazil

Transcriber

Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.