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1 it was, seven, or eight, or may other people more than that  
2 under Mr. Lundin. The second group comprised of various of  
3 the approximate dozen senior advisors that I had.

4 MR. REINHART: Who were?

5 MR. WHITE: Mr. Kelley, Mr. Houston, Mr. Drotleff, *Edw*  
6 Mr. Kirkebo, Mr. Wegner, Mr. Bass, Mr. Stone, Sullivan, Mr.  
7 Sisken. I think Mr. Henry was in there. There may have been *Edw*  
8 one or two others, in that group of senior advisors. And I  
9 would have to go back and check, because I don't know  
10 specifically when some of them came.

11 MR. REINHART: The ones you mentioned, though, was  
12 Kelley, Houston, Drotleff, Kirkebo, Wegner, Bass, Stone,  
13 Sullivan, Sisken, and Henry?

14 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

15 MR. REINHART: You are not suggesting, Mr. White,  
16 that all of those people were necessarily the group charged  
17 with that --

18 MR. WHITE: No. No. No. ~~No.~~ ~~No.~~ ~~No.~~ ~~No.~~ *Edw*

19 MR. REINHART: You are saying those were the  
20 twelve?

21 MR. WHITE: Those were the senior group of twelve.

22 MR. REINHART: Out of which some people were  
23 involved --

24 MR. WHITE: Some did -- some -- yeah, some I asked  
25 questions of. Some I relied on very heavily, just to bounce

1 information off of.

2 MR. REINHART: Which ones were in the second group,  
3 can you tell us?

4 MR. WHITE: The second group? Well, you have to  
5 understand how I was operating. Mr. Kelley and Mr. Houston  
6 were the Q/A experts. Mr. Drotleff, and Mr. Kirkebo were the  
7 -- I would say the engineering, technical experts. Mr.  
8 Siskin and the rest of them had knowledge in the nuclear  
9 industry, and Sullivan, and so forth, so that I could  
10 periodically bounce things off of them that I had heard,  
11 maybe, from other sources in this regard. And this was, by  
12 the way, very late in the game. This didn't happen until,  
13 probably, sometime in February or March. Mr. Brodsky was  
14 another one.

15 MR. REINHART: I'm sorry, that's all.

16 MR. MURPHY: All of these responses, this audit  
17 trail was prepared --

18 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry, this --

19 MR. MURPHY: This audit trail you are talking  
20 about, again?

21 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

22 MR. MURPHY: Was that prepared and made part of the  
23 enclosures to the March 20th letter? Is that what -- what  
24 relationship does that work done by these folks have to do  
25 with the enclosures of the March 20th letter?

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1 MR. WHITE: Having not reviewed those volumes, I am  
2 hard pressed to say whether it is or isn't. My recollection,  
3 and some of this may have been subsequent to the March  
4 letter, was that they carried out my instructions, which were  
5 to not -- let me -- let me rephrase the thing in a different  
6 way. It isn't the words I used, but not to kind of do it in  
7 a vacuum.

8 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

9 MR. WHITE: So that someone coming in would say,  
10 well, how did you find that, and what did you do. But  
11 rather, if a piece of information was used, that it should be  
12 included, and maintained, and kept for the records. So that  
13 if anyone wanted to come in and say, well, what information  
14 came from what source, who said what, how did you form, where  
15 did you get that fact that there would be that information  
16 available.

17 MR. MURPHY: Were them enclosures to the March 20th  
18 letter prepared by this group of folks, or were they prepared  
19 by the line organization?

20 MR. CHARNOFF: When you say this group of folks,  
21 who are you referring to?

22 MR. MURPHY: The -- I'm talking about, maybe, the  
23 group headed by Craig Lundin, and the twelve, or so, advisors  
24 that might have had some involvement, one way or another, in  
25 this particular area.

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1 MR. WHITE: I'm not sure I can categorize this  
2 either/or. Certainly, part of the information was furnished  
3 by line managers, because in the later stages of this thing,  
4 I said I wanted the individuals furnishing facts to attest,  
5 and certify, and sign their names that, in fact, the  
6 information you represented to me was the facts, and the  
7 truth. So, I'm sure that based on some signatures that I  
8 have seen only in the last few days, that, in fact, they  
9 must have prepared them, because they signed to attest to the  
10 facts.

11 But I also know that I required the senior  
12 managers, a small number of those who had, perhaps, were  
13 closer to the letter, to concur in it. Now, I don't know, to  
14 my own knowledge, how much was prepared by line management,  
15 was changed by the outside group, or changed by the senior  
16 advisors, I just -- I don't know.

17 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

18 MR. WHITE: Because I didn't author it, and I don't  
19 know who did.

20 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

21 MR. WHITE: In terms of of assisting, you know. It  
22 was a paper that was staffed. In other words, in the  
23 staffing thing, you know, it may be more than one was  
24 involved. I really don't know.

25 MR. MURPHY: You mentioned this term before, that

1 up until a few -- at least a year ago, I was not, and it's  
2 differing professional opinions.

3 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

4 MR. MURPHY: But are you familiar with what that --  
5 does TVA have a policy regarding differing professional  
6 opinions, today?

7 MR. WHITE: Yes.

8 MR. MURPHY: Are you familiar with that policy, at  
9 all?

10 MR. WHITE: I'm -- at all, yes.

11 MR. MURPHY: Well, let me -- okay.

12 MR. WHITE: I am familiar, somewhat, with that  
13 policy.

14 MR. MURPHY: Okay, why don't you tell me what you  
15 think that policy means?

16 MR. WHITE: Well, in the nuclear power  
17 organization, if an individual has a differing professional  
18 opinion, and it's not resolved, he talks it to the Employee  
19 Concern Program, where it, kind of, is a means of  
20 circumventing the line management, to get attention directed  
21 to that specific issue.

22 MR. MURPHY: Was that the differing professional  
23 opinion policy that was in effect when you arrived at TVA?

24 MR. WHITE: I don't recall whether the Nuclear  
25 Power Organization had such a thing. Let me go back again.

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1 and say, this thing came -- I had never heard of the thing  
2 before Commissioner Asselstine brought it up. In the  
3 conversation, he told Mr. Dean, "I think you should have a  
4 differing professional opinion procedure, such as we have at  
5 the NRC." And Mr. Dean said a few words about what -- he  
6 would go back and look at it. And they kind of conversed on  
7 it. And I asked one question of Commissioner Asselstine, as  
8 I saw Mr. Dean committing to something which might have an  
9 impact on me. I looked at Commissioner Asselstine, and I  
10 said, "How well does this procedure," because it was clear to  
11 me he was trying to force an NRC procedure onto TVA.

12 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

13 MR. WHITE: You know, it was clear to me that that  
14 was the intent. And, so, I asked one question. I said, "How  
15 well does this work in the NRC?" And he said, "It doesn't  
16 work, at all." And I remember that, because I then thought  
17 to myself, why is he trying to get me to do something that  
18 doesn't work for him. And, so, you know, much later, when it  
19 became time for us to look at our procedure, I developed this  
20 one, with differing professional opinion going into the  
21 Employee Concern Program. Which meant it would work better.

22 MR. MURPHY: Did -- did -- and it's a question that  
23 I probably should have asked of Mr. Dean, but I'm going to  
24 ask you, did Mr. Dean indicate to the Commissioner that they  
25 had had a policy of differing professional opinion since 1981.

1 And as late as 30 April, 1985, they had another policy,  
2 signed by Mr. Dean, as a matter of fact?

3 MR. WHITE: He may have.

4 MR. MURPHY: I mean --

5 MR. WHITE: He may have. There was a discussion.

6 Remember, I said, I didn't know what they were talking about,  
7 on differing professional opinions.

8 MR. MURPHY: Oh, okay.

9 MR. WHITE: In the world I came from, the manager  
10 makes those decisions. He gets the facts, and he makes the  
11 decisions, and you don't need a special procedure. There are  
12 other things in place, and if you want to elevate the thing,  
13 you can elevate it. It doesn't take a special procedure that  
14 I know of, certainly, within the Navy, that says, you know --  
15 and, so, they were talking about something I wasn't very  
16 familiar with -- or familiar with, at all.

17 MR. MURPHY: Do you know if this particular -- this  
18 is the latest one, that we've been able to come across, 30  
19 April, 1985. Can you look at that (presenting), and tell me  
20 whether that's in effect, currently?

21 MR. WHITE: I -- this doesn't look familiar to me.  
22 I don't know if it's in effect, or not. It's not something  
23 under my area of cognizance. I do know that there is a --  
24 what's called a TVA Code.

25 MR. MURPHY: The Code.

1 MR. WHITE: Which, I believe, is in existence. I  
2 don't know if this thing is effective or not effective at  
3 TVA.

4 COURT REPORTER: Sir, did you say you do or not  
5 not -- it is or is not familiar to you?

6 MR. WHITE: I do not know whether it is or is not.

7 COURT REPORTER: No. No. Is that document  
8 familiar to you, or not?

9 MR. WHITE: It does not look familiar to me.

10 COURT REPORTER: Thank you, sir.

11 MR. WHITE: I don't recall having seen that  
12 specific document before.

13 MR. MURPHY: How does your procedures, or method of  
14 resolving these differing professional opinions, if it goes  
15 to the Employee Concern Program, and they are not satisfied  
16 with the results, what do we do, then?

