

# EXHIBIT 19

Information in this record was deleted  
in accordance with the Freedom of Information  
Act, exemptions 7C  
FOIA- 2004-0191

B/18



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

On Behalf of the Witness, Ronald Kevin Fisher:

JEFFRIE KEENAN, ESQ.

Assistant General Solicitor

PSE&G Corporation Nuclear-N21

P.O. Box 236

Hancocks Bridge, NJ 08038

1-800-232-0244

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

11:55 a.m.

1  
2  
3 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Today is Monday,  
4 May 5, 2003 and the time is now approximately 11:55  
5 a.m.

6 The interview this morning is with Ron  
7 Fisher who is an access authorization supervisor,  
8 employed by PSE&G Corporation and the Salem Hope Creek  
9 Generating Station, Artificial Island in New Jersey.

10 My name is Kristin Monroe. I'm  
11 a Special Agent with the NRC, Office of Investigations  
12 in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania.

13 Also present for the interview is Jeff  
14 Keenan, Assistant General Solicitor for PSE&G  
15 Corporation.

16 The subject of the interview concerns an  
17 allegation that [REDACTED] who's a senior  
18 engineer at the Salem Hope Creek was discriminated  
19 against for raising a safety concern. Specifically,  
20 [REDACTED] believes that because [REDACTED] raised a concern on [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED] regarding procedural noncompliance with the  
22 Transient Assessment Response Plan, which we'll refer  
23 to as TARP, and with [REDACTED] own qualifications to be on  
24 that team, [REDACTED] was relieved of duty and employment was  
25 suspended and [REDACTED] was removed from plant access from

**NEAL R. GROSS**COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 August 9 to August 19, 2002.

2 [REDACTED] also believes that [REDACTED] received threats  
3 of a poor performance appraisal and/or termination of  
4 employment, also on August 19,

5 These are potential violations of 10 CFR  
6 50.5 which is entitled Deliberate Misconduct and 10  
7 CFR 50.7 which is entitled Employee Protection. Those  
8 are just the violations I'm investigating under.

9 And as I indicated before we started the  
10 tape that you're a fact witness here, just to walk  
11 through what the process is with respect to how access  
12 is given and taken back and what specifically happen  
13 in [REDACTED] case.

14 The interview is conducted under oath. Do  
15 you have any objection to being interviewed under  
16 oath?

17 MR. FISHER: No.

18 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Could you please  
19 raise your right hand?

20 Do you solemnly swear that the information  
21 you're about the provide is true and complete to the  
22 best of your knowledge and beliefs, so help you God?

23 MR. FISHER: Yes, I do.

24 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Please state your  
25 full name and spell your last.

1 MR. FISHER: Ronald Kevin Fisher, F-I-S-H-  
2 E-R.

3 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And Ron, is Jeff  
4 here representing you personally for purposes of  
5 today's interview?

6 MR. FISHER: Yes.

7 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And how did you  
8 happen to suggest or request Jeff to represent you?

9 MR. FISHER: Well, Jeff had contacted me  
10 to verify the time of my appointment today and at that  
11 time we discussed him representing me.

12 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And Jeff, just a  
13 brief --

14 MR. KEENAN: Yes. My name is Jeff Keenan,  
15 I'm counsel of PSE&G Nuclear and Ron Fisher today in  
16 a joint capacity. I have reviewed the ECP files on  
17 this matter and do not believe there's a conflict of  
18 interest. Should one arise, we'll take a break and  
19 figure out how to best handle that. We would also  
20 like a chance to review the transcript when that's  
21 available.

22 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Sure. And again,  
23 Ron, you understand that Jeff represents both you and  
24 the company?

25 MR. FISHER: Yes, I do.

1 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And will the  
2 presence of Jeff hinder your testimony here today?

3 MR. FISHER: In no way.

4 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And you understand  
5 that if you wanted to meet with me privately, you  
6 could do so?

7 MR. FISHER: I understand.

8 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: All right. What's  
9 your date and place of birth?

10 MR. FISHER: [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED]

12 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And what's your  
13 Social Security Number?

14 MR. FISHER: [REDACTED]

15 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: What's your home  
16 mailing address?

17 MR. FISHER: [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]

19 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And your home  
20 telephone number.

21 MR. FISHER: [REDACTED]

22 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And your work  
23 number?

24 MR. FISHER: [REDACTED]

25 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And what's your

1 educational background?

2 MR. FISHER: I have a bachelor's degree in  
3 operations management.

4 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: From what  
5 university or institution?

6 MR. FISHER: Thomas Edison.

7 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And do you have any  
8 military experience?

