

Official Transcript of Proceedings

Done³

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title:

Telephone Conversations at
NRC Headquarters during
the Millstone Alert Declaration
on April 17, 2005

License
on Bridge

ORIGINAL

Event Number:

41607

Location:

(telephone conference)

Tape:

NRC TAPE 2, SIDE A, 11:01-13:04

Work Order No.:

NRC-372

Pages 1-21

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS CENTER

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TELEPHONE CONVERSATION(S)
RE MILLSTONE ALERT DECLARATION
OF APRIL 17, 2005

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EVENT NO. 41607

NRC Bridge Tape 2, Side A, 11:01-13:04

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

1
2 MR. PRICE: We currently have -- we did go
3 solid in our pressurizer. We have recovered
4 pressurizer level and pressure is steady. And have an
5 individual standing in front of the status board. But
6 we have 64 percent in the pressurizer and we are at
7 roughly 2200 pounds in the primary coolant system. So
8 we have pressure control and we have pressurizer level
9 restored to scale.

10 We have transitioned to our emergency
11 procedure ES1.1 safety injection termination. And we
12 have terminated the safety injection and we're back on
13 normal charging and let down.

14 We declared our alert charlie 1 based on
15 our tables, which give you direct alert classification
16 based on a main steam safety valve stuck open. The
17 reason that we classified that is we had a safety
18 valve on the bravo steam generator which had opened
19 below its set point. And right now we don't know if
20 that was the initiator of the safety injection or came
21 immediately after the safety injection signal. But
22 based on the fact that that steam generator safety
23 valve opened below its set point, the shift manager
24 made the classification of alert charlie 1, and that's
25 the classification that we remain in.

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1 We have not yet reached conclusion, but
2 what we are considering here in the EOF is what
3 determination criteria would be.

4 With the Millstone Unit 3 design, we are
5 currently on the atmospheric dump valves because we
6 have a main steam isolation signal that we have
7 manually injected. So our ability to dump steam to the
8 condenser is limited at this time. We don't have that
9 capability at this time and we're evaluating our
10 options to restore the ability to dump steam to the
11 condenser. So right now we're on an atmospheric dump
12 valve that's cycling periodically to remove decay
13 heat.

14 So we're looking at our termination
15 criteria for the alert. And we believe that we are
16 there right now, but we're also looking at other
17 indications for a notification of unusual event
18 criteria. I don't believe that we see any at this
19 time, but we're still going through the thought
20 process for what we need to do in order to terminate
21 from the event. And as soon as we have reached those
22 conclusions, I'll be happy to call you back on this
23 bridge.

24 We do have people at the state armory.
25 Last I checked, about 15 minutes ago no members from

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1 the state had arrived yet, only the Dominion staff was
2 there. And we have a number members of our corporate
3 EOF staff who have already responded to the corporate
4 EOFs, and we have been in conversations with them.

5 Do you have any follow up questions right
6 now?

7 MR. HOLIAN: Yes. Mr. Price. Brian Holian
8 from Region I.

9 Did -- you said bravo steam generator
10 lifted a little bit low. We had understood at about
11 1100 pounds, but that's still a 100 pounds above
12 normal. Was there any indication of why the steam
13 generator was that high even?

14 MR. PRICE: I do not have that detail at
15 this time, sir.

16 MR. LANNING: Allen, it's Wayne. We still
17 need you to activate ERD's for us.

18 MR. PRICE: Yes, sir.

19 MR. LANNING: Could you give me an
20 estimate of when that might occur?

21 MR. PRICE: We'll get that, Wayne, and get
22 that. In fact, let me see if I can get that
23 information while we're on the phone. Can you hold one
24 second, please.

25 MR. LANNING: Yes.

1 MR. PRICE: Thank you.

2 MR. WIGGINS: Wayne?

3 MR. LANNING: Yes, Jim.

4 MR. WIGGINS: This is Jim. Well we have
5 Allen. He seems to have a fairly complete story. We
6 should ask him, you know maybe we're looking at this
7 thing all wrong. We should say, you know, maybe this
8 thing started at the primary side.

9 MR. PRICE: I'm glad to get that
10 information.

11 MR. WIGGINS: We ought to ask him if he's
12 got any chemistry data on -- or you know, anything
13 like that that he ruled any reactor oriented thing
14 out. So, it's up to you, Wayne. You know, ask him
15 when you think it's appropriate.

