ORIGINAL 07-117A-91 OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Agency:Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Incident Investigation TeamTitle:Nine Mile Point Nuclear, Power Plant
Interview of: ALFRED DENNY

Docket No.

1

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LOCATION: Scriba, New York

DATE: Sunday, august 18, 1991

PAGES: 1 - 13

ANN RILEY & ASSOCIATES, LTD. 1612 K St. N.W., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 293-3950.

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Exhibit 3-1 (continued)

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ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF Alfred T. Denny / SEPC (Name/Position)

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-3-

Page	Line	Correction and Reason for Correction
5	e.	RED to RECS
6	Z4	CAP-> Should be EAP-2
7	23	between "Unit One" and "then" in Sort allo
		So this live abound read in part ! "over to
		Unit One who then made "
8	2	"Res" shoud be "RECS"
-8	73	Add "Work" after "did not" so that this his
		Would read. " The Galtronics did not Work"
8	<u> </u>	The general thrust of this statuit is that
		I dill not locar the Unit one guilsonics annoncul
	······	unt I was not paying particular attention to the
7	15	gait nomice and Bonie in Elsa mout trave loade them.
		Change Charter to Charter
— <u></u>		DE 23 AM
		B 15:30 P
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Page 1 of 1 Signature <u>affel fi D comp</u> Date <u>8/23/9/</u>

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3	INCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM
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7	ALFRED DENNY :
8	(Closed) :
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11	Conference Room B
12	Administration Building
13	Nine Mile Point Nuclear
14	Power Plant, Unit Two
15	Lake Road
16	Scriba, New York 13093
17	Sunday, August 18, 1991
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20	at 2:12 p.m.
.21	PRESENT FOR THE IIT:
22	John Kauffman, NRC
23	Michael Jordan, NRC
24	PRESENT WITH MR. DENNY:
25	Jerry Helker, Niagara Mohawk

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PROCEEDINGS

[2:12 p.m.]

MR. KAUFFMAN: This is an interview associated with the Incident Investigation Team investigation of the August 13 event at Nine Mile Point Two. We're in the Nine Mile Point Two P Admin Building, and the date is August 18, 1991. The time is 2:12 p.m.

8 My name is John Kauffman. I'm with AEOD.

9 MR. JORDAN: My name is Michael Jordan. I'm with 10 the NRC, Region III.

MR. DENNY: My name is Alfred Denny, and I'm the site -- I should say the station emergency plan coordinator for Nine Mile Point Two.

MR. HELKER: My name is Jerry Helliker. I'm the
general supervisor of operations at Nine Mile Two, here at
Al Denny's request.

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MR. KAUFFMAN: Okay. Good.

To start out, we'd like you to tell us a little about your previous background and experience and jobs you've held prior to your current job -- a little bit about your work history

22 MR. DENNY: Okay. I started out in life as a high 23 school science teacher. I taught two years of high school 24 science and math in South Dakota, and I spent three years in 25 the United States Army, and I came back to South Dakota and

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taught two more years. Then, in 1968, I joined the General
Electric nuclear energy division as an engineering
assistant. I worked my way up to the title of associate
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7 Then I had the opportunity to go to the training 8 department and work with the Tulsa training center. At that 9 time, General Electric had established a product line of 10 BWR-6 and had two simulators. It had the Perry simulator 11 and the Black Box, and I worked as senior reactor operator 12 instructor on the Black Box simulator.

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MR. JORDAN: Let's stop.

19 [Pause for announcement on public address system.] 20 MR. DENNY: So I worked in their operations 21 department, and I worked in the independent safety 22 engineering group. More recently, I'm back in the 23 operations department, for about the last six months. 24 My current assignment is the station emergency 25 plan coordinator. At the time of the incident, I had gone

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to work at 6 p.m. the previous evening. At the time of the incident, I was turning over to my relief, Tom Tuttle, at 6 a.m. -- it was actually before 6 -- on the 13th of August.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Okay.

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5 When the event started and happened, I'd like you 6 to just`run through what you saw, what you did, and 7 basically describe what happened.