17 MS. BAUSER: You mean the employee is not  
18 satisfied?

19 MR. MURPHY: Yeah, the employee. Absolutely.

20 MR. WHITE: By the TVA Code, and I would have to  
21 take it and review the new Code, but I believe that he can  
22 take it, eventually, to the Board of Directors, if it  
23 involves a safety significant item. I think that's right.  
24 But I would really have to review it. I think that that  
25 would be the ultimate avenue.

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1 MR. MURPHY: Maybe I'll get that for you to review,  
2 because I have a question, here.

3 MR. WHITE: Okay. Okay.

4 MR. MURPHY: And if you want to take time to review  
5 it, you can do it. But maybe you can answer the question  
6 without reviewing it. Was the NSRS employees who, you know,  
7 gave their perceptions to Commissioner Asselstine, given the  
8 opportunity to review the line organization responses prior  
9 to submission of the March 20th letter?

10 MR. WHITE: I believe so, yes. I think so. I  
11 didn't deal with them, I dealt with their manager, Mr. Whitt.  
12 And based on things he told me, I would think, for sure, they  
13 reviewed them -- they reviewed that letter before it went in.

14 MR. MURPHY: Before it went out?

15 MR. WHITE: I believe so, yes.

16 MR. MURPHY: My next question happens to be, did  
17 Kermit Whitt, the NSRS Director, ever indicate to you that  
18 the members of his organization could not agree with the line  
19 organization's position on their perceptions?

20 MR. WHITE: On the day, whatever the date was,  
21 where we sat in the room, and I got the concurrences in my  
22 presence, from the individuals. And I would have to -- I  
23 don't know specifically what date. Mr. Whitt, when it came  
24 his turn, and he signed his name. And I said -- I asked him,  
25 I think, as I recall, twice, "Do you agree with this?" And

1 he indicated yes, he did. I then asked, specifically, words  
 2 to the effect of, do the people involved in your organization  
 3 believe -- are they in agreement with this. And he said, no,  
 4 they were not. He said, no -- words to the effect that they  
 5 were not. And he said some other things about it, but, no,  
 6 they were not.

7 MR. MURPHY: And the issue died at that point? I  
 8 mean, I don't know --

9 MR. WHITE: Well, I don't know what you mean, the  
 10 issue died?

11 MR. MURPHY: I mean, did -- because this -- wasn't  
 12 this the day you were actually getting down to kind of  
 13 finalize your response to the NRC, and send it send it  
 14 somewhere?

15 MR. WHITE: Yeah, but the issue didn't die.  
 16 Because sometime later, Mr. Whitt came back to me, after he  
 17 had signed that. And some time later being, I would say,  
 18 maybe, it may have been two or three days, it may have been a  
 19 week, or so. He came back to me, and he said, I've got a  
 20 real problem. And, I'm paraphrasing, perhaps. He said, I've  
 21 got a real problem. <sup>"I said,</sup> Mr. Whitt, what's your problem." And *Edw*  
 22 then he entered into what I would say was a very emotional  
 23 state of mind.

24 And said, and these are maybe not his precise  
 25 words, but the impression, that he had been back, and talked

1 to his people. His people being the several involved. And I  
2 -- as bluntly and as honestly, I can say, I viewed it as they  
3 had threatened him. Because he said to me, "Mr. White, you  
4 don't understand what these people," and that's what he  
5 referred to them, "will do. They have told me that they will  
6 have me appear before Mr. Dingle<sup>ell</sup>, and his Committee." And he Eda  
7 was almost in tears, as he said, "I can't take that. It will  
8 destroy me. And I simply cannot," you know, it was that kind  
9 of words.

10 He was a very frightened person, who was in the  
11 position of having agreed with a letter, and signed his name,  
12 despite his knowledge at the time that the people that worked  
13 for him, some of them didn't agree. Had, then, subsequently  
14 talked to them, and as frankly as I can be, I viewed it as  
15 he, as a manager, was being threatened with repercussions on  
16 him, personally.

17 I didn't know -- that's -- I ended the discussion,  
18 more with a phrase of trying to pacify a very emotional  
19 individual, who -- who wanted out of that organization. Who  
20 couldn't take it anymore. And I was trying to tell him,  
21 look, as soon as I can, I will, Kermit. You know, you've got  
22 to <sup>do</sup> the best you can in this thing. I know you've got Eda  
23 problems, it was that type of conversation.

24 I didn't know until two months later --  
25 approximately, two months later, that he left the room and

1 apparently went and found the concurrence sheet, and wrote in  
2 some additional information, in the letter -- or whether he  
3 did, or someone else did for him, I think he did it. But it  
4 was information trying to separate himself from what he had  
5 said in that meeting. So, it didn't die, but that's the --  
6 that, you know, that's certainly part of the record.

7 MR. MURPHY: How did you find out about him  
8 annotating the -- or whoever, annotated that concurrence sheet?

9 MR. WHITE: I think that occurred in May or early  
10 June, at a meeting in which we were preparing the Board of  
11 Directors for their testimony with Mr. Dingle<sup>all</sup>. As I recall, edu  
12 as part of that meeting, we were discussing the Appendix B  
13 letter. And whether I or someone else brought it up, I was  
14 reviewing with them, to refresh their memories on how we had  
15 gone about things that I've discussed this morning, the  
16 various people looking at it. And as part of that, I think  
17 it came up by my mentioning, look -- and in addition to that,  
18 I had people certify to this, and I had concurrences.

19 And, then, either I or someone else said, you know,  
20 let's show him what we mean, and that came in. I think  
21 that's the way it occurred. We had Mr. Whitt at one time,  
22 too, and he may have brought it up. But at any rate, that  
23 was laid before me, and that -- that's the first time I saw  
24 those words. I did not know they existed before that time.

25 MR. MURPHY: And you were not made aware of the

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1 fact that Mr. Whitt had disagreed with the -- or could not  
2 concur with the letter on the day that you had called this  
3 group together for your final concurrence?

4 MR. WHITE: No, what I tried to say, was he was in  
5 agreement with the letter at that meeting.

6 MR. MURPHY: Okay, I don't understand it, then.

7 MR. WHITE: He later came in, and indicated that he  
8 had problems. I didn't know that he was going to try to  
9 resolve his problem by changing -- you know, to me -- and I  
10 don't want to be too tough on Mr. Whitt. He had a very  
11 difficult job to try to accomplish. But if I were going to  
12 change a document in which I concurred, I would clearly have  
13 dated, and indicated it as a subsequent thing. I don't think  
14 that occurred. I think he went back. And, then, I would  
15 also have taken it to my boss and said, look, I've changed  
16 my mind, here.

17 MR. MURPHY: But that didn't occur, though.

18 MR. WHITE: No.

19 MS. BAUSER: Can I make a clarifying point, that I  
20 think is understood, but I want to get it on the record.  
21 When we say that he changed his viewpoint, did you have the  
22 impression that he no longer thought that the letter was  
23 right, is that what you are saying?

24 MR. WHITE: No. No. No. No. No.

25 MS. BAUSER: Okay.

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1 MR. WHITE: No. No. No. Again, I'm trying to  
2 paint the thing where, he was a person who I felt was very  
3 emotional. That he felt he was being threatened. That his  
4 very livelihood was being threatened with something that he  
5 -- he was -- it was like he was at the breaking point. It  
6 was like he was a human being at the breaking point. I just  
7 can't go through one more thing like this. And that -- and  
8 that he was just trying to deliver that message. He was not  
9 saying, I no longer am in agreement. But that, you know,  
10 these few people, and you don't know them -- you don't  
11 understand them. It was a very emotional kind of thing.

12 I don't even know, if you say who "these" people  
13 were, I couldn't tell you today. Based on my knowledge of --  
14 of a couple of those individuals, it's hard for me to think  
15 that they would have threatened their Manager. But I don't  
16 know all of those individuals, nor was I there, so I can't  
17 judge that.

18 MR. REINHART: Can I ask a question?

19 MR. MURPHY: Sure.

20 MR. REINHART: So, prior to that meeting, you had  
21 never had any inclination that Mr. Whitt had these feelings?

22 MR. WHITE: Which feelings?

23 MR. REINHART: That he didn't want to concur,  
24 because he knew his people disagreed?

25 MR. WHITE: No. No, even at that meeting, and I'm

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1 going back with my best recollection. Because I asked him  
2 the questions that -- that he was in agreement -- he was in  
3 agreement. It was only subsequent to that, that he came up  
4 with his emotional plea, and that's what I would say, that,  
5 you know, please understand my position kind of thing.

6 MS. BAUSER: Well, let me get a clarification,  
7 because there still may be a question about what you've said.  
8 When he changed his agreement -- his concurrence, was he  
9 changing, to your knowledge, his view about whether the  
10 letter was correct, as sent to the NRC?

