

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

1 In the Matter of:

2 IE TMI INVESTIGATION INTERVIEW

3 of Mr. Kenneth H. Frederick
4 Senior Chemist, GPU

5
6
7
8
9 Trailer #203
10 NRC Investigation Site
11 TMI Nuclear Power Plant
12 Middletown, Pennsylvania

13 May 21, 1979

14 (Date of Interview)

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19
20
21 NRC PERSONNEL:

22 Mr. Gregory P. Yuhas
23 Mr. Larry L. Jackson
24 Mr. Mark E. Resner
25

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1 RESNER: This is an interview of Mr. Kenneth H. Frederick. Mr. Frederick
2 is currently a Senior Chemist for the General Public Utilities Corporation.
3 Previously he was employed with the Metropolitan Edison Company at the
4 Three Mile Island facility as a Staff Chemist. The present time is 1:07 PM
5 Eastern Daylight Time. Today's date is May 21, 1979. This interview is
6 being conducted in Trailer 203, which is located just outside of the south
7 gate to the Three Mile Island facility. Individuals present at this interview
8 representing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are Gregory P. Yuhas.
9 Mr. Yuhas is a Radiation Specialist, Region I of the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory
10 Commission. Also present is Mr. Larry L. Jackson. Mr. Jackson is a Radiation
11 Specialist with Region II of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I am
12 moderating this interview and my name is Mark E. Resner. I am an Investigator
13 with the Office of Inspector and Auditor, Headquarters, U. S. Nuclear
14 Regulatory Commission. Prior to taping this interview, Mr. Frederick was
15 given a two-page document, and this document apprised Mr. Frederick of the
16 purpose, the scope and the authority with which the Nuclear Regulatory
17 Commission has to conduct this investigation. In addition, this document
18 apprised Mr. Frederick that he was entitled to a representative of his
19 choice to be present at this interview, should he desire one. Also, this
20 document apprised Mr. Frederick that in no way was he compelled to talk
21 with us, should he not want to. On the second page of this document, there
22 are three questions which Mr. Frederick has answered, and I will state
23 these for the record. Question one: Do you understand the above? Mr.
24 Frederick has checked yes. Is that correct Mr. Frederick?

1 FREDERICK: That's correct.

2
3 RESNER: Question two: Do we have your permission to tape the interview?
4 Mr. Frederick has checked yes. Is that correct Mr. Frederick?

5
6 FREDERICK: That's correct also.

7
8 RESNER: Okay. Question three: Do you want a copy of the tape? Mr. Frederick
9 has checked yes. Is that correct?

10
11 FREDERICK: That's correct.

12
13 RESNER: We will provide you with a copy of the tape at the conclusion of
14 the interview. At this time I would like to ask Mr. Frederick if he would
15 give us a brief synopsis of his education and job experience in the nuclear
16 field. Mr. Frederick.

17
18 FREDERICK: I was graduated from Glenville State College in Glenville, West
19 Virginia, in June of 1964, with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a
20 Minor in Mathematics. I joined Metropolitan Edison in June of 1966 as
21 Chemist at Saxton Nuclear Experimental Corporation, a position which I held
22 until October 1968. At that time I was transferred to the Three Mile
23 Island project and spent about six months at the Reading office undergoing
24 a project, doing various sorts of work for the project. I spent some time
25 in training at Lynchburg at the B&W facility, and then came to the Three

1 Mile Island site in April 1969. I was at the Three Mile Island site during
2 the construction and startup of Unit 1. I was made Staff Chemist in late
3 1973 and remained as Staff Chemist until March 1, 1979, at which time I
4 joined General Public Utilities Corporation, which is, which was actually a
5 transfer to the GPU Service Corporation.

6
7 RESNER: Allright. Thank you very much, Mr. Frederick. At this time, I'll
8 turn the questioning over to Mr. Yuhas.

