OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Agency: Nuclear Regulatory Commission Incident Investigation Team Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Plant Title:

Interview of: JIM GRAFF

Docket No.

Scriba, New York LOCATION:

DATE: Wednesday, August 21, 1991

PAGES: 1 - 23

ANN RILEY & ASSOCIATES, LTD. 1612 K St. N.W., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 293-3950. 93-8-5-9-7-8-2-43ь *с*. .

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Exhibit 3-1 (continued)

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-3-ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF Jim GRAFF (Name/Position) Line Page Correction and Reason for Correction STARTER SHOULD be STATOR 24 12 12 12 бe 2 SHOULd 1 6 . 3 . . ٠. • ÷ 5 ٠ Page ______ Signature___ _ Date<u>8 \$3/9</u>/

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1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2	NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
3	INCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM
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6	Interview of :
7	JIM GRAFF :
8	(Closed) :
9	
10	
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	Wednesday, August 21, 1991
18	
19	The interview commenced, pursuant to notice,
20	at 3:32 p.m.
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22	PRESENT FOR THE IIT:
23	Michael Jordan, NRC
24	John Kauffman, NRC
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1 PROCEEDINGS [3:32 p.m.] 2 MR. JORDAN: Good afternoon. It's August 21st, 3 It's 3:30 in the afternoon. 4 1991. We are at the Nine Mile Point, Unit Two, in the P 5 6 building. We are conducting interviews concerning the 7 transient that occurred on August 13th, 1991. My name is Michael Jordan. I am with the NRC, out 8 9 of Region III. 10 MR. KAUFFMAN: John Kauffman, out of NRC 11 headquarters. 12 MR. GRAFF: I'm Jim Graff. I'm a reactor operator 13 at Nine Mile Point, Two. MR. JORDAN: Okay, Jim. Can you just give me an 14 15 idea what your background is? 16 MR. GRAFF: Okay. I was a reactor operator for 17 six years in the Navy and I got out in 1982. 18 I was hired for Unit Two but before that they sent 19 us over to Unit One. I licensed there as a reactor 20 operator and then I came over to Unit Two and I have been 21 licensed here for five to six years -- I don't know exactly. 22 MR. JORDAN: Do you know when you licensed on Unit 23 One? 24 MR. GRAFF: Like '83 or '84. I got out of the Navy in '82, so I have been here 25

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1 almost nine years.

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2 MR. JORDAN: So you are an RO?

MR. GRAFF: Yes.

4 MR. JORDAN: Okay. Are you on midshifts or were 5 you on day shifts?

6 MR. GRAFF: I just came in that morning for day 7 shift.

8 MR. JORDAN: Okay. Why don't you give us an idea 9 what time you showed up and just walk us through, as you 10 came through the gate.

MR. GRAFF: Okay. I got there just after 6:00 and the Security guards wouldn't let me in so I called the control room, got the ASSS that was coming on shift to tell them to let me in, so they let me in and I got to the control room about 6:10 and the first thing the SSS told me to do was to send someone down to locally find out what condenser vacuum was, because --

18 MR. JORDAN: Can I ask you, as you traversed 19 through the gates up to the control room, did you go 20 directly to the control room to the locker room?

21 MR. GRAFF: Directly to the control room. I knew 22 something was wrong.

23 MR. JORDAN: In your traversing to the control 24 room, can you give us an idea of the way you went and what 25 the lighting was like between --



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MR. GRAFF: The emergency lighting was on in the 1 staircase I went up by the elevator there in the control 2 I went up the stairs there and I could tell all 3 building. the emergency lighting was on and everything else was off. 4 MR. JORDAN: When you say emergency lighting, 5 there's battery packs in the wall? 6 7 MR. GRAFF: Right. MR. JORDAN: Those were on? 8 MR. GRAFF: Yes -- well, I don't even think those 9 10 were on. I think the thing was pretty much dark. It was dark? 11 MR. JORDAN: 12 MR. GRAFF: Yes. The stairwell was dark? 13 MR. JORDAN: 14 MR. GRAFF: Right. 15 MR. JORDAN: Which stairwell did you go up? 16 MR. GRAFF: By the elevator there, control room 17 elevator. 18 MR. JORDAN: What building is that called? 19 It's really the aux service building, MR. GRAFF: 20 I guess you would call it. That's by the elevator? 21 MR. JORDAN: 22 MR. GRAFF: Right. 23 MR. JORDAN: You took the stairway or hallway to the --24 306 elevation. 25 MR. GRAFF:

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MR. JORDAN: 306? That's the control room 1 2 elevation? 3 MR. GRAFF: Yes.

MR. JORDAN: From the stairwell to the control 4 room, lighting no problem or a problem? 5

MR. GRAFF: You could see but it was darker than б 7 normal.

MR. JORDAN: Okay, you get to the control room. 8 9 How was the control room?

MR. GRAFF: It was quiet. All the lights were on 10 11 though. At that time I didn't know -- had no idea what had 12 even happened.

MR. JORDAN: A lot of people in the control room? 13 Did it look chaotic or did it look like they were -14

15 MR. GRAFF: It was calm but I didn't know what was 16 going on. There was the SSS, the ASSS, the CSO was there 17 and I think at that time there was like four other ROS, four or five other ROs in the room. 18

19 MR. JORDAN: But it looked like everything was, 20 communications were going well?

21 MR. GRAFF: Yes.

22 MR. JORDAN: Okay, I'm sorry, you say that you were assigned? 23

24 MR. GRAFF: The very first thing the SSS told me 25 was -- I told him I'm available and the very first thing he

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1 told me to find out what condenser vacuum was locally 2 because the meters were failed downscale in the control 3 room.

So I had come up with a non-licensed operator up the stairs so I sent -- I went out. Well, first I tried to call him on the here-here and found out the here-here's didn't work and that's when everybody told me what happened.

9 I went out. He was in the hallway. They were 10 going over to our room where the operators hang out, the 11 Beehive there.

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MR. JORDAN: Beehive.

MR. GRAFF: I told him we needed condenser vacuum locally so he went to go get it. I had given him a radio and then I found out those didn't work either and he went down there an I went back in the control room.