11 MR. WHITE: All I can say is, that he did not  
12 indicate to me he had changed his mind. He did not indicate  
13 that to me. But I can't climb in his mind to determine  
14 anything other than that. And he had ample opportunity,  
15 obviously, to tell me he had changed his mind.

16 MR. REINHART: Could I ask you to look at a copy of  
17 the document, there, which is the concurrence sheet.

18 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative). That's -- that  
19 looks like the sheet, yes.

20 MR. REINHART: Do those words that he wrote on  
21 there mean anything?

22 MR. WHITE: Do they mean anything?

23 MR. REINHART: Yeah.

24 MR. WHITE: Well, I can only read them for their  
25 English meaning. It attests that the letter was read by

1 Whitt, but that is not what I asked him, and not what he  
2 answered on the day that he signed this document.

3 MR. REINHART: And there was no agreement at any  
4 time prior to that, that he would just attest to the fact  
5 that he read the letter, only?

6 MR. WHITE: No, I didn't talk to him. Not only  
7 wasn't there an agreement before that meeting, I didn't -- I  
8 didn't inquire. I didn't say -- remember, this was -- was a  
9 final signature, where the people were going to say, yes,  
10 we're in agreement with this thing. He had -- well, I dealt  
11 with him, I want to say at least once a week, as we tried to  
12 work out the problems with the NSRS. He had ample time to  
13 indicate it, and never indicated that, no.

14 MR. REINHART: No.

15 MR. ROBINSON: Were there earlier concurrence  
16 sheets prepared for that cover letter -- the March 20th cover  
17 letter?

18 MR. WHITE: There was -- there may have been,  
19 because there was a prior meeting, and I don't recall when.  
20 But some weeks, and it may have been two weeks or three weeks  
21 before that, we had a meeting at which time people were going  
22 to present to me the so-called Appendix B letter. I don't  
23 believe that -- no, I know there wasn't a concurrence sheet  
24 prepared for that, because -- at least I'm fairly confident,  
25 because one of the first questions I asked of the people in

1 the room, does everybody agree and concur in this document?  
2 And two of the individuals said, we haven't read that  
3 document yet, so we are not in a position.

4 And I, frankly, I got quite angry. Not with the  
5 two individuals; and as I recall, they were Mr. Wegner and  
6 Mr. Brodsky. But angry at the system. They didn't  
7 understand that I do not approach things in that manner. I  
8 approach them in a formal, disciplined way. And I wanted  
9 written concurrences. You have to understand that when I  
10 arrived at TVA, there was, in the Nuclear Power Organization,  
11 there was not a system, such as I was used to, where people  
12 concurred in a document, or differed. Sometimes they would  
13 differ. But you knew who was differing, and why.

14 The whole correspondence -- I might add, the whole  
15 correspondence system lacked a number of -- lacked real  
16 organization. It was -- and this may be an aside, but it's  
17 an important thing for you to recognize, particularly as you  
18 review documents. There was not a system to insure that  
19 things addressed to me, got to me. After I had been at TVA  
20 for, perhaps, two months, I believe that at one of the sites,  
21 during a visit, I found a piece of paper addressed to me, <sup>that</sup> ~~and~~ *ed*  
22 I had never seen.

23 I don't mean addressed to Steve White, but  
24 addressed to the Manager. And when I tracked back, I found  
25 out that they were coming into some central clearing house.

1 and people wouldn't send them to me, but would send them to  
2 somebody they thought ought to handle it. So, I had to set  
3 up a complete, new system, that allowed me to track -- and I  
4 still use it -- to track documents addressed to me. I don't  
5 review all of them, but I at least know what's coming in, and  
6 I can circle those which appear, by the title and a brief  
7 description, as something I ought to see. That didn't exist.

8 And, so, documents, up until that time, whenever it  
9 was, didn't necessarily get to me. Likewise, in the  
10 concurrence, there wasn't a system where -- a formal system  
11 that people were forced to put their name on something, and  
12 either agree or disagree.

13 MR. ROBINSON: You do not recall --

14 MR. WHITE: So, I don't know if there was one  
15 before that, no.

16 MR. ROBINSON: Okay. You don't recall seeing an  
17 earlier concurrence sheet, on which that same qualification  
18 by Mr. Whitt, indicating that he had merely read the letter  
19 for content, was typed on a concurrence sheet?

20 MR. WHITE: No. No, I can tell you, I did not see  
21 such a thing. I did not.

22 MR. MURPHY: Well, let me let you look at it,  
23 because -- (presenting).

24 MR. WHITE: Okay. I have no, no.

25 MR. MURPHY: For the record, that's what appears to

1 be a February 20th, 1986, memo, addressed to S. A. White.

2 And would you read that statement, there?

3 MR. WHITE: It says, "I have read the basis for  
4 concluding that the 10-CFR Part 50, Appendix B requirements  
5 are being met at the Watts Bar Facility." First of all, it,  
6 perhaps, bears out what I was just talking about, in terms of  
7 mail. At this point in time, I very well might not have seen  
8 this. Secondly, I'm not sure of the date. You know, it says  
9 February 20th, but having seen what occurred in the other  
10 one, I don't know if that's an accurate date, or not. I  
11 simply don't know. Based on the other paper I've read, where  
12 it was not dated. And where it would appear that it was done  
13 on the 20th of March; and to the best of my knowledge, it was  
14 not done on that day, and certainly not in my presence. I  
15 can't attest to when this was done. All I can say, is I  
16 didn't see it.

17 MR. REINHART: Have you ever seen it before today?

18 MR. WHITE: No.

19 MR. REINHART: Right now?

20 MR. WHITE: No, I have not -- I have never seen  
21 that.

22 MR. REINHART: Never?

23 MR. WHITE: Never. This is the first time I have  
24 seen this document.

25 MR. MURPHY: And for the record, that's a TVA

1 document, that's given to us. That's not something that -- I  
2 mean, this was an accumulation of a chronology of the events  
3 that took place at TVA, and not something that we just kind  
4 got from different sources.

5 MR. WHITE: Well, I'm pleased -- I'm pleased that  
6 the system is providing you with lots of documentation that  
7 you want, okay.

8 MR. CHARNOFF: Have you asked Mr. Whitt whether he  
9 wrote the note on that date?

10 MR. MURPHY: Yes.

11 MR. ROBINSON: Regarding the final concurrence  
12 sheet, a copy of which you examined before -- do you want to  
13 look at it, again?

14 MR. WHITE: Well, I don't know, it depends on what  
15 you ask me.

16 MR. ROBINSON: Have you talked -- had a  
17 conversation, at any time, with Mr. Gridley, regarding Mr.  
18 Whitt's qualification on that sheet?

19 MR. WHITE: Yes, I have. Yes, I have.

20 MR. ROBINSON: And what did he tell you?

21 MR. WHITE: First of all, the conversation was  
22 much, much after the March letter. As best as I can recall,  
23 he indicated, number one, we talked about the issue. And his  
24 recollection of what occurred in that meeting was precisely  
25 the same as mine, even to the extent that we talked about

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1 where people were sitting at the table. And his recollection  
2 of the conversation -- I think he didn't remember my asking  
3 Whitt twice, but perhaps only once, or that kind of thing.  
4 But his recollection was very similar.

5           It seemed to me that somehow -- Gridley is the best  
6 source of this, but he discussed -- I think he was the  
7 individual -- you are going to have to verify this, but I  
8 think what he said was, that Mr. Whitt had come to him, and  
9 was kind of disavowing, you know, I don't want to be -- I've  
10 signed that thing, and so forth. And that Gridley sent him  
11 in to see me. As I recall, Mr. Gridley said, and I told  
12 Whitt, "I tell you, I know White well enough, now, if you've  
13 got a problem, you better march in his office and tell him."

14           I don't know, but I believe that if that was  
15 Gridley who did that, and I think I got that from Gridley. I  
16 believe that that is what caused Mr. Whitt to come into my  
17 office with that emotional -- emotionally distraught, when we  
18 had that conversation. I think that was caused by that.

19           MR. ROBINSON: That wasn't immediately  
20 contemporaneous with a short period of time after the signing  
21 of the concurrence sheet?

22           MR. WHITE: His coming in? Yes, but not --  
23 remember, he came in with this emotional thing. But I did  
24 not know that he went out and changed anything. I would say,  
25 yes, it probably was, when you say contemporaneous, some --

1 MR. ROBINSON: Within an hour, or --

2 MR. WHITE: Oh, no. No. No. Within an hour, no.

3 I would -- if you had said within a week, I would say yes.

4 but I -- I'm pretty confidence<sup>ent</sup> when I say, it wasn't the same *ca*

5 day. And, so, to say precisely when, I just don't recall.

6 But it was after the letter was all done, and I was off doing  
7 something else.

8 MR. ROBINSON: Did Gridley tell you that it was his  
9 handwriting -- Gridley's handwriting that wrote the  
10 qualification statement on it?