16 MR. PARTICIPANT: Also, we haven't asked
17 about fuel leakers, have we?

18 MR. LANNING: No.

19 MR. PARTICIPANT: And rad release. Their
20 estimate of rad release.

21 MR. LANNING: Allen, are you back?

22 MR. PRICE: Yes, sir, I am.

23 MR. LANNING: Okay. I understand you were
24 not able to get a time for activating ERDS?

25 MR. PRICE: I'm getting that information

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1 sent to me now.

2 MR. LANNING: Okay. I'm also interested
3 in what estimation is of any releases and any
4 chemistry samples that you have ongoing at the primary
5 site?

6 MR. PRICE: We have no indications of any
7 rad levels above normal. We have done some sampling
8 from steam generators, and we have no indications of
9 any primary or secondary leak. So our rad levels at
10 this time are normal.

11 We did put some water from our charging
12 system from a relief valve on a recirc line into the
13 aux building. The last report that I had was that
14 water was clean.

15 MR. HOLIAN: Allen, this is Brian Holian.
16 Have you been operating with any fuel
17 leakers at all?

18 MR. PRICE: No, sir. No, sir.

19 MR. HOLIAN: Okay.

20 MR. RYAN: John Ryan.

21 We are presently on normal charging and
22 letdown.

23 MR. PRICE: Thank you, John.

24 MR. COLLINS: Jim, this is Sam.

25 You had a question on the PRT. Did you

1 get an answer for that?

2 MR. WIGGINS: No, I hadn't heard an
3 answer.

4 MR. PRICE: The maximum primary pressure
5 that I believe we have seen has been on the order of
6 2330 pounds. That is below the set point of our power
7 operated relief valve and it's also below the set
8 point of safety valves.

9 Having said that, we have gotten some
10 information from the control room that indicated they
11 think they had a leakage from a safety valve. And we
12 do have, the last I looked, about 74 or 75 percent
13 level in our pressurizer relief tank. So we do
14 believe that we have some leakage coming from either
15 a PORV or a safety valve.

16 MR. WIGGINS: Allen, this is Jim just to
17 follow up. Do you think the PRT is intact still, or do
18 you think it ruptured --

19 MR. PRICE: It has a ruptured disk, and I
20 do not believe that ruptured disk has been challenged
21 as of yet. That is correct.

22 MR. WIGGINS: Okay.

23 MR. PARTICIPANT: This is (Inaudible) at
24 the present time about (Inaudible) in the PRT which
25 has a relief tank. And the tank showed that it is

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1 intact at this time.

2 MR. PRICE: Thank you, John.

3 MR. LANNING: John, would you say that
4 again? I could not hear you. The PRT is intact?

5 MR. PARTICIPANT: That is correct. The
6 PRT level is increasing slowly, rising slowly and it
7 is at 82 percent. And the pressure is 64 -- almost 65
8 pounds psi.

9 MR. LANNING: Do you have any indication
10 of other leakage? Sump or otherwise?

11 MR. PARTICIPANT: I will have to get back
12 to you on that.

13 MR. PRICE: I'm sorry. I could not hear
14 that question. Could you please ask it again?

15 MR. LANNING: The question is do you have
16 indication of leakage by way of (Inaudible) or
17 otherwise inside containment?

18 MR. PRICE: There is none to my
19 knowledge.

20 MR. LANNING: Could you verify that for
21 me?

22 MR. PRICE: Yes, I will.

23 MR. COLLINS: Jim, this is Sam. For my
24 purposes, I'd like to clarify the statement we heard
25 about primary lift or primary leak. It sounds like

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1 they did not have the lift, but there is leakage by
2 one of the vales?

3 MR. PRICE: Is that Sam?

4 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes.

5 MR. PRICE: From the data that I have,
6 Sam, we should not -- we did not meet the set point
7 for safety valves. But it would appear -- once again,
8 I don't have all that data in front of me. But we do
9 have indications, I believe, from a tailpipe, RTD,
10 that we had indications of a safety valve lift.

11 MR. COLLINS: Okay. And -- okay. So any
12 leakage that you would have now would be a result of
13 the event? You didn't have that leakage before? If
14 you did, I presume you would have closed the isolation
15 valve?

16 MR. PRICE: That is correct.

17 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay.