Before he even called back to tell me what it was, they had restored the UPS's, powered the UPS's at I would guess 630, 640, something like that.

. 20 We got vacuum indication back then.

21 MR. JORDAN: Okay?

22 MR. GRAFF: Okay, and then the SSS told me to get 23 a condensate booster pump running to restore level and me 24 and another RO, Chuck Gerberich, who was --

25 MR. JORDAN: Was this before or after the power

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1 had returned?

2 MR. GRAFF: I would say after. I can't say for 3 sure but I am pretty sure it was after the power had been 4 returned.

5 MR. JORDAN: Did he say get condensate-condensate 6 booster --

The condensate booster pump running, 7 MR. GRAFF: so by that time there was a lot more operators in the 8 control room and there was a couple -- I'm told a couple of 9 non-licensed operators to go down, make sure the AA booster 10 11 pumps are ready to run and one of them to go to the con-12 demin panel to make sure everything looked all right there, 13 so they took off to go do that and then maybe ten minutes, fifteen minutes later they called back and said everything 14 15 looked good down there. We started the AA condensate 16 booster pump up.

MR. JORDAN: Were no condensate booster pumpsoperating?

MR. GRAFF: Right. When I went in there the only thing running was the AA condensate pump. Everything else was green flagged. I didn't know it at the time but afterwards they told me they had shut them off. I knew they didn't trip because they weren't red flagged. They were green flagged.

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MR. JORDAN: So no condensate pumps tripped. Did

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they turn off all the condensate water booster pumps? 1 I guess they got up to level two -- or 2 MR. GRAFF: 202 inches in the vessel so they shut everything but the AA 3 4 condensate pump off. 5 MR. KAUFFMAN: By "green flag" you mean the breaker position --6 MR. GRAFF: Took it to stop. Right, if you go to 7 8 stop you got a green flag. 9 MR. KAUFFMAN: You're not talking the light, 10 you're talking the --11 MR. GRAFF: Well, right. You have the green 12 light. 13 MR. KAUFFMAN: Right. 14 MR. GRAFF: But you also have the green flag, If it tripped, if it was running and it tripped you 15 right? 16 would have the green light and a red flag. 17 MR. JORDAN: Okay, so all the green flags were 18 aligned with the green lights --19 MR. GRAFF: Right. 20 MR. JORDAN: Which indicated that they were 21 turned off? 22 MR. GRAFF: Someone turned them off. 23 MR. JORDAN: So that any condensate pump running 24 and you're getting ready to start the A condensate booster, right? 25 Okay.

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MR. GRAFF: So we got the procedure out and we 1 went per the startup procedure and later on that sort of 2 messed us up a little, caused a problem later down the line 3 after we got - well, we got the pump started and it started 4 fine. Everything was good and reactor pressure at that time 5 was like 640 or so and we had like 680 discharge pressure, 6 the booster pump, and so we thought we were all ready to 7 feed up and we tried feeding with an LB55 valve and we 8 couldn't get any flow. I think level at this time was like 9 10 133 inches.

I wasn't getting flow so we tried the LV137 which 11 has its own separate, that bypass -- well, we got the 12 booster pump running and in the startup procedure for the 13 booster pump one of the first things is to verify that the 14 15 suction valves, the 84 valves, of the feed pump, shut those. 16 So those were shut --MR. JORDAN: What were those numbers? 17 18 MR. GRAFF: 84s. MR. JORDAN: 84s to the suction to the --19 MR. GRAFF: -- feed pump. I went to open on it 20 21 and I had the green and the red light which I thought the valve was stroking open, so that's when I tried to feed 22 while it was going open but I didn't get an indication that 23

24 I was feeding.

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MR. JORDAN: Which valves did you try to open?

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MR. GRAFF: 1 84A. MR. JORDAN: So originally you had closed them --2 3 MR. GRAFF: Per procedure. MR. JORDAN: To start the A condensate booster 4 5 pump? MR. GRAFF: Right. We closed all three of them 6 7 per procedure. 8 MR. JORDAN: Then after you got the pump 9 operating --10 MR. GRAFF: I attempted to open it. MR. JORDAN: You tried to open the 84s? 11 12 MR. GRAFF: Right. 13 MR. JORDAN: And A84 and --MR. GRAFF: -- and then I had a red and a green 14 light, indicating to me that the valve's gone open, so I'm 15 figuring while it's partially open I am going to try to 16 17 feed, but I couldn't with the LV55. I couldn't get any flow in. 18 19 MR. JORDAN: The LV55s were closed? 20 MR. GRAFF: They were closed originally so -- and we also tried to feed with an LV10A which you have meters 21 22 for flow indication and I wasn't getting anything so we 23 decided to go try the 137, because that bypasses the feed 24 pumps. Then after a while we said, well, let's see what 25

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happens when we go closed with the 84 valve and the close
light immediately came on, indicating to us that it never
stroked at all.

Once I opened the LV137, that has a separate meter. I was putting in about 600 gallons per minute and level was -- Mark Bodoh, he was monitoring reactor water level, and --

8 MR. JORDAN: How many gallons? What did you say? 9 MR. GRAFF: 600 -- and he told me we were 10 increasing about one inch every five to ten minutes, level 11 was going up. The SSS was happy with that because earlier he 12 had told me not -- once I get feed established, not to feed 13 to fast because he didn't want to cool down too fast, so we 14 had a good feed rate and we were in control of it.

MR. JORDAN: About one inch per minute?
MR. GRAFF: About one inch every five minutes I
would say it was going up.

18 MR. JORDAN: Sorry, go ahead.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Do you have any explanation for why the 84 valve didn't open?

21 MR. GRAFF: I think there's just too much of a 22 differential pressure across the valve and the procedure 23 that we were using was assuming the system shut down and 24 there is a manual bypass valve around the 84 and we asked 25 the SSS can we send someone out there but at the time they

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didn't know what the radiation levels in the turbine building were because all the radiation monitoring wad down because of the problem, so he said no, as long as we are feeding with the 137 we are not going to send anybody in to open that bypass.