11 MR. WHITE: I don't remember him saying that, or  
12 not. He may have -- he may have said that.

13 MR. ROBINSON: Did he indicate to you that this was  
14 discussed with Mr. Wegner, at all?

15 MR. WHITE: He did, in fact, mention that -- that  
16 -- when you say this?

17 MR. ROBINSON: The qualification of the --

18 MR. WHITE: There was, apparently, somewhere in  
19 this -- and, again, Mr. Gridley is the best source, because I  
20 hate to be a hearsay<sup>witness</sup>. But the way I remember, Gridley *ew*  
21 mentioned Wegner in some context or other, in this effort.  
22 Whether -- I don't remember whether it was whether Whitt had  
23 gone to Wegner, or Wegner had sent him to Gridley, or I just  
24 don't remember, and Mr. Gridley is the best source of that.

25 MR. ROBINSON: Okay.

1 MR. REINHART: I just want to ask Mr. Charnoff and  
2 Ms. Bauser if they had ever seen that document before?

3 MR. CHARNOFF: Are we witnesses?

4 MR. REINHART: I'm just asking the question.

5 MR. CHARNOFF: I was told the same thing from Mr.  
6 Gridley.

7 MR. REINHART: No, I'm talking about this document,  
8 date February 20th, 1986.

9 MR. CHARNOFF: Yeah, Mr. Gridley gave it to me --  
10 gave me that -- a copy of that.

11 MR. REINHART: He did give it to you?

12 MR. CHARNOFF: Uh huh (affirmative).

13 MR. REINHART: I see, and you didn't show it to Mr.  
14 White.

15 MR. CHARNOFF: No.

16 MR. REINHART: It's in your packet, there, I guess?

17 MR. CHARNOFF: Yes.

18 MS. BAUSER: There are a lot of other documents we  
19 also haven't shown Mr. White.

20 MR. MURPHY: At least a few of these Mr. -- Mr.  
21 Sauer -- Mr. Washer --

22 MR. CHARNOFF: Excuse me, as long as we are asking  
23 each other questions, can you tell me what Mr. Whitt told you  
24 about whether he signed it on February 20th?

25 MR. MURPHY: On February 20th?

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1 MR. CHARNOFF: Uh huh (affirmative).  
2 MR. MURPHY: He signed it.  
3 MR. CHARNOFF: I asked you whether he -- did he say  
4 he signed it on February 20th?  
5 MR. MURPHY: I'm not at liberty to tell you.  
6 MR. CHARNOFF: I see.  
7 MR. MURPHY: There are three -- at least three  
8 individuals that were involved, are Mr. Smith, Mr. Washer,  
9 and Mr. Sauer had filed complaints with the Department of  
10 Labor during the same time frame. You are familiar with  
11 their situation, I would -- is that an assumption on my part,  
12 or --  
13 MR. WHITE: No. No, I am general familiar with --  
14 in other words, not the details, if you -- you know.  
15 MR. MURPHY: Oh, but you did act on their case?  
16 MR. WHITE: Yes. Yes.  
17 MR. MURPHY: And on each one of them.  
18 MR. WHITE: Yeah, that's what I mentioned earlier.  
19 MR. MURPHY: Okay. Sure. Okay.  
20 MR. WHITE: Yeah.  
21 MR. MURPHY: Fine. Did the fact that these  
22 individuals had DOL complaints filed against TVA have any  
23 impact on whether you allowed them to -- you said that you  
24 thought they were allowed to review the response -- the line  
25 organization responses.

1 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

2 MR. MURPHY: As the fact of the matter, the  
3 testimony we have, whether it's correct, or not, is that they  
4 were not allowed to look at the responses.

5 MR. WHITE: If I may say to you, that is different  
6 than what Mr. Sauer has personally told me.

7 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

8 MR. WHITE: So, I'm surprised that they would have  
9 testified. Because he has told me something quite contrary  
10 to that.

11 MR. MURPHY: What did Mr. Sauer tell you about  
12 that?

13 MR. WHITE: Well, he has -- and this was subsequent  
14 to the March 20 letter.

15 MR. MURPHY: Yes, sir.

16 MR. WHITE: But Mr. Sauer, after the resolution of  
17 his DOL case, and we put him in a management position with --  
18 which he was quite happy. At one time, and I don't recall  
19 when, but subsequent to this, he went over with me the entire  
20 episode, as he saw it, through his eyes, from the initial  
21 discussion with Mr. Asselstine, how it was prepared. The  
22 fact that he was brought in at the last minute, because  
23 somebody else was sick. The fact that he didn't have  
24 personal knowledge of any of these things. The fact that he  
25 met with three NSRS people, one of whom had no input into it.

1 and the other two, and I think that was Mr. Washer and Mr.  
2 Smith, had inputs.

3 That they didn't have any facts to back up what  
4 they were saying, and he described this -- the necessity --  
5 and this was -- well, he described it as -- as being thrown  
6 in the breach, kind of thing. That they didn't have facts to  
7 back up these, and he was labeling them as perceptions. And  
8 as he told me, Mr. White, I felt these were only perceptions.  
9 We never dreamt this thing was going to come to this.

10 That subsequent to that, he saw the QTC people.  
11 Mr. Thero, I believe, who added -- Mr. Thero is a contractor,  
12 who added, I believe, two perceptions, labeled as NSRS  
13 perceptions -- Mr. Thero, the contractor, added those to that  
14 list. That Mr. Sauer informed me that he had put in the non-  
15 compliance paragraph, as a perception. That subsequent to  
16 the briefing, when they were asked by, apparently, line  
17 management -- this was before my arrival -- to substantiate  
18 the facts behind these perceptions, that they could not do  
19 it. That NSRS felt very much at risk over this whole thing,  
20 because they had done it <sup>at a</sup> rapid <sup>pace</sup> ~~base~~, and didn't have what Ed.  
21 they normally would have had, by the way, from my exposure to  
22 it, is all of their ducks in line; and that they didn't. And  
23 they viewed themselves in a real dilemma, and a problem.

24 Then, as time went on, they I think they used the  
25 word scurried about, trying to find things which would

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1 support the perceptions they had given to Commissioner  
2 Asselstine, earlier. That he and others had talked to people  
3 in Lundin's group, and had provided them as much information.  
4 And that's the part that I'm surprised, when you say that  
5 they've testified otherwise, because that's not what he told  
6 me. He said that they, in fact, had talked to the applicable  
7 NSRS people. And the impression that I had, was including  
8 him, and gotten information.

9 He further said, as time went on, at some point in  
10 time, what had been perceptions that, I think, again, using  
11 his words, that he viewed the NSRS as ~~started~~<sup>starting</sup> to dig in their ee  
12 heels. They viewed this whole thing as an assault on them.  
13 A very personal basis, because of their inability to provide  
14 answers to questions on why did you say this, why -- what was  
15 the perception. But they dug in their heels. And, then, his  
16 observation was, it became, suddenly, not a perception, but  
17 a fact, and ~~was~~<sup>they</sup> were then solid in that position. ed

18 Now, when in that time span that occurred, I can't  
19 tell you, but I'm sure -- if you have not, you should talk to  
20 him, because his view of this whole episode, as the  
21 individual who gave the things was, to me, quite interesting. ll

22 MR. MURPHY: I hear what you are saying, but I  
23 guess the question is, were they allowed to sit down and  
24 review the line organization's responses to their perception  
25 prior to submission of the March 20th letter by your office

1 MR. WHITE: I have no personal knowledge of whether  
2 or not, or to what extent, they reviewed those. My  
3 impression, from things that they heard, was that they  
4 definitely did review them. I get that from a number of  
5 sources, including the Department of Labor people, that told  
6 me, subsequent to that first meeting, kind of what went on,  
7 in terms of those individuals, such that I don't have any  
8 first hand knowledge. But I just feel very confident that  
9 they, in fact, reviewed those.

10 MR. MURPHY: In your view --

11 MR. WHITE: But I have no first hand knowledge.

12 MR. MURPHY: I understand. And in your view, as  
13 the Manager of Nuclear Power, should they have been given the  
14 opportunity to review them -- their responses?

15 MR. WHITE: In my view, I would have not -- I would  
16 have considered <sup>it</sup> appropriate for them to know the questions Edw  
17 being asked, and the conclusions being formed. I would  
18 consider that appropriate, if that's what you are asking. I  
19 did not give any specific directions, or detail that I would  
20 not have given direction into, to make sure that that kind of  
21 detail was carried out. And, so, I don't know if it was, or  
22 wasn't.

23 MR. MURPHY: But your preferred method would have  
24 been to allow them to review that. I'm not quite sure I --

25 MR. WHITE: I would rather say it this way. I'm

1 comfortable from other sources, as I say, and one of them  
2 being the Department of Labor. I'm comfortable that -- that  
3 the individuals knew what was in those responses. I'm  
4 comfortable knowing the normal -- because this thing was a  
5 very abnormal, I thought, the normal NSRS process, and their  
6 sources, and their ability to obtain the information from the  
7 various places in TVA, including the line management. And I  
8 don't mean that in some derogatory way. They could go up and  
9 ask for them. That I would be hard pressed to indicate that  
10 they didn't know, precisely, what was in those responses. I  
11 would be hard pressed to believe that.