8 MR. DENNY: Okay. Our desk is actually in the 9 corner of the control room behind the fire panel. The first 10 indication of the incident was that there was a dramatic 11 dimming of the lights. Tom Tuttle and I walked out from 12 behind the panel, and the CSO also announced -- I believe it 13 was the CSO -- that we had lost all of our annunciators.

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9 Then, once the power had been restored to the 10 panels, it was obvious that things were under control.

MR. HELKER: For clarification, for your benefit, when he says "our desk," he means the SEPC desk, behind the fire panel.

14MR. KAUFFMAN: The SEPC function is a little15unusual. It's not in most places in the industry.

16 MR. HELKER: I think the functions are in the 17 industry.

18 MR. KAUFFMAN: The functions are, but he actual
19 job is --

20 MR. HELKER: The actual individual performing 21 those functions may not be.

22 MR. KAUFFMAN: I guess I'd like it if you could 23 just kind of describe not what you did, but just in general 24 what the SEPC's duties are.

25 MR. DENNY: Okay. The SEPC was actually brought

1 out, I believe, historically, at this site, because, once we 2 exceeded the necessary fifteen-minute notification period 3 from the time that the event was declared. So it appeared 4 to be an over-burden problem for the SSS. The SSS was 5 simultaneously trying to operate in the EOPs, the emergency 6 operating procedures, and to go into the emergency plan. 7 The idea was to allow him to work within the EOPs to 8 stabilize the plant, and yet to provide him some assistance 9 in meeting the requirements of immediate notification and 10 the emergency plan.

Basically, the shift emergency plan coordinator is working with the communications aide to fill out the forms necessary to make the immediate notification.

We also have, according to the emergency administrative procedures, the EAPs, an SSS's checklist. Initially, during an event, the SSS is the site emergency director, and so the SEPC function not only helps him meet his communication requirements, but it helps him meet his duties as the site emergency director.

MR. JORDAN: You say you suggested the classification of the event. Can you give us an idea what was its classification that you suggested to him?

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10 That brought us into this particular category. 11 Also prior to showing that to the SSS I had shown 12 it to the oncoming ASSS, a guy by the name of Don Bosnic. 13 Once he and I saw or appeared to agree on that 14 classification then I went forward and talked to the SSS. 15 MR. KAUFFMAN: Okay. We know that that UPS's 16 affected some of the communications equipment, such as 17 Gaitronics.

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5 MR. JORDAN: Did you hear any of the notification 6 when Unit One made their notification in your control room? 7 MR. DENNY: No. The Gaitronics did not. I had no 8 -- in the press of events that these things made, others may 9 have heard them but I you know did not hear them.

10 MR. KAUFFMAN: How were the notification forms 11 filled out? Who gathers -- what is the process? Who 12 gathers the information and where do they get it?

MR. DENNY: It is a joint effort between the site emergency planning coordinator and the communications aide and it is whoever feels the most familiar with getting the particular information because they will have varying degrees of experience and that person will gather the data.

These forms are on a 8 1/2 by 11 sheet that has stick-um on the top and you can just rip off the forms, so you can carry it around as a pad and gather the data and then return it to the telephone or the communication aide.

In this particular instance the communication aide was making the notifications and filling out the initial things on this form like what the site was and what the time was and then I was gathering the details for him.

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1 Then I would carry it up to the SSS and the SSS 2 would read what I had said and then sign it and I would 3 return it to the communications aide.

MR. KAUFFMAN: You had no difficulty getting all the information parameters you needed, even with the loss of instrumentation or were there some data you couldn't get?

7 MR. DENNY: I was able to get all the data that I 8 needed for that form because the -- it was largely 9 meteorological data that we're requested to put on that 10 form and all the meteorological instruments were powered.

11 You could verify, it was possible to say that 12 water level you know was under control because on the 603 13 panel -- 601 I believe it is -- the ECCS panel?

MR. HELKER: 601.

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MR. DENNY: 601 panel. The charter recorders were working and it was possible to verify the SRMs or the neutron monitoring being down on the SRMs because three of the source range monitors were working.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Just kind of a, I guess a followup, I haven't seen your form but most forms have something about a stack rate or perhaps in-plant rad levels. Do you have any of that information on your forms?

23 MR. DENNY: Yes. The forms says. It also gives 24 us the option to say that a release is not applicable. So 25 in this instance a release was not applicable but there is

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definitely a place on that form for that data.