Normally you would open the bypass and then open
that valve and close the bypass but the procedure we were
using was for starting up cold.

9 MR. KAUFFMAN: Do you happen to know the number of 10 that procedure?

MR. GRAFF: I think it is OPE-3.

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MR. JORDAN: Is that your normal startupprocedure?

MR. GRAFF: Yes, for condensate system.

MR. JORDAN: Okay, so now you got the AA condensate pump on. You've got the AA condensate booster pump on.

MR. GRAFF: Okay -- then some time in there -MR. JORDAN: You are feeding through the LV137-MR. GRAFF: Right.

21 MR. JORDAN: -- water is going to come up about an 22 inch per five minutes.

23 MR. GRAFF: The we got an annunciator for high 24 starter temperature on the AA condensate pump, so we told 25 the SSS that and we all decided -- well, he told us just get

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1 another condensate pump running, so we started the B
2 condensate pump and within five minutes that starter water
3 high temperature alarm had cleared and when we started that
4 our discharge pressure out the booster pump went up to like
5 740, 760, so that increased our feed a little bit more.

6 MR. KAUFFMAN: Do you have an explanation for why 7 starting that pump would have caused the pump starter water 8 temperature to come down?

9 MR. GRAFF: Yeah, it was working too hard. It was 10 supplying all the suction for the booster pump.

MR. JORDAN: How do you normally operate? Do you normally operate -- 12 on 1, 3 on 1?

MR. GRAFF: Normally we, up at power, 100 percent power, we have three condensate pumps and two booster pumps.

15 MR. JORDAN: And how many feed?

16 MR. GRAFF: Two.

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17 MR. JORDAN: Two feedwater pumps.

18 MR. GRAFF: Right.

MR. JORDAN: Okay -- discharge from the condensate, from the booster pump increased after starter -how did the flow increase? The flow go up also?

22 MR. GRAFF: A little bit, yes, 50, maybe 50 23 gallons per MOR. It's basically the same flow rate -- or 24 basically the same feed rate, a little better. 25 MR. JORDAN: Okay.

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The rest of the time I monitored water 1 MR. GRAFF: level increasing, and kept the SSS informed and meanwhile he 2 told another RO, R.J. Reynolds, to commence a cooldown, so 3 he was doing that and the two of us were sort of working 4 together because as he cooled down I was feeding more. 5 MR. JORDAN: Does this got an automatic level 6 7 controller? MR. GRAFF: Yes, it does. 8 9 MR. JORDAN: That you can put it on? Did you put it on level or did you maintain manual? 10 11 MR. GRAFF: I maintained manual. It was full open the whole time until we started to get up close to the band. 12 Then he gave me a band of 159.3 to 202.3 and we ended up 13 getting in a normal band and stabilizing and putting it in 14 15 auto. MR. JORDAN: But you did put it in auto? 16 17 MR. GRAFF: Yes. 18 MR. JORDAN: And it looked okay in auto, it 19 fluctuated --20 MR. GRAFF: It was fine. 21 It looked good in auto? MR. JORDAN: 22 MR. GRAFF: Right. 23 MR. JORDAN: Do you have any idea about what time that was? 24 No, I don't. I told the SSS. He might 25 MR. GRAFF:

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1 have logged it. I don't know.

2 MR. JORDAN: So you got up to between 159.3 and 3 202.3 and put it in auto and how did the rest of your day 4 go?

5 MR. GRAFF: It was pretty slow really. We had a 6 lot of coverage there because we had three shifts on, coming 7 in on days.

8 MR. JORDAN: Did you feel restrained, like people 9 were backing around you and you couldn't do your work?

10 MR. GRAFF: Actually I thought that everybody did 11 good. They communicated, everybody worked together. They 12 did fine.

At one point they made an announcement anybody not doing anything that's not responsible to please leave, so that cleared out and shortly after that, once we knew it was in auto, you know, I told the CSO everything and I left too, just to keep down the congestion.

18 MR. JORDAN: Are you on normal days? Are you a 19 relief?

I am a relief operator.

21 MR. JORDAN: You are a relief operator? 22 MR. GRAFF: Yes.

MR. GRAFF:

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MR. JORDAN: As a relief operator, what does that -- are you assigned a normal rotating shift or you're on days --

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MR. GRAFF: You cover for vacations when people 1 2 go on vacation or are sick. You cover for the RO position. 3 MR. JORDAN: But normally you come in days and if 4 everything is hunky-dory, peachy-keen you just come in and 5 you are available? MR. GRAFF: Right, you assist the shift that is 6 7 on. 8 MR. JORDAN: So once you were no longer needed, 9 you turn the responsibility for the feedwater to the --10 Right. It was in auto and the CSO MR. GRAFF: knew it and his control room E knew it so they monitored it. 11 12 MR. JORDAN: And you left. Do you know what time 13 you left the control room? 14 MR. GRAFF: No, I don't. 15 MR. JORDAN: During this time any piece of 16 equipment not functioning the way you anticipated it to 17 function? 18 MR. GRAFF: the 84 valves. 19 MR. JORDAN: But that you said--20 MR. GRAFF: Now I know why but at the time we were 21 wondering why aren't we getting any feed because we thought 22 that valve was going open, you know? 23 MR. JORDAN: Okay, any other pieces of equipment 24 not functioning well? 25 MR. GRAFF: I knew they were having trouble with

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the turning gear but I wasn't involved in it in any way. I was taking care of the feed system but, you know, the person that was talking to them on the radio was a few feet from me.

MR. JORDAN: Okay. Do you know if they 5 transferred power from the maintenance power on the UPS's 6 7 back to normal power when you were in the control room? Yes. I remember them doing that. 8 MR. GRAFF: MR. JORDAN: How did you get that information? 9 MR. GRAFF: I could hear the CSO and the SSS 10 11 talking back and forth.

By then everything was pretty much -- I was just standing back monitoring so I could pick up what was going around the room.

MR. JORDAN: And that was via Gaitronics? What communications did they use did you overhear?