12 MR. MURPHY: Do you have any other questions?

13 MR. REINHART: Not regarding that specific --

14 MR. MURPHY: No, let me ask just one question. In  
15 your presentation to the NRC Commission, on March 11th, you  
16 indicated that, I guess, the conversation got involved around  
17 killing an alligator, or something of that sort, right?

18 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

19 MR. MURPHY: You indicated you were going to drain  
20 the swamp. What did you mean by that?

21 MR. WHITE: Well, it's a Navy saying, you know, and  
22 you may have seen the cartoon. But you are up to here, and I  
23 point to a place on my anatomy. You are up to here in the  
24 swamp, and all I want to do is drain the swamp, to get rid of  
25 the alligators. And I think I specified, the alligators were

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1 problems.

2 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

3 MR. WHITE: Again, I was trying to correct an  
4 organization and management. And I felt the ~~point~~<sup>thrust</sup> of that Edw  
5 remark is almost what I said earlier. I felt that if I could  
6 drain the swamp -- if I could correct the organization and  
7 management, I could solve all of these other problems that  
8 were symptoms of that.

9 MR. MURPHY: Okay. And did this, in fact, also  
10 relate to the Appendix B issue that was being bandied about  
11 at that time?

12 MR. WHITE: Oh, no, I didn't -- it didn't relate to  
13 anything, specifically.

14 MR. MURPHY: Oh, okay.

15 MR. WHITE: Not anything specific.

16 MR. WILLIAMSON: You want to take a break?

17 MR. MURPHY: Yeah.

18 MR. WILLIAMSON: We'll take five.

19 (Whereupon there was a pause in the proceedings.)

20 MR. WILLIAMSON: The time is 3:16, and we are back  
21 on the record.

22 MR. MURPHY: Mr. White, when did you first --

23 MS. BAUSER: Are you finished with the concurrence  
24 sheet? Are you going on to a different subject, because I  
25 wanted to ask one question on that.

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1 MR. MURPHY: Knock yourself out. Go ahead.  
2 MS. BAUSER: Okay.  
3 MR. WHITE: You know, that's on the record.  
4 MR. MURPHY: I don't care.  
5 MR. CHARNOFF: That's a wonderful expression.  
6 MS. BAUSER: Mr. White, Kermit Whitt's signature is  
7 on that concurrence sheet, is that correct?  
8 MR. WHITE: Yes.  
9 MS. BAUSER: And Kermit Whitt was at your meeting,  
10 I take it, from what your testimony is, that you had a  
11 meeting with each of the people whose name was on here, where  
12 they signed this concurrence sheet?  
13 MR. WHITE: Yes.  
14 MS. BAUSER: And it was after that meeting that he  
15 added this -- this attestation?  
16 MR. WHITE: Well, I think it was added, I'm told by  
17 the OI people, it was added by, not by Mr. Whitt, but by  
18 someone else.  
19 MS. BAUSER: Okay.  
20 MR. WHITE: But it was later that it was added,  
21 yes.  
22 MS. BAUSER: Okay. Why was Mr. Whitt at your  
23 meeting?  
24 MR. WHITE: Because he was the Manager responsible  
25 for the NSRS Group.

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1 MS. BAUSER: Did you -- were you the one who had  
2 decided that you thought he ought to -- his name ought to be  
3 ~~the~~ concurrence sheet?

4 MR. WHITE: I decided he should -- not only that,  
5 but that he should be present, you know, while we went  
6 through the finals on it.

7 MR. MURPHY: Is that all?

8 MS. BAUSER: Yes.

9 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

10 MR. CHARNOFF: Yeah, knock yourself out, Mr.  
11 Murphy.

12 MR. MURPHY: Thank you. I tried to do that  
13 earlier. Can you describe to us, Mr. White, your  
14 relationship with QTC, Quality Technology Corporation?

15 MS. BAUSER: His personal relationship, as opposed  
16 to TVA's, or --

17 MR. MURPHY: I think the relationship as the  
18 Manager of Nuclear Power, when he came aboard, and has an  
19 organization, not contracted by him, but is operating on a  
20 plant that falls under his jurisdiction, let's say.

21 MR. WHITE: The relationship, on a personal basis,  
22 with --

23 MR. MURPHY: Oh, I'm not talking about --

24 MR. WHITE: No, I don't -- when I say personal, I'm  
25 not saying me, Steve White.

1 MR. MURPHY: Sure.

2 MR. WHITE: But on the basis of the Manager of the  
3 Office of Nuclear Power, his relationship, I could -- let me  
4 describe that, that I spoke to Mr. Thero in the several  
5 months we were involved maybe three times on the telephone.  
6 I briefly met Mr. Thero, and Mr. Schum, and Mr. <sup>Mayers</sup> -- in  
7 Congressman Cooper's office at some time early in the year.  
8 I don't recall any other direct involvement, other than a few  
9 phone calls.

10 MR. MURPHY: How did you view their activities?

11 MR. WHITE: I viewed that QTC, in general, had  
12 people qualified to interview individuals and determine if  
13 they had concerns, and so forth. I felt that they had that  
14 capability, to ask questions of individuals. The information  
15 I had indicated that the -- that I had a problem with the  
16 NSRS group who were responsible, when I arrived. Had the  
17 responsibility for that contract with QTC. Obviously, <sup>they</sup> did  
18 not, from many things said to me, <sup>NSRS</sup> did not like QTC, and/or  
19 didn't think they were as competent as they should be. I  
20 didn't form that judgment, I got it from the NSRS people.

21 MR. MURPHY: Who, in particular, would you say?

22 MR. WHITE: In, in particular, in the NSRS?

23 MR. MURPHY: Yeah, related that to you?

24 MR. WHITE: I don't recall, but it would have been  
25 -- it may have been in conversations, when I walked the

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1 spaces in the NSRS, more than once. It may have been,  
2 because I met NSRS people as I went around the sites in  
3 Knoxville. And it may have been an input from an individual  
4 -- because I got a lot of inputs from the NSRS people who  
5 would -- who would come up to tell me their feelings of NSRS.

6 MS. BAUSER: Excuse me, their feelings of QTC?

7 MR. MURPHY: Of QTC?

8 MR. WHITE: Of QTC, I'm sorry. Well, of NSRS,  
9 also. They would tell me their feelings.

10 MR. MURPHY: Yeah.

11 MR. WHITE: There was much -- let me tell you,  
12 there was much internal squabbling going on, by the way,  
13 within the NSRS. It wasn't simply a line management NSRS  
14 issue, there was internal -- there were internal battles.  
15 But in terms of my impression of QTC, I had no reason to  
16 believe that they couldn't sit down and ask questions, and  
17 they had <sup>people good at that,</sup> ~~good people.~~

18 I have to tell you that I also, though, received  
19 letters, and I don't remember it specifically, and what time,  
20 but I received letters from -- and I received many letters  
21 from what I call the rank and file TVA people, who feel that  
22 I will look into something if they write to me. I received  
23 some letters from TVA people, which I would categorize as  
24 accusatory toward the NSRS, specifically with regard to  
25 themselves.

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1 MR. MURPHY: NSRS, or QTC, again?

2 MR. WHITE: I'm sorry, QTC.

3 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

4 MR. WHITE: Thank you, QTC.

5 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

6 MR. WHITE: And what I'm referring to, is I recall  
7 getting a letter from a woman who said, I'm leaving TVA, and  
8 -- we need to stop for a second, and I think we need to go  
9 off the record.

10 MS. BAUSER: Okay.

11 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

12 (Whereupon there was an off the record discussion.)

13 MR. WHITE: But, the woman wrote, and indicated  
14 that, in an exit interview, which the people were all -- and  
15 she was from Watts Bar. That she was required to go through  
16 an exit interview. That QTC had presented her with a number  
17 of allegations, you know, here are all of your employee  
18 concerns, this list, and I don't remember, of maybe eight or  
19 ten. And she had disavowed them, and said, I didn't have any  
20 of those concerns. I don't want that in there, under my  
21 name.

22 That they had, as I recall from her letter, they  
23 had promised her, okay, we'll -- we'll delete them. And,  
24 then, subsequent she came back and found out that they  
25 hadn't. That there were still several concerns under her

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1 name that weren't her concerns. What I'm saying is, when you  
2 say QTC, I was getting information from many sources.

3 MR. MURPHY: Okay, let's not talk about your  
4 impressions of QTC.

5 MR. WHITE: Yeah. Right.

6 MR. MURPHY: Let's talk -- I'll ask, like, one or  
7 two more questions. One is, were you aware of a total number  
8 of allegations they had received?

9 MS. BAUSER: As of what date, please?

10 MR. MURPHY: As of 11 March?

11 MR. WHITE: That specific time -- I don't know at  
12 what time I was aware. It may have been by then. I knew  
13 there were thousands.