2 MR. JORDAN: I take it you have been or have not 3 been ever licensed as an operator?

MR. DENNY: I have never been licensed. I was set for the license class and I passed, you know, the local and I passed the written but I have never passed the -- at one time failing the walkthrough and another time the simulator.

8 MR. JORDAN: You say three SRMs were working? 9 MR. DENNY: Yes. The ASRM we had a problem with 10 an IRM drawer and so the ASRM was removed from service 11 during that incident so we had -- or due to maintenance 12 prior to that incident -- and so we had B, C and D showing 13 indication.

14 MR. JORDAN: A was removed prior to the event?
15 MR. DENNY: Yes.

MR. JORDAN: You mentioned that when you started out that you were, the location of your desk that you noticed a significant dimming in the lights?

MR. DENNY: Yes. That didn't last long but it was enough to like somebody hitting you over the head with something to call your attention to it.

22 MR. JORDAN: Did the lights come back in the area 23 where you had access?

24 MR. DENNY: Yes. It appeared to me that it was a 25 general dimming but the light level in the control room

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thereafter was sufficient.

2 MR. JORDAN: Okay, you noticed no other areas of 3 dimming lights in the area?

4 MR. DENNY: I didn't go any further than the 5 control room but in the control room I noticed no 6 deficiency in the lighting.

7 MR. KAUFFMAN: When people came into the control 8 room did you hear any reports of areas in the plant having 9 lights out?

10 MR. DENNY: I didn't. If I did, I didn't pay any 11 attention to what they were saying. It didn't register in 12 my brain anyhow.

13MR. HELKER: May I ask a question to clarify?14MR. KAUFFMAN: Sure.

MR. HELKER: Was it the actual lighting dimmed or the level of lighting went down because the annunciator lights went out?

18 MR. DENNY: I actually believe that the lights19 dimmed. It struck me that the lights dimmed.

20 MR. KAUFFMAN: The overhead lights?

21 MR. DENNY: The overhead lights, although it could 22 have been, you know, it's entirely subjective but it struck 23 me that the overhead lights had dimmed.

24 MR. KAUFFMAN: We have heard from other people 25 that this started with a loud pop. Did you hear any loud

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1 pop?

2 MR. DENNY: I have no recollection. That didn't 3 stick in my mind.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Emergency planning is not in the charter, and the emergency response really isn't in the charter of our investigation so I think that this may be about it for this interview.

8 MR. JORDAN: Is there anything that you know of, 9 `something that we haven't covered, that you would like to 10 put on the record right now for information?

11MR. DENNY: I can't think of anything.12MR. JORDAN: Okay.

MR. KAUFFMAN: I guess a general question we normally ask too is if there was anything that helped you respond to this, that helped make it really go well, or if there was any area where you said, wow, I wish I'd have had this or this procedure was really -- held us up here.

Do you have any suggestions or any compliments for things that were there that worked really well?

20 MR. DENNY: I think that the general level of 21 training definitely contributed to the positive outcome and 22 it reduced, you know, any potential for panic.

I also think that the operations department has a very high degree of professionalism and this also benefitted the positive outcome of this event, but I didn't myself see

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7	anything nothing sticks in my mind that needed improving.
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2.	no particular event or no particular procedure that I ran
3	across that needed improvement.
4	MR. KAUFFMAN: That concludes the interview.
5	[Whereupon, at 2:32 p.m., the taking of the
6	interview was concluded.]
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

in the matter of:

NAME OF PROCEEDING: 'Int. of ALFRED DENNY

DOCKET NUMBER:

PLACE OF PROCEEDING: Scriba, N.Y.

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.

JON HUNDLEY Official Reporter Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.

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ANN RILEY & ASSOCIATES, LTD. 1612 K St. N.W., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 293-3950.