MR. GRAFF: I think that they were on the radio MR. JORDAN: Radio. Any communications in the control room that let people know that that's what their intention of doing and what they were doing?

21 MR. GRAFF: Yes, there was. They did updates and 22 stuff. The SSS would give an update and say this is what we 23 are doing and what we are planning on doing.

24 MR. JORDAN: Did you have a feeling for when you 25 knew when that was going to happen, the transfer?

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MR. GRAFF: Actual time? No, I don't. 1 I mean not the actual time -- that 2 MR. JORDAN: you knew that that was coming and that you were prepared for 3 it? 4 5 MR. GRAFF: Yes. MR. JORDAN: He let you know that? 6 7 MR. GRAFF: Yes. MR. JORDAN: It wasn't just a monitoring of his 8 9 radio that you found out about it? 10 MR. GRAFF: No, he did updates. This is what's going on and --11 12 MR. JORDAN: Questions? Okay, this is the good news, bad news kind of a 13 14 question. MR. GRAFF: Okay. 15 16 It's the type of thing that says for MR. JORDAN: 17 the activities that you were involved with, what piece of equipment did you -- if there is a piece of equipment that 18 19 you say, gee, I'm glad I had that, okay, because that really 20 assisted me in accomplishing the work I was assigned to. 21 The other end of it it says, gee, I wish I would 22 have had this piece of equipment, okay, because it really would have helped me accomplishing my missions and that can 23 24 be a myriad of things. 25 MR. KAUFFMAN: Could be knowledge, procedures,

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1 training --

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2 MR. JORDAN: Training procedures --3 MR. KAUFFMAN: -- flashlight for walking around in 4 the dark.

MR. JORDAN: The classic example is the guy that 5 goes out in the plant, says gee, I'm glad this wrench was б hanging on this valve because when I went to operate the 7 valve I needed the wrench and the other guy that goes out 8 9 there in the plant and says, gee, I wish that wrench --10 that valve would have had a wrench hanging on it because when I operated I had to go in and get a wrench and it would 11 have been of more benefit to me to have the wrench hanging 12 there. 13

14 It can be training. It can be procedures -- and 15 it can be nothing. You may say there was nothing really 16 that was of more benefit than what was normal in the control 17 room.

18 MR. GRAFF: Oh, I wish I could have been able to 19 feed with the normal 55 or LV10.

20 MR. KAUFFMAN: How important was that to you? 21 MR. GRAFF: Well, at first I was like worried how 22 to get water in.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Would you like to have known that that valve probably wouldn't stroke back open?

MR. GRAFF: Yes, I would have liked it. I would

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1 have liked to have known that.

2 MR. KAUFFMAN: But you'd have still been stuck by 3 a procedure telling you to shut it?

MR. GRAFF: I wouldn't have been -- right. If I knew I think I would have started it without shutting it, if I knew, because the worst part is I waited before I opened the 137 because I thought that valve was going open because I had green and red light.

9 It was -- level wasn't going down but it wasn't 10 going back up so the 137 -- I didn't know if I'd have enough 11 feed to start going up so we kept trying to get the 84 open.

12 Then the thing I guess I'm glad is that the 13713 was enough feed to recover level.

MR. KAUFFMAN: But if that 137 hadn't gone open,
would that have been a big problem?

16 MR. GRAFF: If it hadn't?

17 MR. KAUFFMAN: If it had not.

18 MR. GRAFF: Well --

MR. KAUFFMAN: Were there other sources of water available or other pumps?

21 MR. GRAFF: Yes and there was also another path 22 through the feed system. I think it is 120 which is in 23 parallel with the 137, but it is a seal-in valve and once 24 you go to open, that would have overfed the vessel, but if 25 worse came to worse, that would have been another way to use . B

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1 the feed system.

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2 MR. JORDAN: Is there a procedure for using that 3 valve?

MR. GRAFF: No.

5 MR. JORDAN: That's just strictly knowledge on how 6 to operate the system?

7 MR. GRAFF: Well, the reason I know is during 8 construction someone opened that before and overfed the 9 vessel, so that's just because I know it happened before. 10 MR. JORDAN: Do you think that should be in a 11 procedure someplace, to use that valve in a last-ditch 12 effort?

13MR. GRAFF: You have no control. You're just14going to feed right up, so you have other ways --

15 MR. JORDAN: Did you train on that valve being 16 there and how to operate it?

MR. GRAFF: Yes. I can say almost everybody knows that if you open that it is a seal-in and it's going full open. I think it is 120. I'm not positive. 120, maybe 122.

21 MR. JORDAN: I was just curious. What I was 22 wondering about is --

23 MR. GRAFF: That bypasses. The 137 bypasses the 24 feed pumps and so does that and they are both in parallel 25 with each other.

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MR. JORDAN: And you get training on that? MR. GRAFF: Yes. I know at the same time that when I was doing the level control we had a person on the RCIC system who was also putting in water and we communicated back and forth. It was Brian Hilliker and between the two of us, as I was feeding he was cutting back his feed, so that I could take control.

8 MR. JORDAN: Okay, any other good news/bad news 9 things, things that you'd like, things you wish worked 10 differently?

11 MR. GRAFF: Not really. I think everything went 12 pretty good.

MR. KAUFFMAN: I have one followup question, just
occurred to me.

There was a point early on, maybe you weren't on the panel, but there was a point early on and maybe you were on the panel when it happened, but there was a point early on where RCIC tripped on Level 8 and --

19 MR. GRAFF: That was before me.

20 MR. KAUFFMAN: Okay.

21 MR. GRAFF: I knew that they hit the high level 22 because there is three lights for Level 8 on the panel, so 23 those were in, but that was before I even came in.

24 MR. JORDAN: The final question that I have anyway 25 is is there anything that you know of that you think it

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would be of benefit for the team to know that we haven't covered? MR. GRAFF: Not that I know of. MR. JORDAN: I think you already said something on the turning gear but we already knew about that, so, okay, we can go off the record. [Whereupon, at 3:58 p.m., the taking of the 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 JIM GRAFF

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.

Rattine-----

IAN ROTHROCK Official Reporter Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.