9 MR. FISHER:



10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: So you've been in  
the security field for a while, quite a while in some  
capacity.

20

MR. FISHER: Yes.

21

22

SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And how long have  
you been employed by PSE&G?

23

MR. FISHER: 1986 was my date of hire.

24

25

SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And how long have  
you been an access authorization supervisor?

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.



1 MR. FISHER: December of 1988.

2 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Quite a while.

3 MR. FISHER: Yes.

4 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: What were you doing  
5 when you first came to work for PSE&G?

6 MR. FISHER: I was actually -- I had  
7 started work on the Island with a contractor in 1978,  
8 when I came out of the [REDACTED]

9 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: What contractor was  
10 that?

11 MR. FISHER: Yoh Security.

12 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Y-O-H.

13 MR. FISHER: Yes, Y-O-H.

14 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Are they still --

15 MR. FISHER: Not under that name.

16 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: What's the name?

17 MR. FISHER: They're called PTI now.

18 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Because they were  
19 doing some stuff up at Limerick too, weren't they?

20 MR. FISHER: Yes, they were.

21 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And also Shoreham  
22 then right?

23 MR. FISHER: Yes. I went to Shoreham for  
24 a short time.

25 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: The plant that

1 never got started.

2 (Laughter.)

3 MR. FISHER: That's why I left.

4 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Good move. And who  
5 do you report to, Ron?

6 MR. FISHER: I report to Ted Strop  
7 (Phonetic). He's the emergency services manager. <sup>STRAUB</sup> ~~KA~~ 7/25/03

8 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And who does he  
9 report to?

10 MR. FISHER: He reports to Mike  
11 Freedlander (Phonetic).

12 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Right next door?

13 MR. FISHER: Yes.

14 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And Mike's title  
15 is, do you know?

16 MR. FISHER: You're stumping me.

17 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: I just read the  
18 sign and I can't remember it.

19 MR. FISHER: I think he's directorate  
20 level, but --

21 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay, but did Ted  
22 Strop replace Garland Gibson?

23 <sup>STRAUB</sup> ~~KA~~ 7/25/03 MR. FISHER: That's correct, yes.

24 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Why don't you tell  
25 me, familiarize with the access authorization progress

1 here. I don't know anything about it. It's how an  
2 individual gets access and then we'll get into  
3 specifically what happened with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
4 access suspension, if that, in fact happened.

5 MR. FISHER: Okay, well, the access  
6 authorization process, my group performs the necessary  
7 screening activities and badging. The screening  
8 activities are regulated by NRC regulation and once  
9 we've ensured that an individual meets those  
10 requirements, then we'll provide them with access to  
11 the plant.

12 The whole process is initiated by a  
13 request from a responsible manager who requests that  
14 an individual obtain access and they tell us what  
15 level of access or what areas and then we would  
16 perform the screening activities and if that person  
17 passes those we would grant that access that was  
18 requested.

19 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Now what are the  
20 different categories for withholding access and I want  
21 to make sure I use the term, is your access suspended  
22 or termed or denied? What are the -- removal, I  
23 guess, categories?

24 MR. FISHER: Well, let me start with  
25 denial of access. Denial of access would be the term

1 we use when someone has not met the requirements under  
2 the regulations that govern the screening activities.  
3 So for instance, if someone tested positive under the  
4 fitness for duty program we would deny access. If  
5 they failed to meet the criteria under the background  
6 check or if they failed the psychological assessment.

7 Other than denial, we may suspend access  
8 temporarily while we're performing an investigation  
9 related to screening activities. For instance, if we  
10 received information that someone had been involved in  
11 an off-site incident that resulted in an arrest, that  
12 could possibly impact their trustworthiness and  
13 reliability. Then we may suspend that badge while we  
14 evaluate that. And that could lead to a denial or it  
15 could lead to reinstatement.

16 Beyond that, we turn off badges for a lot  
17 of reasons. Some of the terminology we use would be  
18 management hold. There would be a medical hold which  
19 would indicate someone is on sick leave for an  
20 extended period of time.

21 And that -- those categories pretty well  
22 cover most of the terms that we use.

23 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: If an individual is  
24 escorted from the site for what was called decision  
25 making leave, would that impact the status of their

1 access?

2 MR. FISHER: Well, everyone is badged at  
3 the pleasure of their manager or supervisor. So if  
4 the supervisor requested that we inactivate the badge,  
5 that would not be a reason that we would classify  
6 under the access authorization program. That would be  
7 an administration action to turn off the badge until  
8 the manager requested it either be turned back on.

9 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Kind of like an  
10 adamant holding?

