

EXHIBIT 24

Case No. 2-1998-023

EXHIBIT 24

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FOIA- 2001-0012

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EX 7C

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of: :
INTERVIEW OF :
SAMMY RAY WALKER :
(CLOSED) :

- - - - -X

TVA Central Lab and
Field Testing Services
Chattanooga, Tennessee
Thursday, August 19, 1999

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

BEFORE:

GARY CLAXTON, Special Agent
WILLIAM BEARDEN, Region II Field Office

APPEARANCES:

On behalf of the Interviewee:

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

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C O N T E N T S

WITNESS

EXAMINATION

SAMMY RAY WALKER

BY MR. CLAXTON

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E X H I B I T S

NUMBER

IDENTIFIED

[NONE.]

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. CLAXTON: For the record, today is August 19th, 1999. This is an interview of Sam Walker. The interview is being conducted at the TVA Central Lab and Field Testing Services in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

I am Gary Claxton of the Office of Investigations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II in Atlanta, Georgia. Also present at the interview is Bill Bearden, also from Region II, NRC, and Ed Bigluicci. And at this time, Mr. Bigluicci, I will let you identify yourself and your purpose for being here.

MR. BIGLUICCI: My name is Ed Bigluicci, B-i-g-l-u-i-c-c-i. I am with TVA's Office of the General Counsel, and I am Senior Nuclear Licensing Counsel for TVA Nuclear, and I am here today representing Sammy Walker during the interview.

MR. CLAXTON: Okay. Mr. Walker, are you aware of Mr. Bigluicci's identity and his position as counsel for TVA?

MR. WALKER: Yes. Yes, I am.

MR. CLAXTON: And have you asked him to represent you here today?

MR. WALKER: Yes.

MR. CLAXTON: Are you aware that anything that we discuss can be shared with your employer through Mr.

1 Bigluicci?

2 MR. WALKER: Yes.

3 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. And are you also aware that
4 you can share any information, or you can provide
5 information to the NRC at any time, confidentially, and
6 without anyone else being present?

7 MR. WALKER: Yes.

8 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. Do you have any objections to
9 providing the information under oath?

10 MR. WALKER: No. No objections.

11 MR. CLAXTON: Would you raise your right hand,
12 please?

13 Whereupon,

14 SAMMY RAY WALKER,
15 the interviewee, was called for examination and, having been
16 first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

17 MR. CLAXTON: Thank you. You can put your hand
18 down.

19 DIRECT EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. CLAXTON:

21 Q Will you provide your full name, please?

22 A My name is Sammy Ray Walker.

23 Q And while we are thinking about it, if you would,
24 if you give a proper name or a street name or an acronym, if
25 you would spell that out for the benefit of the recorder, I

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1 would appreciate it.

2 A The entire name or just my street name? Okay.
3 Sammy Walker is S-a-m-m-y, Ray, R-a-y, Walker, W-a-l-k-e-r.

4 Q All right. And you employed here at the Central
5 Labs?

6 A Yes, I am.

7 Q What is your occupation?

8 A I am the quality assurance manager here at the
9 laboratories.

10 Q And where do you reside?

11 A [REDACTED]

12 Q Do you mind providing your street address and home
13 telephone number, please?

14 A No. [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED]

16 Q And what is your office phone number here at the
17 labs?

18 A Office phone number, area code 423-697-4044.

19 Q How long have you been employed as QAQC manager?

20 A I was hired as the QA manager in March of '96.

21 Q And if you would, just work backwards and give me
22 a brief resume of your responsibilities here at TVA and then
23 prior to your employment at TVA?

24 A Okay. From present to March of '96, of course, I
25 have served as the quality assurance manager here at the

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1 Central Laboratories. From March of '96 to approximately
2 December, winter of '94, I was hired to be a QC specialist,
3 at which time I did interim duties, my old duties as an
4 engineering associate in the Standards Lab. From December
5 of '94 through June of 1981 I worked for the -- at that time
6 called Measurement Sections, which is now currently the
7 Instrumentation Services Department of the Central
8 Laboratories as an engineering associate of instrumentation.