14 MR. MURPHY: Okay, I'll help you out.

15 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

16 MR. MURPHY: This, I think, is a slide --

17 MR. WHITE: From that presentation?

18 MR. MURPHY: -- from the presentation. Is that  
19 what is was?

20 MR. WHITE: Yeah, this would be the, I sure, would  
21 be roughly. And I say roughly, because --

22 MR. MURPHY: The numbers changed every day?

23 MR. WHITE: No. Well, yes and no, because this is  
24 not QTC. This is the Watts Bar Special Program. And at one  
25 point in time -- let's see, when I arrived, there were the

1 complaints from QTC. I decided that as long as I was setting  
 2 up a mechanism to investigate and determine the answers to  
 3 these concerns, that we should put within that program  
 4 concerns that came from other places. And, so, I don't  
 5 remember exactly when, for example, the -- I don't recall,  
 6 but there were other examples where we took <sup>CONCERNS</sup> ~~lumps~~, I think,  
 7 from the old Employee Concern Program that TVA had, and we  
 8 may have lumped those in.

9 So, the number of <sup>CONCERNS</sup> ~~change~~ was different, depending  
 10 on when you looked at it. But these were not -- were not  
 11 necessarily QTC. They -- with the parameter, I don't know  
 12 at what point in time.

13 MR. MURPHY: Let me -- hold that a minute.

14 MR. WHITE: Yeah.

15 MR. MURPHY: Based on that, it would lead one to  
 16 believe -- first off, can I go over them numbers? Would you  
 17 read them numbers for us, please?

18 MR. WHITE: Sure. It's says, "Watts Bar Special  
 19 Program, summary of results to date. Interviews conducted,  
 20 5,876; Employees with concerns, 1,858; Total concerns  
 21 identified, 5,159; Total resolved, 1,213."

22 MR. MURPHY: Were any of the -- your Employee  
 23 Concern Program going out and interviewing -- conducting  
 24 interviews of people, or were they -- was this based on  
 25 someone filing a complaint with your Employee Concern Program

1 at Watts Bar?

2 MR. WHITE: Well, let me --

3 MR. MURPHY: Well, let me preface that with one  
4 thing. Was your Employee Concern Program actively pursuing  
5 these things, and on March 11, keeping in mind, I think, the  
6 QTC Program -- the QTC contract was still in effect at that  
7 time?

8 MR. CHARNOFF: There are several questions, let's  
9 just ask one.

10 MS. BAUSER: No, I think I understand.

11 MR. MURPHY: Only one question. Only one question.

12 MS. BAUSER: I understand.

13 MR. MURPHY: Let me point out something, was his  
14 Employee Concern Program accepting complaints on March 11th,  
15 when he submitted this -- when he made this presentation for  
16 the Commission, right?

17 MR. CHARNOFF: Was it accepting --

18 MR. MURPHY: And I only -- that's the question.  
19 And I only noted that the QTC contract had not expired at  
20 this time. I'm just trying to assist the --

21 MR. WHITE: I have to differentiate for you, if I  
22 may, so there isn't confusion on the terms. There's what we  
23 refer to as the old Employee Concern Program, that was the  
24 Employee Concern Program at TVA that existed prior to my  
25 arrival. Then there is what we would refer to as the new

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1 Employee Concern Program, and that was one placed in effect  
 2 on about the first of February. <sup>Then there is the Watts Bar Special Program</sup> ~~It was then the Watts Bar,~~ ed.  
 3 and that was called various things at various times. But  
 4 here it's called the Watts Bar Special Program, which was the  
 5 primary repository for the <sup>concerns received</sup> QTC. And, then, as I said, later Ed.  
 6 other concerns <sup>were</sup> ~~had~~ dumped into <sup>that program</sup> Ed.

7 I'm not sure which of those you are referring to  
 8 when you say the Employee Concern Program.

9 MR. MURPHY: Well, let me back up, then, maybe we  
 10 need a little history. Was an explanation ever given to you,  
 11 Mr. White, as to why QTC was hired to begin with?

12 MR. WHITE: I don't recall an explanation being  
 13 given to me, specifically, as such. I certainly read,  
 14 probably, primarily, in the press, the reason that QTC, and  
 15 maybe from other sources of information that -- in general,  
 16 why they were brought in.

17 MR. MURPHY: And what was that reason?

18 MR. WHITE: If I can categorize it in general, I  
 19 would say that it was a concern of an atmosphere at Watts  
 20 Bar, that employees might have concerns, and be afraid of TVA  
 21 management. And, therefore, would do other things to resolve  
 22 the concerns, other than report to TVA management. For  
 23 example, they might report to the NRC. They might report it  
 24 to the NSRS, as kind of safety valves.

25 MR. MURPHY: Might that be, in your view, an

1 indication that the old Employee Concern Program at TVA was  
2 not working real well?

3 MR. WHITE: I never reviewed the old Employee  
4 Concern Program. Before I arrived, I believe that the NRC  
5 reviewed the Program. And I think I'm correct in this, <sup>they</sup> ~~was~~  
6 recommend<sup>ed</sup>~~ing~~ some changes. I think QTC was also involved,  
7 and even did some work, I think, under contract, subsequent  
8 to my arrival, where they were involved in structuring an  
9 Employee Concern Program that would be an improved Employee  
10 Concern Program, over what TVA had in place. And when I  
11 arrived, that program was scheduled to be put in effect on  
12 the first of February. And after I arrived, I saw no reason  
13 to delay the implementation of that Program.

14 But I wasn't the author of it. I, frankly, did not  
15 develop it. I didn't match it with the old one. That was --  
16 all of that work was really done before my arrival.

17 MR. MURPHY: I guess, maybe, I -- either I don't  
18 understand your answer, or you don't understand my question.

19 MR. WHITE: Okay, try again.

20 MR. MURPHY: Would the fact that people are going  
21 outside of Watts Bar, reporting things to Congress, reporting  
22 things to the NRC, reporting to -- would that be an  
23 indication, in your view, that the old Employee Concern  
24 Program was not functioning as it was supposed to?

25 MS. BAUSER: You mean, because they weren't going

1 to the Employee Concern Program?

2 MR. MURPHY: I would hope so? I hope that's what I  
3 mean.

4 MS. BAUSER: Because they were not going to the --

5 MR. MURPHY: Because they were not utilizing an  
6 avenue in which to express their concerns.

7 MS. BAUSER: Okay.

8 MR. MURPHY: Right, would that be an indication of  
9 the --

10 MR. WHITE: No, I understand the thrust of what you  
11 are saying. My difficulty is, I'm not familiar with the --  
12 what we're calling the old Employee Concern Program. So, I  
13 don't -- I know, for example, from subsequent information,  
14 that such a program existed at ~~Sequoyah~~<sup>Sequoyah</sup>, and at Brown's Ferry. Edu

15 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

16 MR. WHITE: I do not know that I have ever read  
17 anything which said that such a program even existed at Watts  
18 Bar. So, I am a little bit at a loss, I don't have that  
19 information. So, I can't honestly answer that.

20 MR. MURPHY: Let's try one more time. Let's make a  
21 gross assumption, right, that there is an Employee Concern  
22 Program at Watts Bar.

23 MR. WHITE: Right.

24 MR. MURPHY: Okay. People are utilizing external  
25 sources, the NRC, Congressional Committee members, the press,

1 whoever, right, outside. Would that be an indication to you  
2 that that program is not functioning properly?

3 MR. WHITE: Yes, but let me be specific, because I  
4 don't want to mislead you in some fashion.

5 MR. MURPHY: Well, I --

6 MR. WHITE: Because, I don't know if there was <sup>one at</sup>  
7 Watts Bar. If you said to me, at <sup>Seyouyah</sup> ~~Sequoyah~~, was there an <sup>Ex.</sup>  
8 Employee Concern Program, the old one, I would say yes. If <sup>Exu</sup>  
9 you asked me, did people use the NRC, and Congress instead of  
10 that <sup>Seyouyah</sup> ~~Sequoyah~~ Program, and if I were to say yes, because I <sup>Exu</sup>  
11 think they did. If you were then to ask me, did I,  
12 therefore, believe that that program wasn't doing everything  
13 it should do, I would clearly say yes. My only hangup is, I  
14 don't know -- when you say Watts Bar, I don't know if they  
15 had one, or not.

16 Clearly, if you had -- if they had one -- and if  
17 they had one.

18 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

19 MR. WHITE: And, you know, obviously, these other  
20 things took place, certainly it's a sign.

21 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

22 MR. WHITE: It's a sign that management is not  
23 working very well, either, frankly.

24 MR. MURPHY: I would probably agree with that. So,  
25 you talked about these outside sources --

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1 MR. WHITE: Yeah.

2 MR. MURPHY: -- and feeding things in here, other  
3 than QTC. How many of them -- I mean, and we're talking --  
4 and we can talk about percentages. How many of them things  
5 do you think were generated outside of QTC?