18 MR. PARTICIPANT: I'm sorry. Sam, just to
19 clarify that, Mr. Price, that was you're getting an
20 RTD on one of the safety valves that doesn't have a
21 block?

22 MR. PRICE: The safety valves do not have
23 a block. The PORVs do.

24 MR. PARTICIPANT: I have it. Okay. Thank
25 you.

1 MR. PRICE: I was just handed a note that
2 our ERDS system is running. We have the capability.
3 So you all should have that capability at this time.

4 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay.

5 MR. PARTICIPANT: (Inaudible) you
6 evacuated ERD's (Inaudible).

7 MR. PARTICIPANT: Mr. Price (Inaudible)
8 are you the emergency director now?

9 MR. PRICE: No, I am not. Bill Hoffner
10 is.

11 MR. PARTICIPANT: Bill Hoffner?

12 MR. PRICE: That is correct.

13 And I was just handed a note we have no
14 indication of input to the containment sump in Unit 3.
15 No indications.

16 MR. LANNING: Okay. Any other questions?

17 MR. WIGGINS: Yes. Wayne, I'd like Allen
18 to understand from Allen what's the path forward as he
19 sees it. What's his immediate plan? You know, there
20 is a rising level in the PRT. Something that goes in
21 there is leaking. If they did go solid in the
22 pressurizer, I know -- I have a sense that these
23 safety valves might not like water very much.

24 MR. PRICE: Right.

25 MR. WIGGINS: They prefer steam and, you

1 know, what's the way out, Allen? What are you going to
2 take the plant?

3 MR. PRICE: Well, clearly -- clearly our
4 first challenge was to -- was to take care of the
5 solid pressurizer conditions. We have done that. And
6 to make sure that we have stable relationship between
7 the primary and the secondary. I believe we have
8 that.

9 So we've worked our way through the
10 pressurizer -- through the safety injection
11 termination criteria, the communications between the
12 primary and the secondary; we've got that stable. And
13 now what I have to do is pretty quickly get off this
14 phone and converse with the control room and the TSE
15 to understand exactly the answer to that question.

16 I would imagine we're going to be moving
17 into a further cool down on the primary.

18 MR. LANNING: Allen, it's Wayne again.

19 We are not able to detect that you've
20 actuated ERDS.

21 MR. PRICE: Okay. Let me check into that.
22 And then we'll try our best to understand why that
23 communication is not taking place.

24 Should we call back on this bridge number
25 and for whom should we ask?

1 MR. LANNING: (Inaudible) and ask for
2 Lanning.

3 MR. PRICE: Okay. I understand we'll ask
4 for Wayne Lanning and we'll try to get ERDS initiated
5 with you all.

6 MR. LANNING: All right. Does the staff
7 have any other questions before we move forward?

8 MR. COLLINS: None for me, Wayne.

9 MR. LANNING: Okay.

10 MR. WIGGINS: We'll call you back just as
11 quickly as we can.

12 MR. LANNING: Okay, Allen. Thanks for
13 that.

14 MR. WIGGINS: Yes, sir.

15 MR. LANNING: All right.

16 MR. WIGGINS: All right. Wayne?

17 MR. LANNING: Yes.

18 MR. WIGGINS: Yes. This is Jim. I think we
19 have a fuller picture. I think we need to -- if
20 you've got a handle on it, I'm going to ask you to
21 work through the ops center to get Ellis back and give
22 him a better conversation. Maybe this time we get
23 Ellis and Jim Dwyer. Because there have been some
24 significant differences from when I last talked to
25 them.

1 Ellis was right. He got the pressurizer
2 was going to go solid. He was right on on that. But I
3 think we need to tell them that there's a -- you know,
4 all that we just heard from Allen Price. Okay.

5 MR. HOLIAN: And Jim and Wayne, we still
6 do have a good understanding of why pressure went high
7 originally.

8 MR. WIGGINS: Yes. Well Brian, we don't
9 know what started this whole thing.

10 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes.

11 MR. WIGGINS: But right now, you know, the
12 licensee is going to deal with the symptoms and I
13 think we got to deal with it also.

14 You know, I'm pretty -- I think we got to
15 focus on the fact that there is still a leakage on the
16 primary side. So there is now -- that PRT isn't just
17 going for no reason.