9 Q All right. And can you briefly describe your
10 responsibilities here at the labs, any peculiar
11 responsibilities you might have?

12 A As QA manager I am responsible for the design,
13 development and ensuring execution of the quality assurance
14 program to meet regulatory requirements, and specifically in
15 relation to the nuclear regulatory requirements.

16 Q All right. What are your responsibilities in the
17 field or in the realm of dealing with corrective action
18 reports?

19 A In corrective action reports, it is my
20 responsibility as to have concurrence on proposed corrective
21 actions, and then on those, to process them on for approval
22 to the laboratory manager.

23 And then at the end of the corrective actions, to
24 verify those corrective actions are complete.

25 Q Prior to the interview, we talked briefly about

1 the purpose of this interview and that being some of the
2 events that took place with the ice basket screw issue back
3 in 1995. Are you familiar what we were talking about, the
4 subject area?

5 A The subject, yes.

6 Q Okay. And we are also dealing with two
7 metallurgical lab reports, one issued on June 2nd and one on
8 June 19th.

9 A Yes, I am familiar with those.

10 Q Okay. So if I refer to the first report and the
11 second report, are we agreed which one we are talking about?

12 A Right.

13 Q The first report being June 2nd, '95 and the
14 second one being June 19th, '95.

15 A Yes.

16 Q And those were issued here at the lab regarding
17 some metallurgical properties on the screws that were
18 submitted by Watts Bar?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. Do you recall how you first became aware of
21 that issue, that issue being the ice basket screws?

22 A Yes. Approximately the summer of '97, I would say
23 June or so, we got a call, a request from Watts Bar to
24 provide copies of those reports, and that is the first lead
25 in to any of the issues related to the ice condensers. From

1 there, just different questions then were asked and then it
2 moved on from there. But that was the lead in.

3 Q Do you recall who made that request?

4 A No, because it wasn't made -- the request wasn't
5 made to me directly. All right. It was just a call to get
6 copies of those and then how I became aware of it was that
7 they were having trouble locating the second report.

8 Q Okay. What resulted in that effort to find the
9 second report? Can you tell me a little bit about the
10 details?

11 A [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED]
15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]
19 [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED]

22 Q [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED]

24 A [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Q Okay. Let me interrupt you just a minute now. Is there any way of going back and documenting a path as to how that document made its way to REMS? In other words, if it was in fact submitted to REMS, would there be any kind of notations or anything like that that would verify that?

A There -- at that time the REMS procedure is that if a document is submitted to our internal document control people, they will process that, make sure it has a REMS number and send it downtown.

Q Okay. Internal being here at the labs?

A Internal at the laboratory.

Q Okay.

A And then we will send it down to the -- to our corporate document people at the REMS organization, for them to actually microfiche it. And then they -- we maintain an interim copy until we get a verification log back. The verification log should be our check that it was done. That is the way the system works.

Q Okay. Who do you recall here at the labs was responsible for assigning a REMS number? Well, first of all, let me make sure I am correct in understanding, a REMS

1 number is assigned here at the labs through some process?

2 A Yes. Right. Yeah. We have a unique document
3 identifier, which is what we call the report number, which
4 is a job number. The REMS number is a document accession
5 number in the document system, an additional identifying
6 number that identifies the location that it came from, the
7 date of the document, and then a sequence number of just a
8 sequence of documents.

9 Q Now, when you say excession or accession, what --

10 A Yeah, that is just what -- the REMS number, that
11 is another name for it, okay. It is called accession
12 number.

13 Q Is that with an "a" or an "e"?

14 A "A," yeah, accession.

15 Q Like access?

16 A Access, yes.

17 Q Okay.

18 A That is its access number in the REM system.

19 Q So the document would be assigned a REMS number
20 here at the lab.

21 A Right.

22 Q And then the document would physically be sent to
23 the corporate headquarters?

24 A Yes. We would send it to the Chattanooga REMS and
25 this I am not sure of, because I am not a document person,

1 whether it goes to -- if Chattanooga, how they send it to
2 Knoxville and which one makes the microfilm, but there is
3 two repositories. They have to keep each other backed up, a
4 Chattanooga and a Knoxville repository, and I am not that
5 familiar about exactly how they send that. But it is the
6 corporate people then will microfiche that film, and then
7 they will send that microfiche to us when that -- when it is
8 completed.