6 MR. WHITE: First of all, I'm not sure which  
7 numbers I'm looking at, so it's, you know, at what point?

8 MS. BAUSER: These could be just QTC employees, and  
9 not include the outside employees.

10 MR. WHITE: These could be --

11 MR. MURPHY: Oh, I think probably they are.

12 MS. BAUSER: Okay.

13 MR. MURPHY: But I want to --

14 MR. WHITE: Okay, I don't know, because that number  
15 has fluctuated. And I tell you, the person I would prefer  
16 you to ask is Mr. Brown, who can explain to you, because I've  
17 asked many questions, as I've gotten reviews of the program,  
18 and the number changes. And I say why, and I sometimes get  
19 the answer, well, these are really included in those, above.  
20 And he's the expert, I think, who can track back the precise  
21 numbers, --

22 MR. MURPHY: Okay, I'm going to --

23 MR. WHITE: -- and where they all came from. I'm  
24 sorry.

25 MR. MURPHY: I'm going to to approach this a little

1 differently. Did anyone ever inform you that there was more  
2 than five thousand employee concerns registered with QTC?

3 MR. CHARNOFF: As of any time?

4 MR. MURPHY: Prior to March the 20th?

5 MR. CHARNOFF: Okay.

6 MR. WHITE: I feel certain that at that time, that  
7 I knew, whether someone informed me, or not, that I knew  
8 there were thousands. And five thousand is a round number,  
9 that there were thousands of employee concerns.

10 MR. MURPHY: Did anyone ever mention to you that of  
11 the some five thousand plus concerns registered at QTC, more  
12 than a thousand were safety related?

13 MR. WHITE: They were broken down at some point in  
14 time, as we developed the program to resolve them. They were  
15 broken down, whether there were a thousand, there was a large  
16 category of Quality Assurance related concerns. I don't  
17 recall any specific number.

18 MR. MURPHY: Did that number, whatever -- you say  
19 it's a large number, right, did that bother you, at all? I  
20 mean, were you concerned about this large number of employee  
21 concerns?

22 MR. WHITE: Of course. Of course, I was very  
23 concerned about it.

24 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

25 MR. WHITE: Very concerned.

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1 MR. MURPHY: And I guess my final -- did they have  
2 -- the fact that you had all of these employee concerns, have  
3 any impact, at all? Were they a consideration in the  
4 preparation of the March 20th letter?

5 MR. WHITE: A direct consideration, yes. Yes, they  
6 were.

7 MR. MURPHY: And did they have any impact on how  
8 you wrote the letter?

9 MR. WHITE: Yes, they did.

10 MR. MURPHY: And what -- in what way?

11 MR. WHITE: Well, that was part of what I was  
12 saying in the letter, that there were a lot of problems that  
13 we needed to --

14 MR. MURPHY: I'm listening, I didn't --

15 MR. WHITE: There were a lot of problems that  
16 needed to be investigated, to determine the merits of them.  
17 That's -- I didn't know where those things -- a better  
18 example, perhaps, than Quality Assurance is the welding.

19 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

20 MR. WHITE: The contractor had been there for a  
21 number of months before I arrived. I knew it would be many,  
22 many months, and maybe a year or two before they finished.  
23 And, so, -- and those -- a lot of the employee concerns  
24 caused that welding look. So, very definitely, that was  
25 troublesome to me, and that's the reason I wanted to make

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1 very clear to the NRC, that we had a lot of looking to do  
2 before I could say anything about the past construction or  
3 design of Watts Bar.

4 MR. MURPHY: Were you also aware that NSRS'  
5 perceptions, as they were stated, were kind of based on QTC  
6 supplying them with concerns, and then developing these  
7 concerns into these perceptions?

8 MR. WHITE: No, I only I had said before. What Mr.  
9 Sauer told me, is that they added a couple of items after.

10 MR. MURPHY: But you were not aware that as QTC's  
11 concerns come in, that NSRS folks at the site were reviewing  
12 these concerns, setting milestones to determine if they were  
13 safety related, or non-safety related, things like that?

14 MR. WHITE: As I recall Mr. Whitt's description of  
15 what was going on, it was that they were dividing, quite  
16 different than what you are saying. My recollection is that  
17 he told me that the NSRS was, in fact, investigating. And I  
18 think most -- I think, you know, maybe even two thirds of the  
19 concerns they were investigating, and that QTC was  
20 investigating, perhaps, one third. My impression was that  
21 they were very independent. That although QTC would complete  
22 theirs, and because NSRS was, as I said, contractually over  
23 them, the NSRS would look at it.

24 But my impression is, number one, they didn't add  
25 or detract anything from whatever QTC was saying. And, on

1 the other hand, the NSRS -- my recollection of what he told  
2 ~~me~~ <sup>me</sup> is that the NSRS was doing their own investigations, and <sup>EW</sup>  
3 coming to their own conclusions quite separate.

4 MR. MURPHY: I hope I haven't indicated to you that  
5 anything else but that was happening.

6 MR. WHITE: Oh, all right, fine. No, I thought you  
7 were saying something else. I'm sorry.

8 MR. MURPHY: No. I'm just saying that the  
9 perceptions that were presented by Mr. Sauer, --

10 MR. WHITE: Uh huh (affirmative).

11 MR. MURPHY: -- we've been told, were supported by  
12 the fact that these perceptions were generated from QTC  
13 concerns, as opposed to NSRS going out and doing their little  
14 audits, or investigations, whatever they do, right?

15 MR. WHITE: No, I wasn't informed of any such  
16 thing.

17 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

18 MR. WHITE: And Mr. Sauer gave me quite a different  
19 impression in what he told me.

20 MS. BAUSER: Could I clarify that. What -- can  
21 you, at this point, since we are talking about this  
22 particular discussion, reiterate what it is Mr. Sauer told  
23 you?

24 MR. WHITE: Within, specifically, as --

25 MS. BAUSER: As opposed to what the perceptions

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1 were based on when they were created

2 MR. WHITE: He indicated that he sat down with  
3 three individuals at the NSRS. And he, Sauer, was not  
4 familiar with the history. He said he sat down with one of  
5 the NSRS people, and, as I recall, said nothing during the  
6 entire conversation. That the other two individuals, whom I  
7 believe he said were Smith and either Mr. Washer or Mr.  
8 <sup>ully</sup> ~~Gotty~~, I don't recall which. The <sup>two</sup> ~~two~~ of them told him, well, Edu  
9 here are the issues -- here are the perceptions that we have.  
10 And my impression, very clearly, was that they were coming  
11 from those individuals.

12 And Mr. Sauer made it very clear to me, that after  
13 they had that list, he went to Mr. Thero, and Mr. Thero added  
14 two items to those perceptions. And that he, Sauer, then  
15 added the final perception, of construction not in  
16 compliance. And that he did that without input from either  
17 of the people who, in the NSRS, who had provided him their  
18 perceptions, or Mr. Thero, of QTC, who had added perceptions.  
19 And he did that quite independently. And, frankly, without  
20 any backup information.

21 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

22 MR. WHITE: That that was his perception, but he  
23 viewed it. And lest it appear that I'm being harsh, or hard  
24 on Mr. Sauer, he did not view this as some logically  
25 developed investigation of issues, backed up by a lot of

1 facts. And that was -- and I want to emphasize, again, that  
2 was not what I perceived the normal NSRS -- this was out of  
3 character. The reports that I have seen from the NSRS, in  
4 general, I categorize as pretty thorough, and well-written  
5 reports; backed up by whatever you want to back them up with.

6 So, this was a very, very -- and I don't know why.  
7 But a very, very abnormal occurrence; how it went, the whole  
8 thing.

9 MS. BAUSER: And you did not understand from Mr.  
10 Sauer, I take it, then, in response to the question from Mr.  
11 Murphy, that the basis for the perceptions, when they were  
12 originally stated, was a number of QTC allegations?

13 MR. WHITE: No, I did not. I did not understand  
14 that, at all.

15 MR. MURPHY: Did Mr. Sauer bother to tell you that  
16 the function of Mr. Smith and Mr. Washer, at this time, was  
17 reviewing QTC allegations?

18 MR. WHITE: No, he did not mention that.

19 MR. MURPHY: At Watts Bar?

20 MR. WHITE: He did not. I did not know that.

21 MR. REINHART: Mr. White?

22 MR. WHITE: And I still don't.

23 MR. MURPHY: Oh, okay.

24 MR. REINHART: Was this discussion that Mr. Sauer  
25 was relating to you, and I'm sorry if I missed this. Did he

1 say he talked to these people between the time that the  
2 original guy got sick, and he was given the assignment. And,  
3 then, he made the presentation? He went and talked to  
4 Washer, Smith, or ~~Galt~~<sup>Halt</sup> and Thero, to put this thing  
5 together. And, then, am I right in the sequence?

6 MR. WHITE: Yeah, that -- that's correct if, you  
7 know, he first is thrown in the breach. Kind of doesn't know  
8 what to do. In fact, he kind of used those words. Tried to  
9 find out, and went, then, through the sequence I've  
10 mentioned. And then gave the presentation.

11 MR. REINHART: Okay, did he mention who was  
12 originally supposed to give it?

13 MR. WHITE: He did, but I don't recall who it was.  
14 In fact, there may have been two people, originally, that --  
15 I don't remember, but I think there might well have been two  
16 people who were supposed to give it, and didn't. And, then,  
17 somehow, and it wasn't clear to me how he was chosen, but he  
18 was chosen to do that.