18 MR. PARTICIPANT: Right. And this does
19 not turn around on its own.

20 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay.

21 MR. PARTICIPANT: They're going to have to
22 do something with the plant. And it's going to be a
23 while.

24 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay. And then we might
25 want to ask them, Wayne, when you get a chance they

1 should be able to pump the pressure of the relief tank
2 there like (Inaudible) tank, maybe to stop it from
3 opening either way. You can ask that later.

4 MR. WIGGINS: You know, I presume the
5 licensee has got procedures or processes for dealing
6 with this, and Max ought to check that out.

7 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes.

8 MR. WIGGINS: But you're right, Brian. We
9 got to understand what they intend to do with this.
10 And a ruptured PRT is just a housekeeping issue.

11 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. That's right.

12 MR. WIGGINS: Okay. But what's more
13 important to me appears to be that there's stuff going
14 into it. Not where does the out going to go. The
15 containment's intact, they should be okay. Right, the
16 PRT is in the containment, right?

17 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. Yes, it is.

18 MR. LANNING: All right. Jim, we'll want
19 to keep Max on the reactor safety link when we get
20 ready to separate those bridges.

21 MR. WIGGINS: Brian, you ought to ask the
22 question also with Max does he need reinforcements.
23 And if he can't find Silas or Kevin, who is next and
24 do we need to spin them up and get them going.

25 MR. PARTICIPANT: All right.

1 MR. WIGGINS: You know, start thinking
2 about this thing taking a while.

3 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. Okay.

4 MR. WIGGINS: You know, the licensee --
5 you know, Allen Price is probably going to have to
6 make some decision to stop that leakage into the --
7 coming out of the RCS, right?

8 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes.

9 MR. WIGGINS: So, you know, this is going
10 to be a while if they have to get the plant kind of
11 cold.

12 MR. PARTICIPANT: And right now we'll have
13 to look at that. I guess the indication is only one
14 relief lifting. We'll have to clarify that. I mean
15 one relief leaking, sorry.

16 MR. WIGGINS: Well, you know, they just
17 see it on a tailpipe, I guess.

18 MR. PARTICIPANT: No.

19 MR. WIGGINS: No. They saw that's where
20 it lifted. (Inaudible)

21 MR. PARTICIPANT: We'll have to clarify
22 that.

23 MR. WIGGINS: Brian, you know --

24 MR. COLLINS: I'm sorry. This is Sam.

25 Are we ready to turn over to Wayne?

1 MR. WIGGINS: Is Wayne ready to take it?

2 MR. LANNING: Wayne is ready to take it.

3 MR. WIGGINS: Okay. So for the purposes--

4 MR. LANNING: I think we have now
5 separated the management bridge and the reactor safety
6 bridge.

7 MR. WIGGINS: Okay. Which one are we on
8 right now, Wayne?

9 MR. LANNING: We're on the management
10 bridge.

11 MR. WIGGINS: Okay.

12 MR. PARTICIPANT: Wayne, do you -- I'm
13 sorry. Do you have Max Schneider on the reactor
14 safety link from the control room?

15 MR. LANNING: That's affirmative.

16 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay. Good.

17 MR. WIGGINS: Okay. And do we have an
18 licensee management on this bridge at all?

19 MR. PARTICIPANT: Headquarters ops
20 officer.

21 No, you don't.

22 MR. WIGGINS: Okay. Thank you very much.

23 MR. COLLINS: Jim, I'm probably going to
24 run out of battery here pretty soon. So I want to be
25 sure you're comfortable with this. Wayne has the lead

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1 or is taking a lead for the event.

2 Wayne, do you need either Jim or I to be
3 in the incident response center at this time?

4 MR. LANNING: I think that's negative,
5 Sam. Randy just showed up and others are also
6 appearing. So I think we're all ready.

7 MR. PARTICIPANT: Jim, are you going to be
8 available during the day?

9 MR. WIGGINS: Part of the day until this
10 evening. I was supposed to go to dinner this evening,
11 but we'll see.

12 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay. Let's do it this
13 way. Can you take it until 4:00 and I'll pick it up
14 at 4:00.

15 MR. WIGGINS: That works.

16 MR. PARTICIPANT: We'll contact.

17 MR. WIGGINS: Yes.

18 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay. You and I will
19 swap at 4:00 and you can turn over to me. Jim?