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ORIGINAL

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Agency: Nuclear Regulatory Commission Incident Investigation Team

Title: Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Plant Interview of: JIM GRAFF

Docket No.

LOCATION: Scriba, New York

DATE: Wednesday, August 21, 1991

PAGES: 1 - 23



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Exhibit 3-1 (continued)	-3-
ADDENDUM TO INTE	RVIEW OF Jim GRAFF (Name/Position)
Page Line	Correction and Reason for Correction
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Page of Signature	Date <u>8 /23/9</u> /

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	1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
	2	NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
	3	INCIDENT INVESTIGATION TEAM
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	16	Scriba, New York 13093
	17	Wednesday, August 21, 1991
	18	
	19	The interview commenced, pursuant to notice,
	20	at 3:32 p.m.
	21	
	22	PRESENT FOR THE IIT:
	23	Michael Jordan, NRC
	24	John Kauffman, NRC
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2 PROCEEDINGS 1 2 [3:32 p.m.] MR. JORDAN: Good afternoon. It's August 21st, 3 4 It's 3:30 in the afternoon. 1991. We are at the Nine Mile Point, Unit Two, in the P 5 building. We are conducting interviews concerning the 6 7 transient that occurred on August 13th, 1991. My name is Michael Jordan. I am with the NRC, out 8 9 of Region III. 10 MR. KAUFFMAN: John Kauffman, out of NRC headquarters. 11 MR. GRAFF: I'm Jim Graff. I'm a reactor operator 12 at Nine Mile Point, Two. 13 MR. JORDAN: Okay, Jim. Can you just give me an 14 15 idea what your background is? 16 MR. GRAFF: Okay. I was a reactor operator for six years in the Navy and I got out in 1982. 17 I was hired for Unit Two but before that they sent 18 us over to Unit One. I licensed there as a reactor 19 20 operator and then I came over to Unit Two and I have been 21 licensed here for five to six years -- I don't know exactly. 22 MR. JORDAN: Do you know when you licensed on Unit 23 One? Like '83 or '84. 24 MR. GRAFF: 25 I got out of the Navy in '82, so I have been here

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1 almost nine years.

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2 MR. JORDAN: So you are an RO? 3 MR. GRAFF: Yes. MR. JORDAN: Okay. Are you on midshifts or were 4 5 you on day shifts? MR. GRAFF: I just came in that morning for day 6 7 shift. MR. JORDAN: Okay. Why don't you give us an idea 8 9 what time you showed up and just walk us through, as you 10 came through the gate. MR. GRAFF: Okay. I got there just after 6:00 and 11 the Security guards wouldn't let me in so I called the 12 control room, got the ASSS that was coming on shift to tell 13 them to let me in, so they let me in and I got to the 14 15 control room about 6:10 and the first thing the SSS told me 16 to do was to send someone down to locally find out what condenser vacuum was, because --17 MR. JORDAN: Can I ask you, as you traversed 18 19 through the gates up to the control room, did you go 20 directly to the control room to the locker room? 21 MR. GRAFF: Directly to the control room. I knew something was wrong. 22 MR. JORDAN: In your traversing to the control 23 24 room, can you give us an idea of the way you went and what

25 the lighting was like between --

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MR. GRAFF: The emergency lighting was on in the 1 staircase I went up by the elevator there in the control 2 I went up the stairs there and I could tell all 3 building. 4 the emergency lighting was on and everything else was off. 5 MR. JORDAN: When you say emergency lighting, there's battery packs in the wall? 6 7 MR. GRAFF: Right. MR. JORDAN: Those were on? 8 Yes -- well, I don't even think those 9 MR. GRAFF: I think the thing was pretty much dark. 10 were on. MR. JORDAN: It was dark? 11 12 MR. GRAFF: Yes. MR. JORDAN: The stairwell was dark? 13 14 MR. GRAFF: Right. 15 MR. JORDAN: Which stairwell did you go up? By the elevator there, control room 16 MR. GRAFF: 17 elevator. s 18 MR. JORDAN: What building is that called? It's really the aux service building, 19 MR. GRAFF: 20 I guess you would call it. 21 That's by the elevator? MR. JORDAN: 22 MR. GRAFF: Right. 23 MR. JORDAN: You took the stairway or hallway to 24 the --306 elevation. 25 MR. GRAFF:

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3 MR. GRAFF: Yes. MR. JORDAN: From the stairwell to the control 4 5 room, lighting no problem or a problem? MR. GRAFF: You could see but it was darker than 6 7 normal. MR. JORDAN: Okay, you get to the control room. 8 9 How was the control room? 10 MR. GRAFF: It was quiet. All the lights were on though. At that time I didn't know -- had no idea what had 11 12 even happened. MR. JORDAN: A lot of people in the control room? 13 Did it look chaotic or did it look like they were -14 MR. GRAFF: It was calm but I didn't know what was 15 going on. There was the SSS, the ASSS, the CSO was there 16 and I think at that time there was like four other ROs, four 17 18 or five other ROs in the room. 19 MR. JORDAN: But it looked like everything was, communications were going well? 20 21 MR. GRAFF: Yes. 22 MR. JORDAN: Okay, I'm sorry, you say that you 23 were assigned? 24 The very first thing the SSS told me MR. GRAFF: was -- I told him I'm available and the very first thing he 25

MR. JORDAN: 306? That's the control room

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1 told me to find out what condenser vacuum was locally 2 because the meters were failed downscale in the control 3 room.

So I had come up with a non-licensed operator up the stairs so I sent -- I went out. Well, first I tried to call him on the here-here and found out the here-here's didn't work and that's when everybody told me what happened.

9 I went out. He was in the hallway. They were 10 going over to our room where the operators hang out, the 11 Beehive there.

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MR. JORDAN: Beehive.

MR. GRAFF: I told him we needed condenser vacuum locally so he went to go get it. I had given him a radio and then I found out those didn't work either and he went down there an I went back in the control room.

Before he even called back to tell me what it was, they had restored the UPS's, powered the UPS's at I would guess 630, 640, something like that.