9 Q [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]
11 A [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED]
15 Q [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 A [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]
19 Q [REDACTED]
20 [REDACTED]
21 A [REDACTED]
22 Q [REDACTED]
23 A [REDACTED]
24 Q [REDACTED]
25 A [REDACTED]

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1 Q Okay.

2 A The copy we had had already been REMS numbered
3 with a REMS number, so --

4 Q So it would show a 1995 REMS number --

5 A Yes.

6 Q -- or a '95 REMS number?

7 A It does.

8 Q Okay. And who was responsible for forwarding that
9 document downtown?

10 A Internally, whenever the report is compiled, the
11 metallurgical department will compile it, review it, and
12 approve it, hand it back to their departmental
13 administrative support person, and then they will process it
14 down to our Central Labs document indexer, and then she
15 prepares it for mailing on down to the corporate REMS,
16 because her function is, after getting it, is to classify it
17 as a QA record. She will stamp it QA record.

18 For all nuclear QA records, they will -- the path
19 before going to corporate is to come through our document
20 control clerk, indexer.

21 Q This may be from your memory, but is there any way
22 you recall whether or not that document had been stamped or
23 the QA record --

24 A No. From memory, no, there is no way I recall.

25 Q And what I am getting at is, if that document had

1 never been passed over to your administrative people, and
2 when I say "your," I mean Central Lab administrative people,
3 it would not yet have the QA stamp on it, is that correct?

4 A You're right, it should not have.

5 Q Okay.

6 A Yeah. Because we do that. The REMS number can be
7 -- we have a series of REMS numbers that are given to the
8 different admin people that support our departments. So
9 they can put a REMS number, but the QA stamp comes from our
10 QA document control indexer.

11 Q Would that be after the REMS number is --

12 A Yes.

13 Q Okay.

14 A Yeah.

15 Q So it is possible, and I am not saying this is
16 what happened, but it is possible that a REMS number had
17 been assigned and that document would come back to the
18 metallurgical lab, is that correct, to be stamped for QA, or
19 is that how their admin --

20 A No. No, not -- yeah, not to metallurgical. Once
21 the department admin -- and on this, I don't know if it was
22 the department admin that stamped the REMS number or if it
23 was our document control, because she does have a series of
24 REMS numbers that she can assign to things.

25 Q Right.

1 A But whoever, if it was the metallurgical
2 department admin that had stamped the REMS number on it, at
3 that time they would make appropriate copies for
4 distribution to the customer, to their lab file, and then to
5 our document control clerk for submittal to REMS. So those
6 are -- that is -- I have known them, once they are stamped
7 with the REMS number, they will make their appropriate
8 distribution copies, which should include a copy for our QA
9 people. Yeah.

10 MR. CLAXTON: All right.

11 BY MR. BEARDEN:

12 Q Who actually puts the QA stamp on it, who has
13 responsibility for that?

14 A That -- our QA document control person. They have
15 the responsibility for ensuring classification of secured
16 records.

17 Q And that is a clerical function?

18 A It is -- well, she is called a descriptive
19 indexer, but, you know, works with -- doing document control
20 functions in the QA staff.

21 BY MR. CLAXTON:

22 Q But it should not be distributed to the customer
23 until it has that QA stamp on it, would that be correct?

24 A Some copies will go to a customer prior to that.
25 The copy going to permanent file will be stamped QA record.

1 Sometimes customers will want a copy while it is being
2 processed. We stamp the QA record, the one going to QA
3 record file, permanent file, right.

4 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. You have provided Bill a copy
5 of your corrective action report 98003 a little earlier in
6 the day.