11 ADMIN  
RR  
7/25/03  
12 MR. FISHER: Yes. We call it a management  
hold.

13 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Management hold.  
14 Now specifically with [REDACTED] do you know [REDACTED]  
15 personally?

16 MR. FISHER: No.

17 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Would you know [REDACTED]  
18 if [REDACTED] walked in the room right now?

19 MR. FISHER: No, I would not.

20 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Do you have a file  
21 in front of you? Maybe you could indicate to me --  
22 well, backing up, you said that the manager/supervisor  
23 can request that the badge be inactivated. Is there  
24 some policy or procedure that governs the criteria  
25 when the manager or supervisor can do that?

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 MR. FISHER: Well, generally, if a person  
 2 is terminating employment, the badge, that would be a  
 3 requirement in our procedure. We also have an  
 4 activity called the 31-day revalidation and the  
 5 managers are responsible to review the list of people  
 6 that are badged under their sponsorship every 31 days  
 7 and indicate that they want that person to continue  
 8 being badged. So every 31 days we revalidate that,  
 9 that that badge should be active.

10 And other than that, a manager can request  
 11 that we turn off a badge and we'll do it, really with  
 12 no questions asked.

13 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: With no questions  
 14 asked.

15 Okay, why don't we look at [REDACTED]  
 16 file and what I'm interested to find out is what the  
 17 status of [REDACTED] badge was between [REDACTED] and August  
 18 19, 2002.

19 MR. FISHER: Okay. We had placed in [REDACTED]  
 20 file at the [REDACTED] these things occurred notes which is  
 21 something that we do whenever we receive a phone [REDACTED] to  
 22 turn off a badge or take some action. CALL 7/25/03

23 The first note I have is by one of my  
 24 direct reports, Emily Nazar, N-A-Z-A-R. And she is my  
 25 badging specialist. And she had received a call from

1 [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

2 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: We'll just read  
3 this into the record. It's Form SP4-7 entitled  
4 "Personnel Access File Information Review" and then  
5 what is this NCP, would that be the procedure?

6 MR. FISHER: Yes, that's the procedure.

7 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: [REDACTED]  
8 Extension 1887, called and put [REDACTED] badge on hold  
9 as [REDACTED] is on leave. [REDACTED] had a conflict with some work  
10 assignments." And it's dated August 9, 2002.

11 There's no time on it, right?

12 MR. FISHER: No.

13 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And what does it  
14 mean "not significant." There's a check mark and "not  
15 significant" versus "adjudicated" (Inaudible) what  
16 does that mean?

17 MR. FISHER: That just means that it would  
18 not be access related as far as under the access  
19 authorization evaluation criteria.

20 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: This falls into  
21 that management hold that you explained earlier?

22 MR. FISHER: Yes, it's administrative  
23 action.

24 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And it says  
25 "other".

1 MR. FISHER: I'm not sure why Emily  
2 checked that.

3 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay.

4 MR. FISHER: She may have been indicating  
5 this was just a note to file, that we weren't  
6 referring it to either psychological or medical.

7 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay, and the next.

8 MR. FISHER: The second note was when [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED] called to ask that we reactivate the badge and  
10 that was August 19th.

11 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And again, it's the  
12 same form.

13 Is there any more -- would there be any  
14 more documentation with respect to reasoning behind  
15 why it was put on the management --

16 MR. FISHER: Not with us, no.

17 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And again, you  
18 don't require the manager to --

19 MR. FISHER: Explain themselves, no.

20 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Explain themselves.  
21 If an individual is out on sick leave for a week,  
22 would the badge be activated?

23 MR. FISHER: Typically, a sick that would  
24 exceed 30 days would be the reason that we terminate  
25 a badge for sick leave.

LEAVE *AK* 7/25/03



1 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And what's the  
2 process or how -- walk me through how an individual,  
3 how would [REDACTED] be notified that [REDACTED] badge was in a  
4 management hold?

5 MR. FISHER: We actually wouldn't make  
6 that notification. We would -- I would assume that  
7 the manager would be telling them that their badge was  
8 being put on hold.

9 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And when the badge  
10 is put on hold, does that mean -- could [REDACTED] get in  
11 through that first check point where there's the guard  
12 house and I have to stop there and show my  
13 identification? Is [REDACTED] prohibited from doing past that  
14 guard point or is it actually when you go to key in?

15 MR. FISHER: No, the deactivation of the  
16 badge would only include the ability to access into  
17 the protected area through the turnstiles of the  
18 plant.

19 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay. Is there  
20 anything else in the file that you have in front of  
21 you on [REDACTED] that relates to any of the events  
22 I'm looking at between [REDACTED] and August 19, 2002?