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Exhibit 3-1 (continued)

ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF Alfred To Denny (Name/Position) <u>' 587</u>0

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Correction and Reason for Correction Page Line 2[.] RED to RECS Z4 Should CAP-> EAP~2 Je "they in sort bitw con 23 and Unit in past ! " over to arand 100 wit One who tren on a de 8. R Rcs " is a that 73 Tal the state ATT 1.4 this his 11 . did not work เมธ์แปล์ Gaitsa is that g 7 ୍ଦ this statut thous + 2010 Min D +110 C (In annoncul elso mout love band them. I was not moin particula antramics and some a 15 to chat Charton 2 hinde m₄ 4 13 ŝ, 217.5 3.20 we show a 4 1.5 ί- . . £

Page 1 of 1 Signature allol ti D. Date 8/23/9/ any.



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1 definitely a place on that form for that data.

2 MR. JORDAN: I take it you have been or have not 3 been ever licensed as an operator?

MR. DENNY: I have never been licensed. I was set for the license class and I passed, you know, the local and I passed the written but I have never passed the -- at one time failing the walkthrough and another time the simulator.

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MR. JORDAN: You say three SRMs were working? MR. DENNY: Yes. The ASRM we had a problem with

10 an IRM drawer and so the ASRM was removed from service 11 during that incident so we had -- or due to maintenance 12 prior to that incident -- and so we had B, C and D showing 13 indication.

14 MR. JORDAN: A was removed prior to the event?
15 MR. DENNY: Yes.

16 MR. JORDAN: You mentioned that when you started 17 out that you were, the location of your desk that you 18 noticed a significant dimming in the lights?

19 MR. DENNY: Yes. That didn't last long but it was 20 enough to like somebody hitting you over the head with 21 something to call your attention to it.

22 MR. JORDAN: Did the lights come back in the area 23 where you had access?

24 MR. DENNY: Yes. It appeared to me that it was a 25 general dimming but the light level in the control room

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thereafter was sufficient.

2 MR. JORDAN: Okay, you noticed no other areas of 3 dimming lights in the area? I didn't go any further than the 4 MR. DENNY: 5 control room but in the control room I noticed no deficiency in the lighting. 6 7 MR. KAUFFMAN: When people came into the control 8 room did you hear any reports of areas in the plant having 9 lights out? 10 I didn't. If I did, I didn't pay any MR. DENNY: attention to what they were saying. It didn't register in 11 12 my brain anyhow. MR. HELKER: May I ask a question to clarify?

13 14 MR. KAUFFMAN: Sure.

15 MR. HELKER: Was it the actual lighting dimmed or 16 the level of lighting went down because the annunciator lights went out? 17

I actually believe that the lights 18 MR. DENNY: 19 It struck me that the lights dimmed. dimmed.

20 MR. KAUFFMAN: The overhead lights?

21 MR. DENNY: The overhead lights, although it could 22 have been, you know, it's entirely subjective but it struck 23 me that the overhead lights had dimmed.

24 MR. KAUFFMAN: We have heard from other people that this started with a loud pop. Did you hear any loud 25

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1 pop?

2 MR. DENNY: I have no recollection. That didn't 3 stick in my mind.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Emergency planning is not in the charter, and the emergency response really isn't in the charter of our investigation so I think that this may be about it for this interview.

8 MR. JORDAN: Is there anything that you know of, 9 something that we haven't covered, that you would like to 10 put on the record right now for information?

11MR. DENNY: I can't think of anything.12MR. JORDAN: Okay.

MR. KAUFFMAN: I guess a general question we normally ask too is if there was anything that helped you respond to this, that helped make it really go well, or if there was any area where you said, wow, I wish I'd have had this or this procedure was really -- held us up here.

Do you have any suggestions or any compliments for things that were there that worked really well?

20 MR. DENNY: I think that the general level of 21 training definitely contributed to the positive outcome and 22 it reduced, you know, any potential for panic.

I also think that the operations department has a very high degree of professionalism and this also benefitted the positive outcome of this event, but I didn't myself see

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1	anything nothing sticks in my mind that needed improving,
2	no particular event or no particular procedure that I ran
3	across that needed improvement.
4	MR. KAUFFMAN: That concludes the interview.
·5	[Whereupon, at 2:32 p.m., the taking of the
6	interview was concluded.]
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

in the matter of:

NAME OF PROCEEDING: 'Int. of ALFRED DENNY

DOCKET NUMBER:

PLACE OF PROCEEDING: Scriba, N.Y.

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.

JON HUNDLEY Official Reporter Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.

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