7 And Ed, I know you probably haven't had an
8 opportunity to review this to great detail. So I will just
9 show this to you. This, the CAR does not have unique
10 numbered pages. What I have done is gone down and applied
11 my own symbols at the bottom. So just more for my benefit
12 and the benefit of the reporter, this -- I will be showing
13 be page E as in Edward, and at the top this is headed CAR
14 98003 continuation sheet, and another heading will be
15 Corrective Actions, with Corrective Action Number 1. It
16 states that the Central Lab personnel in TVAN, chief
17 metallurgist, to compile a reconciliation of the two reports
18 and review for any potential impact. And, if you like, I
19 will let you take a look at that.

20 We will go off the record for a minute.

21 [Recess.]

22 MR. CLAXTON: We are back on the record with the
23 same parties present. And Mr. Bigluicci has had an
24 opportunity to review the notation that I just talked about
25 regarding the corrective action.

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1 BY MR. CLAXTON:

2 Q And Mr. Walker, what I would like to ask you is
3 regarding that phrase, that there would be a review for any
4 potential impact regarding the reconciliation of the two
5 reports, was anything, or was any documentation made, or do
6 you recall? Can you speak as to any potential impact that
7 was determined from this corrective action? Do you
8 understand that question?

9 A Right. Well, there is a reconciliation report by
10 the metallurgist that speaks to that, as to potential
11 impact. Potential impact meaning, when I wrote that, as to
12 -- potential impact of what potential impact there may be,
13 and then the reconciliation report that the chief
14 metallurgist provided showed each individual differences
15 between the reports and fully described what they were. And
16 then the end result of that was that while there were some
17 items that weren't transferred from one report to the other
18 as clearly as it should be, his conclusion was that there
19 was no intent, you know, that it was a -- it was just a
20 mishap of the change of information in compiling the two
21 reports.

22 Q Okay. Did you discuss -- well, when you say "he,"
23 I think we both know we are probably talking about Terry
24 Woods, the chief metallurgist, is that correct?

25 A Right. Terry Woods, chief metallurgist.

Q [REDACTED]

A No. We had -- Central Labs had already compiled a reconciliation reconciling both those reports in '97, where we compared both reports side-by-side, statement-by-statement, and which is in this CAR also. And so we had already done that independently among ourselves. And then as part of this issue, they wanted the metallurgist to do the same thing independently on his own.

Q [REDACTED]

A [REDACTED]

Q [REDACTED]

A No, the only thing I know as far as discussing it with him is that when we compiled our independent -- compiled our reconciliation in '97, that information had already been provided to him.

Q Okay. Now, you are talking about the labs' reconciliation, and I will show you two pages that are numbered for my purposes pages 4 and 5. Is that the reconciliation --

A Yes.

Q -- or the comparison that the labs did here?

A Right. Yeah. The comparison between the two reports for the differences between them, right.

1 Q Okay. And I think as we look at that, you have 17
2 points. Do you know who actually compiled that?

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23 A My recollection is at this time, that had not
24 really surfaced as a fact. We did not pick that up as being
25 a difference between them. Now, that is my recollection.

1 Q Do you recall when that did surface, to your
2 knowledge?

3 A Yeah, approximately --

4 Q When it was brought to your attention.

5 A Yeah, and I think I make mention of that in the
6 corrective action report, the approximate timeframe. But
7 approximately summer of '98, and I am not remembering which
8 month, but sometime in the summer of '98, and continuing
9 discussing and reviewing this report, it was then brought to
10 our attention that -- that specific issue, how the Set B new
11 screw was omitted from the second report. And that was --
12 that was the first time that it dawned on us the distinctive
13 difference between the new and the used screws.

14 Q As part of the corrective action report that we
15 are talking about, there were three memos to Mr. Morley,
16 that is M-o-r-l-e-y, and his position at the labs is?

17 A Richard Morley is the laboratory -- overall
18 laboratory manager.

19 Q Okay. So there are three memos here, [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED]

24 A [REDACTED]

25 Q Okay.

1 A [REDACTED]

2 Q [REDACTED]

3 A [REDACTED]

4 Q [REDACTED]

5 A [REDACTED]

6 MR. CLAXTON: [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]
8 [REDACTED]
9 [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]
13 [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED]
15 [REDACTED]
16 [REDACTED]
17 [REDACTED]
18 So I will let the two of you take a look at that
19 so you can familiarize yourself with it. We will go off the
20 record briefly.