9
10 YUHAS: I'll think I'll yield to Mr. Jackson for this interview.

11
12 JACKSON: Okay Ken, would you describe what the normal chemistry response
13 is to a reactor trip?

14
15 FREDERICK: The normal chemistry response to a reactor trip is confined
16 to--let's see, with respect to the primary system--is confined to the items
17 required by the technical specifications. These primarily include items
18 such as dose equivalent iodines, which are run in a specified time following
19 a power, following certain specified power changes, which are defined
20 differently in the two units technical specifications. But primarily, the
21 chemistry that is run are to do a gamma scan for a dose equivalent iodines
22 following the reactor trip. Any other specific requests which may be made
23 from the control room, such as borons or things like this, may also be made
24 at that time but they're primarily on a request basis rather than things
25 that would be done as a routine.

1 JACKSON: Okay. Do the technicians know the significance of boron determina-
2 tions? Do they know what those values mean in terms of reactor reactivity?
3

4 FREDERICK: The technicians primarily--and it's kind of hard to generalize
5 in that particular aspect--but the technicians primarily know that boron is
6 a control mechanism and that the boron number they give is used in calculations
7 that have to do with reactivity control. Various technicians may know more
8 or less than that, but that's about as far as I can generalize on what they
9 know.

10
11 JACKSON: Do the technicians normally know what to expect when they run a
12 boron--as far as results, I'm asking?

13
14 FREDERICK: They will have a feel for the ranges that the boron is in for
15 each unit, yes.

16
17 JACKSON: What would be the technician's actions if the boron were not what
18 he expected?

19
20 FREDERICK: He would call the control room and ask for ...well, let's
21 see...and might speak with either a licensed CRO or perhaps the Shift
22 Supervisor or Foreman, if it were not what he expected. Okay, he would
23 then pull another sample and would run a second sample to confirm his
24 number.

1 JACKSON: Are you familiar with the boron results that were obtained on the
2 morning of the 28th? I know that you weren't here that morning, but I'm
3 asking, are you familiar with the numbers that they were coming up with
4 like 700 PPM, 400 PPM, and I think maybe there was a later one less than
5 that?

6
7 FREDERICK: No, I'm not familiar with those. I was aware that there were
8 questions about the boron but I'm not directly familiar with those numbers.
9

10 JACKSON: These numbers are considerably lower than the expected 1,000 or
11 greater PPM, and the technician when in determining these they were reporting
12 them to the control room. Of course, I don't know what concern the technician
13 had over the numbers but I know the control room people were quite concerned.
14 In your experience here at Met Ed, had you ever run across a situation
15 before, where you had this type situation where the boron was significantly
16 less than what you expected?

17
18 FREDERICK: Not in the reactor coolant system, I don't recall any such an
19 instance. There had been instances for certain tanks where they were,
20 perhaps, required to make significant dilutions or something, where perhaps
21 someone did not account for a factor of 10 dilution, or something, and
22 there might of been a little confusion in tanks. But these were primarily
23 batch tanks that were being used to batch into other systems, not necessarily
24 the primary. I can recall a few instances like that but I do not recall
25 any instances in the primary coolant system.

1 JACKSON: Okay. So no previous trips, to your knowledge, you had a boron,
2 what seems to a boron dilution.

3
4 FREDERICK: No.

5
6 JACKSON: Okay. Are you familiar with the problems with operating a conden-
7 sate polishing demineralizer?

8
9 FREDE?ICK: Yes.

10
11 JACKSON: Can you detail a little bit what those problems are?

12
13 FREDERICK: Well, the problems that I believe you are referring to are the
14 difficulties with the resin transfer. There are quite a few problem areas
15 but I think the ones that you're probably concerned with would be anything
16 that might have caused the trips in the secondary system. Is this true or
17 false, that you're looking for things that might have caused trips in the
18 secondary system?

19
20 JACKSON: That's true.