19 MR. REINHART: Okay.

20 MR. MURPHY: Prior to the departure of Mr. Parris,  
21 did you sit down with Mr. Parris, and talk about some of the  
22 historical problems at TVA?

23 MR. WHITE: No, I didn't.

24 MR. MURPHY: Were you, at any point, directed by  
25 the Board of Directors, upon assuming the position of Manager

1 of Nuclear Power, or Manager of Power and Engineering, or  
2 whatever it was called, that you ought to sit down and talk  
3 with Mr. Parris?

4 MR. WHITE: No, I wasn't not.

5 MR. MURPHY: Never directed to do that?

6 MR. WHITE: Never directed to do that.

7 MR. MURPHY: Did -- how did you learn of the letter  
8 of certification of fuel load that had been signed by Mr.  
9 Parris in February of 1985, and reaffirmed in April of 1985?

10 MR. WHITE: From Mr. Wegner, I believe. At some  
11 point in time, and I could categorize the time as either the  
12 day -- the date on the letter in which I withdrew the  
13 certification, or maybe the morning after that. And I  
14 believe it was Mr. Wegner who --

15 MS. BAUSER: You mean the morning before that,  
16 excuse me. It was either the day you withdrew the  
17 certification, or the morning before that?

18 MR. WHITE: Yes. Yes. Thank you.

19 MR. CHARNOFF: It's almost time to quit.

20 MR. WHITE: As I recall, it was Mr. Wegner, and he  
21 came in and said, "Did you know that there is presently on  
22 file at the NRC a request to license Watts Bar?" And I said,  
23 "No." And he said something like, do you recognize that  
24 because it's there, by the fact that you have not cancelled  
25 it, that it's really, now, your request. You know, it was

1 kind of like, are you ready to ask for a license for Watts  
2 Bar? And the answer was, no, cancel it. And that created  
3 quite a turmoil in my licensing organization, because I got  
4 after them.

5 That's something that I should have been told very  
6 early by my licensing people. So, we wrote a letter and  
7 cancelled it.

8 MR. MURPHY: But Mr. Parris never discussed this  
9 with you, at all?

10 MR. WHITE: No.

11 MR. MURPHY: I mean, you didn't ask what the  
12 conditions at Watts Bar was, or --

13 MR. WHITE: No. No. Mr. Parris almost disappeared  
14 from the scene the day after I arrived. He went to  
15 Knoxville, and he did some other things. I saw him once in  
16 passing on an airplane.

17 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

18 MR. WHITE: But that was it.

19 MR. MURPHY: I was going to ask you if Mr. Parris  
20 told you about an Employee Concern Survey they conducted in  
21 -- in Watts Bar and Bellefont, in late '84, and early 1985.  
22 But, instead, I'll say, are you aware that they conducted a  
23 survey of employees at these two sites? And I'll explain to  
24 you -- and let me give you a definition of what they actually  
25 did. They took a little card out with five questions on it,

1 and distributed it throughout, to every employee at Watts  
2 Bar, and every employee at Bellefont. They had them fill out  
3 the little blanks, like would you report something to your  
4 boss? Would you report something to -- do this -- a series  
5 of questions like that, and they responded. Were you -- are  
6 you aware, at all, of the results of that type of a survey?

7 MR. WHITE: I became aware, and I don't know at  
8 what point. But I became aware, I think through a report by  
9 QTC. They either had conducted such a survey, or they had  
10 evaluated the responses to the survey, or both. And I became  
11 aware at some point in time of that particular thing. I  
12 think I became aware of it through the Office of General  
13 Counsel for TVA.

14 MR. MURPHY: And by aware, what do you mean? Did  
15 they tell you the results of that thing?

16 MR. WHITE: The -- as I recall, the General Counsel  
17 telecopied to me a draft of, I think it was a QTC report on  
18 this subject. And I -- I viewed that, not in great depth,  
19 but I reviewed it.

20 MR. MURPHY: Do you remember your impressions of  
21 that -- of that survey?

22 MR. WHITE: Yes, some of them, certainly. One  
23 impression was -- was -- because it reminded me of my Navy  
24 time. It was, sailors will figure out a way to do something,  
25 even when ~~the~~<sup>their</sup> officers don't want them to, if they think it

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1 ought to be done. And that impression was formed by a very  
2 definite conclusion that, as I recall, that safety items --  
3 that a worker might know of a safety item. And that he might  
4 be afraid to bring that safety item to the attention of the  
5 appropriate level of management. And I'm not speaking on the  
6 veracity of the report, --

7 MR. MURPHY: Uh huh (affirmative).

8 MR. WHITE: -- I'm just recollecting what it  
9 indicated. So, the individual would have great trust and  
10 confidence in his immediate supervisor. And, so, would go to  
11 his immediate supervisor and say, I know of a safety problem.  
12 And the immediate supervisor would, then, perhaps wait a day  
13 or two. Apparently, in an effort to protect an individual.  
14 He would wait a day or two. And then report that safety item. *Edw*  
15 And maybe not tie it to the individual who reported it.

16 So, one of the impressions was -- was a good  
17 impression. It maybe was not meant that way in the report, *Edw*  
18 but it was a good impression that safety issues were getting  
19 -- were getting the attention, despite what may have been  
20 looked at, you know, perceived by the people as a very  
21 oppressive management attitude. *Edw*

22 MR. MURPHY: Do you recall anywhere in that survey  
23 where the question was, if you had a safety concern, would  
24 you report it to your immediate supervisor, and -- and the  
25 response was, like, twenty-five per cent said they would not

1 go directly to the immediate supervisor. Do you remember  
2 anything like that, Mr. White?

3 MR. WHITE: No, but I do have another recollection  
4 of the report, but I would have to go back and look at it.  
5 There were a number of things in that report that seemed  
6 self-contradictory to me. I would be less than honest if I  
7 didn't say that I -- the credence of the report, because of  
8 some things that seemed self-contradictory, it appeared in  
9 places like whoever authored it, and I don't know who  
10 authored it. But it would appear that -- we have to, now,  
11 stop and go off the record. I'm now back into QTC.

12 (Whereupon there was a pause in the proceedings.)

13 MR. CHARNOFF: Before the break, Mr. White was  
14 answering the question with regard to a report that was not  
15 identified by Mr. Murphy, and the report had not been given  
16 to him. And it was apparent that further speculation about  
17 what he remembered about the report was just leading to some  
18 confusion, because he wasn't clear as to whether they were  
19 talking about the same report. As a result, his answer has  
20 been curtailed.

21 MR. MURPHY: Mr. White, would you please explain to  
22 us your view of the activities of EG&G, and the Welding  
23 Program prior to submission of the March 20 letter?

24 MR. WHITE: That will be very difficult, because,  
25 of course, there is much subsequent information. I would

1 best categorize my knowledge as, there is kind of a two-  
2 phased program. Number one, to go in and determine if the  
3 program -- the Welding Program was in compliance with  
4 Appendix B. And, then, to check the implementation by  
5 inspecting welds, what the implementation of that program  
6 was.

7 MR. MURPHY: Have -- did they furnish you with any  
8 type of data as to the progress of their studies prior to  
9 the --

10 MR. CHARNOFF: What time limit?

11 MS. BAUSER: Prior to the March 20 letter.

12 MR. WHITE: They may have, but I don't recall. You  
13 know, I've already testified to the enormous number of  
14 things, and that may have been a report that I received, I  
15 don't recall at what point in time I was. I was familiar by  
16 June, whether I was by March, I simply don't recall.

17 MR. MURPHY: Had you appointed a coordinator, you  
18 know, someone who could -- who would be willing to, you know,  
19 that you directed to coordinate the efforts of EG&G with --  
20 with your office, or your staff?

21 MR. WHITE: I'm not sure I appointed a coordinator.  
22 There was a TVA individual who was involved with it, and I  
23 think that was a Mr. Martin. What his exact title was, I  
24 don't recall.

25 MR. MURPHY: Did he give you any feedback as to how

1 the program was doing, do you know?

2 MR. WHITE: Prior to the 20 March letter?

3 MR. MURPHY: Yes, sir.

4 MR. WHITE: I don't recall whether he did before 20  
5 March, <sup>or</sup> ~~not~~ not.

6 MR. MURPHY: Okay. Could you tell us a little bit  
7 about the new Employee Concern Program, if you want to call  
8 it that, that you instituted upon your arrival?

9 MR. WHITE: This is the program that they had  
10 planned out beforehand?

11 MR. MURPHY: I take it -- yes. Was Dick Denise --  
12 I think Dick Denise was placed in charge of that? Is that  
13 the same program, or are we --

14 MR. WHITE: No. No. No. Mr. Eric Sliger was put  
15 in charge of that program.

16 MR. MURPHY: Okay.

17 MR. CHARNOFF: Excuse me, you want to know a little  
18 bit about the program? Could you be a little bit more  
19 helpful.

20 MR. MURPHY: What he knows about it. What he knows  
21 about it.

22 MR. CHARNOFF: Oh, all right. Well, that might be  
23 a large amount.

24 MR. WHITE: Not by 20 March, but as of today, or as  
25 of any time?