20 We got vacuum indication back then.

21 MR. JORDAN: Okay?

22 MR. GRAFF: Okay, and then the SSS told me to get 23 a condensate booster pump running to restore level and me 24 and another RO, Chuck Gerberich, who was --

25 MR. JORDAN: Was this before or after the power

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1 had returned?

2 MR. GRAFF: I would say after. I can't say for 3 sure but I am pretty sure it was after the power had been 4 returned.

5 MR. JORDAN: Did he say get condensate-condensate 6 booster --

7 MR. GRAFF: The condensate booster pump running, so by that time there was a lot more operators in the 8 9 control room and there was a couple -- I'm told a couple of 10 non-licensed operators to go down, make sure the AA booster pumps are ready to run and one of them to go to the con-11 demin panel to make sure everything looked all right there, 12 13 so they took off to go do that and then maybe ten minutes, 14 fifteen minutes later they called back and said everything looked good down there. We started the AA condensate 15 16 booster pump up.

MR. JORDAN: Were no condensate booster pumpsoperating?

MR. GRAFF: Right. When I went in there the only thing running was the AA condensate pump. Everything else was green flagged. I didn't know it at the time but afterwards they told me they had shut them off. I knew they didn't trip because they weren't red flagged. They were green flagged.

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MR. JORDAN: So no condensate pumps tripped. Did

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they turn off all the condensate water booster pumps? 1 I guess they got up to level two -- or 2 MR. GRAFF: 202 inches in the vessel so they shut everything but the AA 3 4 condensate pump off. MR. KAUFFMAN: By "green flag" you mean the 5 breaker position --6 Took it to stop. Right, if you go to 7 MR. GRAFF: 8 stop you got a green flag. MR. KAUFFMAN: You're not talking the light, 9 10 you're talking the --11 MR. GRAFF: Well, right. You have the green 12 light. 13 MR. KAUFFMAN: Right. MR. GRAFF: But you also have the green flag, 14 If it tripped, if it was running and it tripped you 15 right? 16 would have the green light and a red flag. MR. JORDAN: Okay, so all the green flags were 17 aligned with the green lights --18 19 MR. GRAFF: Right. MR. JORDAN: Which indicated that they were 20 21 turned off? 22 MR. GRAFF: Someone turned them off. MR. JORDAN: So that any condensate pump running 23 24 and you're getting ready to start the A condensate booster, right? 25 Okay.

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MR. GRAFF: So we got the procedure out and we 1 2 went per the startup procedure and later on that sort of messed us up a little, caused a problem later down the line 3 after we got - well, we got the pump started and it started 4 fine. Everything was good and reactor pressure at that time 5 6 was like 640 or so and we had like 680 discharge pressure, 7 the booster pump, and so we thought we were all ready to feed up and we tried feeding with an LB55 valve and we 8 couldn't get any flow. I think level at this time was like 9 10 133 inches.

I wasn't getting flow so we tried the LV137 which has its own separate, that bypass -- well, we got the booster pump running and in the startup procedure for the booster pump one of the first things is to verify that the suction valves, the 84 valves, of the feed pump, shut those. So those were shut --MR. JORDAN: What were those numbers?

18 MR. GRAFF: 84s.

19 MR. JORDAN: 84s to the suction to the --

20 MR. GRAFF: -- feed pump. I went to open on it 21 and I had the green and the red light which I thought the 22 valve was stroking open, so that's when I tried to feed 23 while it was going open but I didn't get an indication that 24 I was feeding.

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MR. JORDAN: Which valves did you try to open?

1 MR. GRAFF: 84A. MR. JORDAN: So originally you had closed them--2 MR. GRAFF: Per procedure. 3 To start the A condensate booster 4 MR. JORDAN: 5 pump? 6 Right. We closed all three of them MR. GRAFF: 7 per procedure. 8 MR. JORDAN: Then after you got the pump 9 operating --10 MR. GRAFF: I attempted to open it. 11 MR. JORDAN: You tried to open the 84s? 12 MR. GRAFF: Right. 13 MR. JORDAN: And A84 and --14 MR. GRAFF: -- and then I had a red and a green 15 light, indicating to me that the valve's gone open, so I'm figuring while it's partially open I am going to try to 16 feed, but I couldn't with the LV55. I couldn't get any 17 flow in. 18 19 MR. JORDAN: The LV55s were closed? 20 MR. GRAFF: They were closed originally so -- and 21 we also tried to feed with an LV10A which you have meters 22 for flow indication and I wasn't getting anything so we 23 decided to go try the 137, because that bypasses the feed 24 pumps. Then after a while we said, well, let's see what 25

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happens when we go closed with the 84 valve and the close
light immediately came on, indicating to us that it never
stroked at all.

Once I opened the LV137, that has a separate meter. I was putting in about 600 gallons per minute and level was -- Mark Bodoh, he was monitoring reactor water level, and --

MR. JORDAN: How many gallons? What did you say? 8 9 MR. GRAFF: 600 -- and he told me we were increasing about one inch every five to ten minutes, level 10 was going up. The SSS was happy with that because earlier he 11 had told me not -- once I get feed established, not to feed 12 13 to fast because he didn't want to cool down too fast, so we had a good feed rate and we were in control of it. 14 15 MR. JORDAN: About one inch per minute?

MR. GRAFF: About one inch every five minutes I
would say it was going up.

18 MR. JORDAN: Sorry, go ahead.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Do you have any explanation for why the 84 valve didn't open?

21 MR. GRAFF: I think there's just too much of a 22 differential pressure across the valve and the procedure 23 that we were using was assuming the system shut down and 24 there is a manual bypass valve around the 84 and we asked 25 the SSS can we send someone out there but at the time they

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didn't know what the radiation levels in the turbine building were because all the radiation monitoring wad down because of the problem, so he said no, as long as we are feeding with the 137 we are not going to send anybody in to open that bypass.

Normally you would open the bypass and then open
that valve and close the bypass but the procedure we were
using was for starting up cold.

9 MR. KAUFFMAN: Do you happen to know the number of 10 that procedure?

11 MR. GRAFF: I think it is OPE-3.

MR. JORDAN: Is that your normal startupprocedure?