21
22 FREDERICK: Okay. The problems primarily have to do with the difficulty of
23 transferring resin, and this is not a problem that is unique to these
24 particular condensate polishers. This is a problem wherever you have deep
25 bed polishing systems. And it's perhaps worse here than at certain other

1 stations that I've seen, but it's not a unique problem to this station.
2 The problems have to do with getting the proper slurry and being able to
3 keep the resin moving in the transfer lines between the operating vessels,
4 and the "sched" (schedule) whether any regenerations are carried out. And
5 of course, the return process in the "sched" back to an operating vessel
6 after the regeneration is carried out.

7
8 JACKSON: What kind of a problem did you experience--you're talking about
9 resin blockages in the line?

10
11 FREDERICK: Right. The lines can become, for reasons that I certainly
12 wouldn't--well let's say, for unknown reasons, I guess--do become blocked
13 periodically. As I said the problem is not unique to us, it's something
14 we've come to expect. This is not unique to this particular station--it
15 happens in our coal stations. Resin transfer is somewhat of an art.

16
17 JACKSON: Have these problems with this system then, have they caused any
18 secondary plant trips, to your knowledge?

19
20 FREDERICK: The resin transfers directly have not caused secondary plant
21 trips to my knowledge. Other things associated with the condensate polishing
22 system have. Blown blown fuses in the panel have caused plant trips, or
23 rather have caused the outlet valves to close. Now, I'm not sure whether
24 any of these were at times when the reactor was critical. I think there
25 may have been one or two times, at least, when this has, but I'm not aware
that a resin transfer has caused a plant trip.

1 JACKSON: Okay. I was really kind of leading into the other operational
2 aspects when I was referring to the plant trips. Do these resin beds have
3 operational limitations on them, like temperature diverts around them, or
4 do you have hot-well temperature alarms, this type of thing?

5
6 FREDERICK: No. There is no temperature divert around the resin bed. The
7 resins are probably capable of sustained operation at 130 to 140 degrees
8 fahrenheit. This is probably much higher temperature than the actual
9 condensate pumps would operate at, and I suspect the limitations on the
10 condensate pumps are probably more limiting than those on the resins. So
11 there are no pressure or temperature diversions around the bed. There are
12 Delta P alarms on the system which consists of eight beds, seven of which
13 are in normal service. There are Delta P alarms on the whole system, which
14 go from header to header, but they don't take any automatic action other
15 than alarming.

16
17 JACKSON: So if you have a high Delta P, the operator has to manually
18 bypass...?

19
20 FREDERICK: Well, he would change beds probably to--we believe in operating
21 at full flow condensate polishing and we don't bypass beds. Okay, we would
22 probably reduce power instead of actually bypassing.

23
24 JACKSON: One general question. When you got here on the 30th, can you
25 think of any plant specifics that might be of interest to us? I don't
really have a specific question for you ... not to my investigation.

1 FREDERICK: No. This is--a good deal passed. I can't think of any specifics
2 that would probably be of interest. I could try to answer questions specifically
3 but I'm just not sure of what you're looking for. I could try and answer
4 any questions that you had specifically. That's about 2 months ago and my
5 recollections may not be very good, but

6
7 JACKSON: Do you know or can you detail a little bit about what you did
8 when you came onsite?

9
10 FREDERICK: The first two days were spent primarily with providing advice
11 to people on matters of chemistry, calculating chemical additions, as
12 needed. There was some concern about the bubble at that time. One thing
13 that had been suggested, and which I worked a little with, was to add
14 oxygen to shrink the bubble. Okay, then within a day someone had come up
15 with the idea that we're probably also making oxygen, which I think was
16 later disproved, and there was a calculation to add sodium sulfite and I
17 think that dropped after we found out it would take maybe some 6 tons of
18 sodium sulfite with some 10 to 15,000 gallons of water to get it into
19 solution to put it in there. Fortunately, that delay probably prevented
20 anybody from really seriously considering adding the stuff. I worked some
21 with moving the Unit 1 gamma spec system out of the plant into an area with
22 a lower background so it could be used, at least on higher level samples.