23 MR. FISHER: No, this was the only  
24 documents that we have regarding that event.

25 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay, and again, it

1 was not made part of the access program. How did you  
2 term that?

3 MR. FISHER: Correct. It was not  
4 something that we had to evaluate under the criteria  
5 for either backgrounds or psychological or anything  
6 like that.

7 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay. Have you  
8 become aware, prior to the NRC interview that [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED] had raised some type of safety concern and felt  
10 [REDACTED] had an adverse act, one of which was having [REDACTED]  
11 access put on management hold?

12 MR. FISHER: No, not until I spoke with  
13 you.

14 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And I think the  
15 term [REDACTED] used was [REDACTED] was removed from plant access.  
16 Would that be an accurate terminology?

17 MR. FISHER: You could use that  
18 terminology, I would assume.

19 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: But again, [REDACTED] was  
20 not -- [REDACTED] access was not denied. It was not  
21 suspended?

22 MR. FISHER: That's correct. Another  
23 action that we would normally take under a denial or  
24 something that's under the access program reasoning  
25 would be to put appropriate flags on a person's access


NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-2704

1 file.

2 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay.

3 MR. FISHER: And none of that was done.

4 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And again, these  
5 aren't date stamped or anything, so we know what time  
6  would have called in.

7 MR. FISHER: No, there's possibly a  
8 computer record when these actions were initiated in  
9 the computer that we could retrieve.

10 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: How difficult is it  
11 to retrieve something like that?

12 MR. FISHER: It shouldn't be too hard. I  
13 could probably get that today.

14 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: You don't even have  
15 to have it today if you just give it to Jeff by the  
16 end of the week is fine. I was just interested in  
17 what time the badge was put on management hold and  
18 what time it was reactivated.

19 MR. FISHER: Okay, sure.

20 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And just pass it to  
21 Jeff and he'll forward it to me.

22 MR. FISHER: Okay.

23 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Do you all need a  
24 moment to --

25 MR. KEENAN: Is that the end?

1 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: That's the end.

2 MR. KEENAN: Yes, we can take a break for  
3 a second.

4 (Off the record.)

5 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Back on the record.

6 I had a question and Ron looked through the file. Has  
7 [REDACTED] access ever been put on management hold before,  
8 you know, based on your review of the file?

9 MR. FISHER: Based on my review of the  
10 file, no, it hasn't.

11 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And Ron, who is  
12 notified within the organization if [REDACTED] access was  
13 put on management hold? Was anyone within the  
14 organization notified like HR?

15 MR. FISHER: No, there isn't. This is  
16 just a note to our file so that we understand why the  
17 badge was not active for that period of time.

18 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay, and you  
19 indicated there's a form, a PHQ that [REDACTED] would fill  
20 out if [REDACTED] went to work at another nuclear power plant?

21 MR. FISHER: That's correct.

22 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Would [REDACTED] be  
23 required to put on that form that [REDACTED] badge had been  
24 on management hold at Salem?

25 MR. FISHER: No. Typically, the way they

**NEAL R. GROSS**

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS  
1323 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N.W.

1 ask that question, "has your badge been suspended or  
2 denied" and [REDACTED] could answer no to that question.

3 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: And has [REDACTED] badge  
4 ever been suspended or denied at Salem, based on your  
5 review of the file?

6 MR. FISHER: No, it hasn't.

7 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Is there anything  
8 else you'd like to add for the record at this point in  
9 time?

10 MR. FISHER: No.

11 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: All right, three  
12 questions I'm required to ask you. Did you provide  
13 your information voluntarily?

14 MR. FISHER: Yes, I did.

15 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Did I threaten you  
16 for your information?

17 MR. FISHER: No.

18 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Did I or anyone  
19 from the NRC offer you a reward for your information?

20 MR. FISHER: No.

21 SPECIAL AGENT MONROE: Okay, we'll go off  
22 the record at 12:15 p.m.: Thanks.

23 MR. FISHER: Thank you.

24 (Whereupon, at 12:15 p.m., the interview  
25 was concluded.)

*Reviewed and accepted as amended.  
Harold K. Fisher 7/25/03*

CERTIFICATE

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

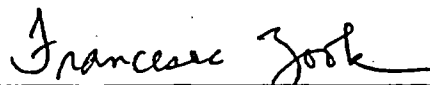
Name of Proceeding: Interview of

Ronald Fisher

Docket Number: 1-2003-010

Location: Artificial Island, NJ

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.



Francesca Zook  
Official Transcriber  
Neal R. Gross & Co., Inc.