14 MR. GRAFF: Yes, for condensate system.

MR. JORDAN: Okay, so now you got the AA
condensate pump on. You've got the AA condensate booster
pump on.

MR. GRAFF: Okay -- then some time in there -MR. JORDAN: You are feeding through the LV137-MR. GRAFF: Right.

21 MR. JORDAN: -- water is going to come up about an 22 inch per five minutes.

23 MR. GRAFF: The we got an annunciator for high 24 starter temperature on the AA condensate pump, so we told 25 the SSS that and we all decided -- well, he told us just get



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another condensate pump running, so we started the B condensate pump and within five minutes that starter water high temperature alarm had cleared and when we started that our discharge pressure out the booster pump went up to like 5 740, 760, so that increased our feed a little bit more.

6 MR. KAUFFMAN: Do you have an explanation for why 7 starting that pump would have caused the pump starter water 8 temperature to come down?

9 MR. GRAFF: Yeah, it was working too hard. It was 10 supplying all the suction for the booster pump.

11MR. JORDAN: How do you normally operate? Do you12normally operate -- 12 on 1, 3 on 1?

MR. GRAFF: Normally we, up at power, 100 percent power, we have three condensate pumps and two booster pumps.

15 MR. JORDAN: And how many feed?

16 MR. GRAFF: Two.

17 MR. JORDAN: Two feedwater pumps.

18 MR. GRAFF: Right.

MR. JORDAN: Okay -- discharge from the condensate, from the booster pump increased after starter -how did the flow increase? The flow go up also?

MR. GRAFF: A little bit, yes, 50, maybe 50 gallons per MOR. It's basically the same flow rate -- or basically the same feed rate, a little better.

Okay.

MR. JORDAN:

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The rest of the time I monitored water 1 MR. GRAFF: 2 level increasing, and kept the SSS informed and meanwhile he 3 told another RO, R.J. Reynolds, to commence a cooldown, so he was doing that and the two of us were sort of working 4 5 together because as he cooled down I was feeding more. 6 MR. JORDAN: Does this got an automatic level 7 controller? 8 MR. GRAFF: Yes, it does. 9 MR. JORDAN: That you can put it on? Did you put 10 it on level or did you maintain manual? 11 I maintained manual. It was full open MR. GRAFF: the whole time until we started to get up close to the band. 12 13 Then he gave me a band of 159.3 to 202.3 and we ended up getting in a normal band and stabilizing and putting it in 14 15 auto. 16 MR. JORDAN: But you did put it in auto? 17 MR. GRAFF: Yes. 18 MR. JORDAN: And it looked okay in auto, it 19 fluctuated --1 20 MR. GRAFF: It was fine. 21 MR. JORDAN: It looked good in auto? 22 MR. GRAFF: Right. 23 MR. JORDAN: Do you have any idea about what time 24 that was? 25 MR. GRAFF: No, I don't. I told the SSS. He might

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1 have logged it. I don't know.

2 MR. JORDAN: So you got up to between 159.3 and 202.3 and put it in auto and how did the rest of your day 3 4 qo?

5 MR. GRAFF: It was pretty slow really. We had a lot of coverage there because we had three shifts on, coming 6 7 in on days.

MR. JORDAN: Did you feel restrained, like people 8 9 were backing around you and you couldn't do your work? MR. GRAFF: Actually I thought that everybody did 10 They communicated, everybody worked together. They 11 aood. 12 did fine.

At one point they made an announcement anybody not 13 doing anything that's not responsible to please leave, so 14 that cleared out and shortly after that, once we knew it was 15 in auto, you know, I told the CSO everything and I left too, 16 17 just to keep down the congestion.

18 MR. JORDAN: Are you on normal days? Are you a relief? 19

I am a relief operator. 21 MR. JORDAN: You are a relief operator? 22 MR. GRAFF: Yes.

MR. GRAFF:

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23 MR. JORDAN: As a relief operator, what does that -- are you assigned a normal rotating shift or you're on 24 days --25



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MR. GRAFF: You cover for vacations when people 1 go on vacation or are sick. You cover for the RO position. 2 MR. JORDAN: But normally you come in days and if 3 everything is hunky-dory, peachy-keen you just come in and 4 5 you are available? 6 MR. GRAFF: Right, you assist the shift that is 7 on. MR. JORDAN: So once you were no longer needed, 8 9 you turn the responsibility for the feedwater to the --10 MR. GRAFF: Right. It was in auto and the CSO knew it and his control room E knew it so they monitored it. 11 12 MR. JORDAN: And you left. Do you know what time you left the control room? 13 14 MR. GRAFF: No, I don't. MR. JORDAN: During this time any piece of 15 16 equipment not functioning the way you anticipated it to 17 function? 18 MR. GRAFF: the 84 valves. 19 MR. JORDAN: But that you said--20 MR. GRAFF: Now I know why but at the time we were 21 wondering why aren't we getting any feed because we thought that valve was going open, you know? 22 23 MR. JORDAN: Okay, any other pieces of equipment not functioning well? 24 25 MR. GRAFF: I knew they were having trouble with



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the turning gear but I wasn't involved in it in any way. I was taking care of the feed system but, you know, the person that was talking to them on the radio was a few feet from me.

5 MR. JORDAN: Okay. Do you know if they 6 transferred power from the maintenance power on the UPS's 7 back to normal power when you were in the control room? 8 MR. GRAFF: Yes. I remember them doing that. 9 MR. JORDAN: How did you get that information? 10 MR. GRAFF: I could hear the CSO and the SSS 11 talking back and forth.

By then everything was pretty much -- I was just standing back monitoring so I could pick up what was going around the room.

MR. JORDAN: And that was via Gaitronics? What
communications did they use did you overhear?

MR. GRAFF: I think that they were on the radio MR. JORDAN: Radio. Any communications in the control room that let people know that that's what their intention of doing and what they were doing?

21 MR. GRAFF: Yes, there was. They did updates and 22 stuff. The SSS would give an update and say this is what we 23 are doing and what we are planning on doing.

