



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS FIELD OFFICE, REGION IV  
612 EAST LAMAR BLVD, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4125

January 11, 2010

MEMORANDUM: Elmo E. Collins, Regional Administrator  
Region IV

FROM: Crystal D. Holland, Director *CH*  
Office of Investigations Field Office, Region IV

SUBJECT: COLUMBIA GENERATING STATION - FAILURE BY A CONTRACT  
SUPERVISOR TO ADHERE TO ALARA REGULATIONS  
(OI CASE NO. 4-2009-061/RIV-2009-A-0091)

On July 12, 2009, (b)(7)(C) with Williams Plant Services (WPS) at Energy Northwest's Columbia Generating Station (CGS), Richland, Washington, contacted the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) via e-mail to report a concern regarding a WPS supervisor at CGS ordering an (b)(7)(C) to ignore ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) regulations. According to (b)(7)(C) while performing work in the dry well, (b)(7)(C) WPS, was rotating a group of contractors through the dry well to maintain ALARA. (b)(7)(C) said (b)(7)(C) WPS, instructed (b)(7)(C) to use the same employees in the dry well until the job was complete. (b)(7)(C) stated that when he informed (b)(7)(C) of the ALARA policy, (b)(7)(C) disregarded the information, stating the workers would stay in the dry well until the job was complete, regardless of the ALARA policy.

7c  
On August 3, 2009, a Region IV (RIV) Allegation Review Board (ARB) met to discuss (b)(7)(C) allegation and requested that the Office of Investigations, RIV, initiate an investigation to determine if (b)(7)(C) willfully failed to adhere to ALARA requirements during the work in the dry well (Exhibit 1).

On August 26, 2009, (b)(7)(C) was interviewed by OI regarding the concerns that he had previously raised to the NRC. (b)(7)(C) testified that although (b)(7)(C) wanted to keep the same employees in the dry well until the work was finished, (b)(7)(C) instructed (b)(7)(C) to continue to rotate people through the dry well in order to keep the dose as low as possible. (b)(7)(C) noted that even though (b)(7)(C) was upset at this decision, he (b)(7)(C) continued the rotation until the assignment was complete (Exhibit 2).

The transcript of (b)(7)(C) testimony was subsequently provided to RIV Allegations to determine if there was a violation of NRC regulations. After reviewing the transcript, RIV Reactor Projects Branch and Radiation Protection advised that no additional concerns were identified and there were no violations of regulatory or licensee requirements (Exhibit 3).

*A/10*  
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No further action was requested by RIV staff; therefore, this investigation is hereby closed. Should any new information develop specific to conduct or actions involving willfulness or wrongdoing, OI:RIV will consider initiating supplementary investigative action as deemed appropriate.

Enclosure: Exhibit(s) 1-3

cc w/enclosure:

R. Zimmerman, OE

cc w/o enclosure:

C. Marco, OGC

E. Leeds, NRR (Attn: G. Cwalina, OAD, NRR)

E. Collins

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Distribution:  
s/f (4-2009-061)  
c/f  
N. Crouch, OI:HQ

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DATE	01/11/2010	01/11/2010		

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