23
24 JACKSON: Did you state that you did add hydrogen to the system to reduce
25 the hydrogen bubble?

1 FREDERICK: No, no. There was some consideration to adding oxygen, okay,
2 to the system to combine with the hydrogen to shrink the bubble. This was,
3 a I believe, a suggestion that had been made by people at the Lynchburg
4 Research Center from B&W. We considered it and it wasn't a very popular
5 idea, apparently. Looking at it, I think, in retrospect the idea still
6 seems like it might have been feasible.

7
8 JACKSON: Did you, in fact, make any chemical additions of any type to the
9 system?

10
11 FREDERICK: Not during those days, no. The only additions were water that
12 came at that time, I believe, from the borated water storage tank. Okay,
13 these were the only ones--you know, I can't personally confirm that that's
14 where they were made from, but I understood at that time that that's what
15 we were using for makeup, was borated water storage tank water--but those
16 were the only additions that were made to the system to my knowledge.

17
18 JACKSON: One other question, just kind of a general type question because
19 it's something that I ran cross in a casual conversation, and see if you
20 can provide any details. It appears that there were some operations involving
21 transfers of water on, I think the 28th, involving rubber hoses. And I
22 heard, in casual conversation, that the transfer might have been from Unit
23 1 Makeup Tank to Unit 2 Makeup Tank. Have you ever experienced any operations
24 like that, to your knowledge?

1 FREDERICK: No. I think there may have been--and this I'm not sure of--but
2 the casual references--and it seems as though I've heard casual references
3 toward, perhaps, transfers from Unit 1 Borated Water Storage Tank to Unit 2
4 Borated Water Storage Tank. I'm not even sure that that occurred. I had
5 heard that operation discussed but I'm not certain in my own mind whether
6 it actually did occur. But I'm--well, I've never heard references even to
7 transferring between Unit 1 and Unit 2 Makeup Tanks--that I have never even
8 heard reference to.

9
10 JACKSON: Okay. Well, it's quite possible that the information was in
11 error and I think it makes much more sense that it would be between the
12 borated water storage tanks, if that were the case. However, I was just
13 kind of fishing for information, if any of these rubber hose transfers were
14 semi-routine operations, in your opinion.

15
16 FREDERICK: Not between primary systems, I think. That type of operation
17 might not be unusual between the secondary, or perhaps various other systems,
18 but I've never seen an operation like this dealing with the primary system
19 or even anything in the waste treatment areas. I've never seen this.
20 Okay, with secondary systems the operations are done usually after some
21 kind of a special operating procedure is written, but I have seen them done
22 on secondary systems, never on the primary.

23
24 JACKSON: I don't have any further questions.
25

1 YUHAS: Mr. Frederick, would you describe the facility organization while
2 you were employed with Metropolitan Edison? To be more specific, who did
3 you report to and who was subordinate to you?
4

5 FREDERICK: Okay. I reported--since 1973, when I took the position of Staff
6 Chemist, I was essentially an Internal Advisor. The reporting structure
7 was to the Supervisor of Chemistry and Health Physics within the organization.
8 Functioning as an Internal Advisor, I did not have anyone reporting directly
9 to me.
10

11 YUHAS: Who filled the position of Chemistry Supervisor, as described in
12 the Unit 2 Facility Technical Specifications, Section 6.2?
13

14 FREDERICK: Frederick: I'm not familiar with that particular specification.
15 Unit 2 Chemistry has primarily fallen under Kerry Harner. I'm not ... I
16 can't, I'm not familiar enough with the organization to know whether that
17 was his title or not, but Unit 2 Chemistry has primarily fallen under Kerry
18 Harner.
19

20 YUHAS: In your Advisory position, did you respond primarily to trouble-
21 shooting, or did you respond to implementation of procedures, development
22 of the program and review and audit of that program?
23

24 FREDERICK: Primarily to troubleshooting and/or development of new procedures,
25 as requested by various other organizations onsite, chemistry being one of

1 them, also some for operations. But I would say more to troubleshooting or
2 problem areas.