21 [Recess.]

22 MR. CLAXTON: We are back on the record with the
23 same parties present.

24 BY MR. CLAXTON:

25 Q Mr. Walker, have you had an opportunity to take a

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1 look at the three memos that I have described?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. Do you know what the -- or can you tell me
4 what the purpose of those memos were?

5 A When the issue first surfaced back in June about
6 trying to locate the reports, a short time afterwards of
7 that, in July sometime we began aware that it was more than
8 just trying to locate a report, that they were needing some
9 statements as to what went on, why there were two reports,
10 because we were made aware that it was an issue, not just a
11 matter of -- where is the second report?

12 So we sat down with each of the parties involved
13 and asked, Richard Morley and myself, just talking to [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] trying to
15 understand what was the issue with the reports. So at that
16 time we asked them then could they write a memo as to what
17 they understood was happening at that time, you know, why
18 there was two reports.

19 Q Okay. And my question centers around the three
20 statement that the employees made that the REMS number had
21 not been assigned to the first report. Is there any way to
22 reconcile that? I am not sure I understand exactly what
23 they were --

24 A Well, the memos specifically say the report had
25 not gone to REMS, which in their mind, I am sure, in trying

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1 to, you know, look at it, is that, from their perspective,
2 when -- at the time when they had submitted their first
3 report, they were under the understanding, you know, that it
4 had not been sent to REMS. And, of course, looking back in
5 hindsight, well, it had been. They just -- the only thing I
6 can say is they possibly misunderstood, but in their mind,
7 they had -- it had not been submitted to REMS.

8 Was it in process? Was in our document controls
9 clerk's -- document control clerk's hands waiting to be
10 submitted? I am not sure, I don't know.

11 Q Okay. In looking at the first report, from what
12 you told me earlier, I understand we can't tell -- well,
13 maybe we can tell, because I think you have a microfiche.
14 Is there any way of telling from that microfiche copy when
15 it was entered into REMS?

16 A I am not certain of that. There are some other
17 numbers and, to tell you the truth, I don't know what that
18 one is. That may be. That may be a number from them.

19 Q Just for the --

20 A This REMS number is one we assigned. This one is
21 not, it may be a REM system number, I am not positive.

22 Q All right. We are looking at a number directly
23 below the signature of (b)(6) on the first report
24 dated June 2nd, 1995, and that number is (b)(6)
25 (b)(6) And I think what you are telling me is

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1 that you are not sure whether that --

2 A Right. I am not sure what that number is.

3 Q Or what the significance of that number is.

4 BY MR. BIGLUICCI:

5 Q I am a little bit -- I want to make one
6 clarification. The fact, Sammy, that it has a REMS number
7 on it does not necessarily mean the document had been placed
8 in REMS?

9 A No. No. That REMS number would indicate the day
10 -- there is -- the sequence of a REMS number is E13 means
11 Central Labs, and then this is the date, and then, of
12 course, that is just a sequence number. So what that means
13 is on that date, they stamped that, preparing it for
14 distribution.

15 BY MR. CLAXTON:

16 Q It was done here?

17 A It was done here, preparing it for distribution on
18 that day.

19 Q It is just two separate steps, in other words?

20 A Yeah.

21 BY MR. BIGLUICCI:

22 Q So their statements here, I think each one it says
23 that the report was -- their understanding was -- was not
24 submitted to REMS, and not making a statement that there is
25 no REMS number on it. Their understanding is at the time it

1 wasn't submitted to REMS. It could very well have had a
2 REMS number on it as they were looking at it. In their
3 minds it does not equate to "this is in REMS."

4 A Right. Meaning submitted to the REMS, final REMS
5 repository. Meaning they apparently at that time were under
6 the understanding that it had not completed its route.

