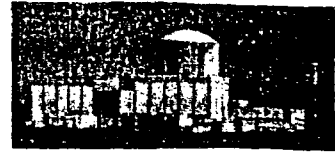




Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant
N490, State Highway 42
Kewaunee, WI 54216-9511
920-388-2560



Operated by
Nuclear Management Company, LLC

October 16, 2002

Region III Enforcement/Investigations Officer
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Ladies/Gentlemen:

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION 02-A-0014
KEWAUNEE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

On September 20, 2002, Mr. Brent Clayton, Enforcement/Investigations Officer, Region III, forwarded a request for additional information associated with an issue identified via NRC tracking number 02-A-0114. The concern relates to information received by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) by an individual who is concerned that [REDACTED] *outside scope*

Our response to the request for information is contained as an attachment to this letter. We believe the attached reply is responsive to your September 20, 2002, letter. Please note the undersigned has replaced Mr. Mark Warner as the Site Vice President at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant.

If you have questions or require additional information regarding this response, please contact Mr. Aldo Capristo, NMC Employee Concerns Program Manager, at 920/755-7633. Supporting records for this request for information are available to review upon request at Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant.

Sincerely,

Tom Coutu
Site Vice President

Attachment

Information in this record was deleted
in accordance with the Freedom of Information
Act, exemptions outside scope
FOIA- 2006-13

D-15
(27)

outside
of scope

2. *An individual is concerned that the action taken against the employees who raised the fitness for duty concerns has created a chilled environment for raising a safety concern.*

Additional Information for Concern 2:

The concern pertained to the chain of events associated with the craft employees who were accused that they failed to report the smell of alcohol on an individual during the steam generator project. The chain of events included the belief from the craft employees that the supervisor took no action when being told about the problem; a supervisor lied during the follow up investigation; and the craft employees who participated in the licensees investigation were not rehired.

The Kewanee/Point Beach (KPB) Employee Concerns Program (ECP) Manager conducted an investigation regarding this request for information. The KPB ECP Manager has seven years of experience with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as well as an additional ten years of experience at KNPP and PBNP. The KPB ECP Manager reports to the NMC ECP Manager, and is independent of the work groups involved in this investigation. The Duane Arnold Energy Center (DAEC) ECP Manager provided assistance with interviews.

This investigation scope included individual interviews with various plant personnel and reviews of applicable documents and procedures. Applicable references and notes of interviews are available for further review by contacting the NMC ECP Manager, Mr. Aldo Capristo, at 920/755-7633.

outside
of
scope

Concern 2:

"An individual is concerned that the action taken against the employees who raised the fitness for duty concerns has created a chilled environment for raising a safety concern.

Additional Information for Concern 2:

The concern pertained to the chain of events associated with the craft employees who were accused that they failed to report the smell of alcohol on an individual during the steam generator project. The chain of events included the belief from the craft employees that the supervisor took no action when being told about the problem; a supervisor lied during the follow up investigation; and the craft employees who participated in the licensee's investigation were not rehired."

Evaluation:

On September 25, 2002, at Point Beach Nuclear Plant, 12 individual interviews with Day Zimmerman (DZ-NPS) contractors were conducted by the DAEC ECP Manager. DZ-NPS was the contractor at KNPP for the steam generator replacement project. The contractors interviewed included pipe fitters, carpenters and laborers. The interviews were conducted recognizing that the individuals interviewed may or may not be the same individuals who worked at KNPP for the steam generator replacement project. The contractor, DZ-NPS, has a number of individuals working on refueling outage projects at Point Beach who were available for interview to address the concern statement.

Interview questions were developed to look at the general working environment within DZ-NPS and to determine if there is evidence of a chilled environment. Results of the interviews are summarized as follows:

1. Interviewees indicated they would raise safety issues with their supervision.

2. Interviewees indicated generally good working relationships with both worker-to-worker and worker-to-supervisor.
3. Interviewees indicated generally good communications between worker-to-worker and worker-to-supervisor.
4. No interviewees, with the exception of one, were aware of anyone who had raised a safety issue and then incurred a negative consequence for doing so. The one exception indicated that at Point Beach approximately three or four outages ago (approximately two years ago), a worker raised a concern and a co-worker made a negative comment to the individual for bringing up the issue. The interviewee said he does not know what the concern was about and he cannot remember the name of the worker who made the negative comment. This had no impact on the individual's willingness to raise issues currently.

Conclusion:

Results of the interviews conducted did not indicate a chilled environment exists within DZ-NPS. This concern is **NOT SUBSTANTIATED**.