

D. Vito
M. Anderson
From: Richard Barkley
To: DJV, MAA
Date: 27 July 1997 (Sunday) 1:26pm
Subject: DISCUSSIONS WITH ALLEGER FOR 97-33/126

I called the alleger for 97-33/126 at home on Sunday afternoon to discuss his conversations with Mr. Knubel on Thursday/Friday at one of NYPA's Focus Training Sessions. Individual indicated that he took copies of the allegation correspondence the NRC had mailed him, along with some of the technical descriptions of his concerns and his last three performance appraisals, to the training session. After he heard a discussion by Mr. Knubel in which he emphasized that safe plant operation was #1 and cost was the #2 priority as well as his desire to see problems raised and addressed, he decided that senior management may be sincere. (He had lost confidence in his direct middle management and was somewhat leery that several managers above them would interfere and solve the kind of problems he was bringing up). Therefore, he decided to turn this information over to Mr. Knubel, both his technical concerns and his H&ID issues.

I asked him if we could suspend our review of his technical issues at this point and formally refer his concerns to NYPA for resolution and a future response to us. He agreed that this was an acceptable approach for his technical issues. I told him that I would propose just such an action to my management next week; he had no problem with the idea at all nor gave any reservations about how it should be done.

As for his H&ID issues, he still seemed to think that OI needed to continue with his case. (He has a lot of mistrust of his direct middle management and is unsure how much influence they have on the people above them). I indicated that Mark Anderson of OI would likely talk to him in the near future regarding their plans with his case and that I had no control over what action OI would take.

I indicated that I what be talking with NYPA about this matter on Monday afternoon as promised in response to the call they made to me on Friday afternoon. He had no problem with my plans nor with using his name as he knew that his identity would be revealed when his OI case was initiated. I indicated that he did turn over NRC correspondence sent to him directly to the Chief Nuclear Officer of his employer; thus protecting his confidentiality is a moot point.

I indicated that I would be onsite next week and that he could contact me if he wished. He indicated that he could be contacted at his work station and felt comfortable talking.

Overall, he was pleasant and cooperative to deal with and sounded quite sincere in wanting to resolve his issues via either avenue (NRC or NYPA). In fact, on one of his technical issues which we discussed at length (heating provisions for the battery rooms), he thought that the problem has now been resolved. I got the distinct impression that several of his technical/DER issues date back to 1994/1995 when he had the most trouble with his supervisor and manager, but that the issues may now be settled; however, the actions of his middle management at that time were what most concerned him and those guys are still around.

D/V