7 MR. CLAXTON: I see.

8 THE INTERVIEWEE: Yeah.

9 BY MR. CLAXTON:

10 Q So, hypothetically, -- well, let me ask another
11 question first. Is there a procedure for recalling a
12 document where a document has been sent out to distribution
13 with a REMS number on it? Is there some type of procedure
14 that must be followed in order to make sure that they are
15 administratively pure?

16 A Yeah. There is a clear process for once a record,
17 a QA record is submitted to REMS, to its final repository,
18 when you want to delete those from record. There is a
19 procedure, REM procedure for that. There is -- we don't
20 have necessarily a written procedure about how to recall
21 them from the customer's hands. Clearly, you know, once
22 they are distributed, our management guidance right now is
23 that once they are distributed, once we have stamped them
24 and then distributed them out of our hand, well, that record
25 stays. We won't necessarily recall them. We will just

1 issue a second report describing full changes or revisions
2 to that.

3 For the danger of this is that once they get
4 distributed, it is real hard to say, well, how do you pull
5 that back in once it gets out? And, so, -- but you have to
6 weigh, is there a written procedure on how to recall them
7 from a customer? No, we don't have a written procedure on
8 how to recall them from a customer.

9 Q But now there is at least a possibility that this
10 was never entered into REMS. I think the context of what we
11 are reading here at least raises the possibility that even
12 though there was a REMS number, that it had not been entered
13 into the REM system.

14 A Right.

15 Q Okay.

16 A Yeah. In the processing of a report, let's say
17 they have generated a report, they have issued a REMS
18 number, but they have not distributed it. They see, they
19 understand -- whoops, I have still got to change something,
20 because it has still not gone out of their hands. Well,
21 they may make a change then. Once they have made a copy of
22 it and distributed it to the customer, though, that is when
23 they should not, you know, be trying to recall and then --
24 and take care of it that way.

25 We have clarified that since this timeframe, that

1 once they go and get it copied and distributed, the only way
2 you readdress that record is through an endorsement to that
3 record.

4 [Recess.]

5 MR. CLAXTON: We are back on the record after
6 changing the sides of the tape. The same parties are
7 present.

8 BY MR. CLAXTON:

9 Q I would like to ask you, and I think you may have
10 discussed this with some of the other NRC personnel that are
11 here today on an informal basis. But from my understanding,
12 I would like to ask you about the technical reports that are
13 issued by the metallurgical lab and whether some other
14 person can go in and make changes on the computer copy, or
15 before it is actually issued. Is it possible that someone
16 can come in or go in on a review process without the
17 author's knowledge and change anything on the report?

18 A The process for the technical reports in the
19 metallurgical unit, which involves both a word processed
20 document, figure pages that may have to be compiled, so as
21 they are drafting all that, they will have an admin person
22 help them draft and compile, put it together. The
23 metallurgical engineer assigned to that job will review her
24 typing or his typing of the notes. She helps them compile
25 it. And when they get that done, they get that done, they

1 give it to the preparer, which is the engineer working on
2 the job, which will be -- on the report they are called
3 "prepared by" signature.

4 They -- the process is they review that, and based
5 upon that, they will say yes or no, it looks good. And then
6 they will submit it for approval, to be approved.

7 The approval, when they are looking at that, if
8 they see a problem with it, they are told to go back and
9 discuss it with the author of that to make changes. And
10 then if any changes are made, that occurs prior to their
11 approval.

12 If there is any changes to be made beyond that,
13 then it has to occur like a QA record correction, so that
14 anybody that corrects a QA record has to align through a
15 date and an issue in making any changes.

16 Q [REDACTED] 7C

17 [REDACTED]
18 [REDACTED]
19 A Right.

20 Q Would she actually go in, to your understanding,
21 to the best of your knowledge, would she actually go in and
22 type in the corrections, or would she make notes on a hard
23 copy? Do you have any idea what the --

24 A Generally, they -- generally, my recollection is
25 that they will make notes on the hard copy and pass it back.

1 Since many times and they may work side-by-side on some of
2 these jobs, they may just work side-by-side on it and make
3 those corrections. But they clearly know, they discuss
4 those changes and work with the engineer involved in making
5 those corrections.

