

**INVESTIGATION STATUS RECORD**

Facility:	WATTS BAR	Case Agent:	CLAXTON, GARY H
Case Number:	2-1998-023S	Date Opened:	05/04/2000
Docket Number(s):	05000390, 05000391	ECD:	
		Priority:	High
Case Type:	Reactor Power	Status:	Case is Closed
Primary Alleg Source:	Licensee / Licensee Employee Concern Program		
Allegation Number(s):	NRR-1998-A-0011, RII-1998-A-0144		
Subject/Allegation:	ALLEGED FALSIFICATION OF TEST DATA REGARDING ICE CONDENSER SCREWS		

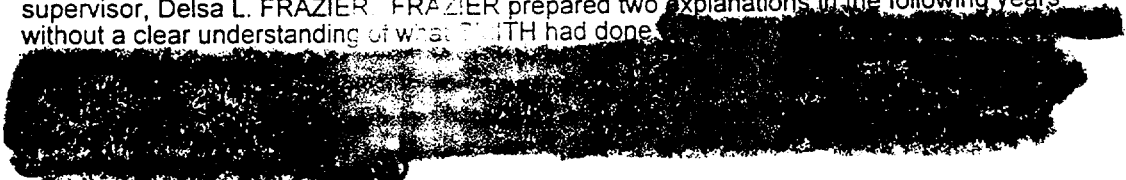
**Monthly Status Report:**

**05/04/2000:** RII received information from TVA Senior Licensing Counsel Edward J. VIGLIUCCI, that new information had been provided by Daryl A. SMITH regarding OI Case No. 2-1998-023. SMITH, a metallurgist for TVA Central Laboratory and Field Testing Services, believes that a photograph in a June 2, 1995, report was improperly identified. The June 2 report was revised and the photograph was replaced with a photograph of a different screw which suggested that TVA may have attempted to conceal the existence of defective new screws. It was suggested that the improperly labeled photograph led to a conclusion by OI in this original investigation that a new, unused screw had been identified as exhibiting manufacturing defects. Status: FWP ECD (90-day): 08/2000 SOL: 06/2000

**05/31/2000:** OI conducted four interviews in this matter to determine whether a mislabeled photograph in a TVA metallurgy report gave the appearance that TVA personnel willfully withheld information regarding a condition adverse to quality (CAQ). The author of the report, Daryl A. SMITH stated that information regarding a cracked screw was erroneously attributed to a new screw taken from the Watts Bar warehouse. SMITH said the cracked screw was actually a whole screw, not a new screw, which had been retrieved from the Watts Bar ice condenser.

SMITH surmised that the revised report did not explain that the photographs had been correctly labeled and the appearance was that the information regarding a cracked new screw had been removed to conceal a CAQ. In fact, SMITH said there was only one cracked screw, and that was a "whole," not a new warehouse screw.

Apparently, SMITH revised the misidentified photograph in the first report and did not tell his supervisor, Delsa L. FRAZIER. FRAZIER prepared two explanations in the following years without a clear understanding of what SMITH had done.



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SMITH alleged that he did not specifically recall correcting the mislabeled photograph in the first report but that he hypothesizes that scenario as the logical reason for the missing Set B information.

OI briefed RII staff on 5/18/2000 regarding the information provided by SMITH. RII staff concurred that SMITH's failure to advise OI of the reason for the revised photograph led to the conclusion in OI Case No. 2-1998-023 that TVA employees had willfully withheld information regarding a CAQ. As a result of SMITH's new information, as well as corroborating evidence, it's believed that there were no willful violations on the part of [redacted] contrary to the conclusions reached in Case No. 2-1998-023. Status: FWP ECD (90-day): 08/2000

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**06/15/2000:** Closed/Issued/Unsubstantiated

Completion Date:	06/15/2000	Total Staff Hours:	199.0
Issue Date:	06/15/2000	Months Open:	1.4
DOJ Action(s):		OE Action:	
OI Violation(s):	False Statement - Unsubstantiated	DOJ Referral Date:	

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