24 MR. JORDAN: Did you have a feeling for when you 25 knew when that was going to happen, the transfer?

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1 MR. GRAFF: Actual time? No, I don't. I mean not the actual time -- that 2 MR. JORDAN: you knew that that was coming and that you were prepared for 3 it? 4 5 MR. GRAFF: Yes. 6 MR. JORDAN: He let you know that? 7 MR. GRAFF: Yes. MR. JORDAN: It wasn't just a monitoring of his 8 9 radio that you found out about it? 10 MR. GRAFF: No, he did updates. This is what's 11 going on and --12 MR. JORDAN: Questions? Okay, this is the good news, bad news kind of a 13 question. 14 15 MR. GRAFF: Okay. 16 MR. JORDAN: It's the type of thing that says for 17 the activities that you were involved with, what piece of 18 equipment did you -- if there is a piece of equipment that you say, gee, I'm glad I had that, okay, because that really 19 assisted me in accomplishing the work I was assigned to. 20 21 The other end of it it says, gee, I wish I would 22 have had this piece of equipment, okay, because it really would have helped me accomplishing my missions and that can 23 24 be a myriad of things.

MR. KAUFFMAN: Could be knowledge, procedures,

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1 training --

2 MR. JORDAN: Training procedures --3 MR. KAUFFMAN: -- flashlight for walking around in 4 the dark.

5 MR. JORDAN: The classic example is the guy that 6 goes out in the plant, says gee, I'm glad this wrench was hanging on this valve because when I went to operate the 7 valve I needed the wrench and the other guy that goes out 8 there in the plant and says, gee, I wish that wrench --9 10 that valve would have had a wrench hanging on it because 11 when I operated I had to go in and get a wrench and it would have been of more benefit to me to have the wrench hanging 12 there. 13

14 It can be training. It can be procedures -- and 15 it can be nothing. You may say there was nothing really 16 that was of more benefit than what was normal in the control 17 room.

18 MR. GRAFF: Oh, I wish I could have been able to
19 feed with the normal 55 or LV10.

20 MR. KAUFFMAN: How important was that to you? 21 MR. GRAFF: Well, at first I was like worried how 22 to get water in.

23 MR. KAUFFMAN: Would you like to have known that 24 that valve probably wouldn't stroke back open?

25 MR. GRAFF: Yes, I would have liked it. I would

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1 have liked to have known that.

2 MR. KAUFFMAN: But you'd have still been stuck by 3 a procedure telling you to shut it?

MR. GRAFF: I wouldn't have been -- right. If I knew I think I would have started it without shutting it, if I knew, because the worst part is I waited before I opened the 137 because I thought that valve was going open because I had green and red light.

9 It was -- level wasn't going down but it wasn't 10 going back up so the 137 -- I didn't know if I'd have enough 11 feed to start going up so we kept trying to get the 84 open.

12Then the thing I guess I'm glad is that the 13713was enough feed to recover level.

MR. KAUFFMAN: But if that 137 hadn't gone open,
would that have been a big problem?

16 MR. GRAFF: If it hadn't?

17 MR. KAUFFMAN: If it had not.

18 MR. GRAFF: Well --

MR. KAUFFMAN: Were there other sources of wateravailable or other pumps?

21 MR. GRAFF: Yes and there was also another path 22 through the feed system. I think it is 120 which is in 23 parallel with the 137, but it is a seal-in valve and once 24 you go to open, that would have overfed the vessel, but if 25 worse came to worse, that would have been another way to use

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1 the feed system.

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2 MR. JORDAN: Is there a procedure for using that 3 valve?

MR. GRAFF: No.

5 MR. JORDAN: That's just strictly knowledge on how 6 to operate the system?

7 MR. GRAFF: Well, the reason I know is during 8 construction someone opened that before and overfed the 9 vessel, so that's just because I know it happened before. 10 MR. JORDAN: Do you think that should be in a 11 procedure someplace, to use that valve in a last-ditch 12 effort?

13MR. GRAFF: You have no control. You're just14going to feed right up, so you have other ways --

MR. JORDAN: Did you train on that valve being
16 there and how to operate it?

MR. GRAFF: Yes. I can say almost everybody knows that if you open that it is a seal-in and it's going full open. I think it is 120. I'm not positive. 120, maybe 122.

21 MR. JORDAN: I was just curious. What I was 22 wondering about is --

23 MR. GRAFF: That bypasses. The 137 bypasses the 24 feed pumps and so does that and they are both in parallel 25 with each other. .....

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MR. JORDAN: And you get training on that? 1 2 Yes. I know at the same time that MR. GRAFF: when I was doing the level control we had a person on the 3 RCIC system who was also putting in water and we 4 communicated back and forth. It was Brian Hilliker and 5 between the two of us, as I was feeding he was cutting back 6 7 his feed, so that I could take control.

8 MR. JORDAN: Okay, any other good news/bad news 9 things, things that you'd like, things you wish worked 10 differently?

11 MR. GRAFF: Not really. I think everything went 12 pretty good.

MR. KAUFFMAN: I have one followup question, just
occurred to me.

There was a point early on, maybe you weren't on the panel, but there was a point early on and maybe you were on the panel when it happened, but there was a point early on where RCIC tripped on Level 8 and --

19 MR. GRAFF: That was before me.

20 MR. KAUFFMAN:

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21 MR. GRAFF: I knew that they hit the high level 22 because there is three lights for Level 8 on the panel, so 23 those were in, but that was before I even came in.

Okay.

24 MR. JORDAN: The final question that I have anyway 25 is is there anything that you know of that you think it



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| 1  | would be of benefit for the team to know that we haven't |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 2  | covered?                                                 |
| 3  | MR. GRAFF: Not that I know of.                           |
| 4  | MR. JORDAN: I think you already said something           |
| 5  | on the turning gear but we already knew about that, so,  |
| 6  | okay, we can go off the record.                          |
| 7  | [Whereupon, at 3:58 p.m., the taking of the              |
| 8  | 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 JIM GRAFF

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.

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IAN ROTHROCK Official Reporter Ann Riley & Associates, Ltd.

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