6 Q

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7c

1 [REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED]
3 [REDACTED]
4 [REDACTED]
5 [REDACTED]
6 From what I am told is that the figures that were
7 chosen on those sets were chosen because they displayed the
8 same metallurgical characteristics and problem. So, and
9 that was the only explanation given to me, is that, well,
10 why Set B is that, from what I could understand, they didn't
11 pick up on the differences between new versus used. They
12 had chosen to reflect the same characteristic problem. And
13 that is what was told to me.

14 Q As a QA manager, I will ask you if you have any
15 opinion on Item Number 6, which is page 2 of the first
16 report, and Item 6 is one of seven items which state
17 conclusions as to the probable failure or probable reason
18 for failure of the screws? And Item 6 states, "The presence
19 of quench cracks in the screws upon receipt from the
20 manufacturer" -- and I am going to throw this out for your
21 opinion, would that jump out to you as being significant
22 information?

23 A Yes. In reading that. If that can be confirmed,
24 I mean "from the manufacturer," that is a key term.

25 Q Did you discuss that Point 6 with [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]
2 [REDACTED]
3 A No. I haven't discussed that point, the
4 conclusion Number 6. I have not had -- I haven't discussed
5 that specifically with [REDACTED]

6 Q I think the last thing I have is the practice of
7 the -- whether or not the preparer of the technical reports
8 signs the report along with the approval signature. I know
9 we talked about this briefly earlier.

10 A Right.

11 Q And just for the record, can you tell me what the
12 practice was during the 1995 time period, and what it is
13 now?

14 A Okay. In 1995 our quality assurance program only
15 required one signature on technical reports, and that would
16 be the signature of the approver. Since that timeframe, and
17 officially since January of this year, the official policy
18 of the quality assurance procedure is to -- both the
19 preparer and approver have to sign that, and then the
20 approver also has to date their signature, the day that they
21 approve that.

22 Q Okay. And I notice on the first report that we
23 are looking at, it is signed by Delsa Frazier but not dated.
24 Okay. So that would be a change.

25 A Right. That would be a change.

1 MR. CLAXTON: Bill, do you have any questions?

2 MR. BEARDEN: No.

3 MR. CLAXTON: Ed, do you have any questions?

4 MR. BIGLUICCI: No, I do not.

5 MR. CLAXTON: Would you like to speak with Mr.
6 Walker before we conclude?

7 MR. BIGLUICCI: If we could have just a few brief
8 minutes?

9 MR. CLAXTON: Sure. We will go off the record for
10 a while.

11 [Recess.]

12 MR. CLAXTON: We are back on the record with the
13 same parties present. And I will once again ask Bill if you
14 have anything?

15 MR. BEARDEN: No.

16 MR. CLAXTON: Okay. Any questions, Ed? I think
17 you stated you didn't have other questions.

18 MR. BIGLUICCI: I do not have any questions.

19 BY MR. CLAXTON:

20 Q Do you have any questions, Mr. Walker, about what
21 we have talked about, or anything you would like to add?

22 A No. I don't have anything to add.

23 Q All right. We would like to ask you if you have
24 provided this information freely and voluntarily?

25 A Yes.

1 Q All right. And I would also like to ask you if
2 either myself or any other employee of the NRC have made any
3 promises or threats to you in regards to this testimony?

4 A No. None whatsoever.

5 MR. CLAXTON: If there are no other questions, we
6 will conclude the interview at 2:47 p.m.

7 [Whereupon, at 2:47 p.m., the interview was
8 concluded.]
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CERTIFICATE

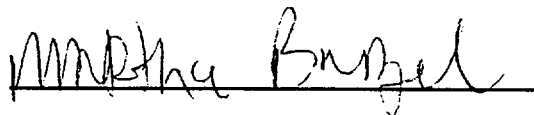
This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the matter of:

Name of Proceeding: INTERVIEW OF
 SAMMY RAY WALKER
 (CLOSED)

Docket Number:

Place of Proceeding: Bloomington, IL

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Martha Brazil", is written over a horizontal line.

Martha Brazil

Transcriber

Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.