20 MR. WIGGINS: Yes, we'll turn over at
21 4:00. We'll go through Wayne.

22 MR. COLLINS: Okay. And in the interim
23 period I'll let you manage the over to Wayne because
24 my battery is going to go dead here in just a minute.

25 MR. WIGGINS: Yes, let me take it then.

1 All right.

2 MR. COLLINS: And then all we need to do -
3 - I don't think we've heard from Diane yet on the OPA
4 front.

5 MS. SCRENCI: I'm back on the phone. I
6 have not been successful in reaching Pete High
7 (phonetic).

8 MR. COLLINS: Okay. I think Wayne can
9 manage that for you through the incident response
10 center there and the Region once we get done with the
11 turn over to Wayne.

12 MS. SCRENCI: Wayne, do you need me to
13 come in?

14 MR. LANNING: No. But, Diane, I do want
15 you on standby just in case.

16 MS. PARTICIPANT: Okay.

17 MR. COLLINS: Jim, and then what we would
18 want to do to support Wayne and Brian, you can help
19 here, is to be sure that we're comfortable in any
20 follow up to the site in support of the resident team.

21 MR. WIGGINS: Right.

22 MR. PARTICIPANT: For a longer term
23 approach.

24 MR. PARTICIPANT: Mike?

25 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes.

1 MR. DYER: Hi, Jim. The reason you got
2 called, we got in touch with Glen, but they're going
3 to call Cain and you.

4 MR. PARTICIPANT: Understood.

5 MR. DYER: The initial report was that
6 tampering couldn't be ruled but they didn't believe it
7 --

8 MR. PARTICIPANT: Oh, okay.

9 MR. PARTICIPANT: All right. I appreciate
10 that.

11 MR. DYER: That was the initial blush with
12 to make the call. And I don't think it is, you know,
13 but they have just been -- you can pretty much detect,
14 they were running around. There was enough
15 complications on this that they -- they didn't have a
16 reason to believe, so they haven't -- so they haven't
17 pursued it yet. My guessing is is that they got a
18 fault on some sort of logic circuit somewhere that
19 opened up a steam generator safety relief valve or
20 something.

21 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. Okay.

22 MR. PARTICIPANT: But they'll sort all
23 that out. Like I said, you pretty much got the flavor
24 for the plant's stable and --

25 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. All the

1 notifications have been going on. And the new
2 national response plan is in effect?

3 MR. PARTICIPANT: That's my understanding.

4 MR. PARTICIPANT: So we've communicated to
5 DHS and the other headquarters counterpart?

6 MR. COLLINS: Yes.

7 MR. PARTICIPANT: I don't think we're in
8 an incident of national security by any means, but we
9 need to follow our new procedures.

10 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. Okay. Yes, and
11 I'm trusting Tim's got that. I haven't been following
12 that. I've been trying to figure out the event more
13 than anything else.

14 MR. PARTICIPANT: Understood. Understood.

15 MS. PARTICIPANT: I was in a car driving
16 when I got the call, and I went down to a galley in
17 the middle of -- towards Germantown, and I lost my
18 phone. And I said I'll just keep coming.

19 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes. Okay. Bye. Okay.
20 Thanks.

21 MR. PARTICIPANT: I'll hang on for the
22 Commissioners assistants brief.

23 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay. You have what you
24 need there, Jim?

25 MR. PARTICIPANT: Yes.

1 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay. Take care. You
2 don't need any additional DIR or staffing or anything?

3 MR. PARTICIPANT: No.

4 MR. PARTICIPANT: Okay.

5 MR. PARTICIPANT: All right. Thank you.

6 Bye-bye.

7 MR. PARTICIPANT: Bye-bye.

8 (Whereupon, end of NRC Bridge Tape 2, Side
9 A.)

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CERTIFICATE

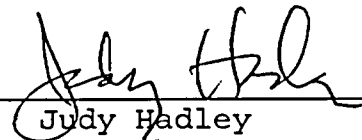
This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the matter of:

Name of Proceeding: Telephone Conversation at
NRC Headquarters during the
Millstone Alert Declaration
On April 17, 2005

Event Number: 41607

Location: teleconference

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript thereof for the file of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission taken by me and, thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under the direction of the court reporting company, and that the transcript is a true and accurate record of the foregoing proceedings as recorded on tape(s) provided by the NRC.



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