3
4 YUHAS: Did you yourself at times draw reactor coolant letdown samples and
5 analyze those samples?

6
7 FREDERICK: I've never drawn a reactor coolant sample for TMI-2. In the
8 early days when we were starting up TMI-1, I probably have taken reactor
9 coolant samples in the aspect of training technicians. At that time, we
10 had no one with much experience and we trained the technicians actually by
11 hands-on type procedures. And during the startup of Unit 1, I think I
12 probably have taken reactor coolant samples as a training means.

13
14 YUHAS: During the construction of Unit 2, did you at any time perform
15 audits to determine that Unit 2 was, in fact, being constructed in accordance
16 with the FSAR description?

17
18 FREDERICK: No. Auditing was not one of my functions.

19
20 YUHAS: Are you fairly familiar with the design of the nuclear sample room?

21
22 FREDERICK: Yes.

23
24 YUHAS: Are the Unit 2 reactor coolant sample lines or letdown coolers
25 shielded?

1 FREDERICK: No.

2
3 YUHAS: Are you aware of any impact this lack of shielding has had on the
4 nuclear sample room?

5
6 FREDERICK: Pre or post accident?

7
8 YUHAS: Post accident.

9
10 FREDERICK: Yes. It's made it very difficult to obtain samples and it's
11 certainly had a fairly large impact on the overall exposure of personnel
12 taking samples in the Unit 2 reactor coolant system.

13
14 YUHAS: In the final phases of construction, or any period in the design
15 and construction of the Unit 2 sample systems, were you consulted as an
16 advisor, or did you have a part in the decision to route the Unit 2 reactor
17 coolant sample lines to the Unit 1 nuclear sample room?

18
19 FREDERICK: In the very early design phases--and this goes back a number of
20 years and I'm not very clear-- I think I must have attended meetings at
21 which, where the topic was discussed. That's a long way back and I'd have
22 to almost go back and try and dig through the files and find notes to be
23 sure, but I'm sure I must have attended some meetings where it was discussed.
24 And the primary purpose, as I remember, was to provide man-power savings
25 and also to consolidate all the sampling facilities into an area where they

1 wouldn't be spread throughout the plant. It's ones zone of contamination
2 rather than two or three. And I believe this was the primary intent when
3 they were built in the sampling room.

4
5 YUHAS: Were you involved in the decision to procure various solid state
6 detectors for routine chemistry analysis?

7
8 FREDERICK: Yes.

9
10 YUHAS: Were you instrumental in writing the procedures and the programs
11 for the library for determination of isotopic content of various samples?

12
13 FREDERICK: I had input into them, I'm not sure if I was instrumental or
14 not. The programs for doing the actual analysis were done under contract
15 by people with the LRC facility for Babcock and Wilcox. I had some input
16 into what the librarys were.

17
18 YUHAS: Are you familiar at all as to why the Unit 2 solid state detector,
19 the GeLi Detector, had not been fully utilized in the last year?

20
21 FREDERICK: There had been some problems with the detector. It had been
22 damaged. There had been a problem with the liquid level monitor. It had,
23 I think, run out of liquid nitrogen at least once, which caused them to go
24 for redrifting. There was a further problem with the detector--I'm not
25 sure that it was a drift problem--but there was a problem with some of the

1 electronics. All of these, combined with the activities during startup,
2 combined to make the thing not available when the actual source material
3 for its proper calibration was available. So I don't think you can say
4 there is any one reason--there were a number of reasons why it was not
5 calibrated before the accident.

6
7 YUHAS: One common mentioned reason that the thing was not utilized is that
8 the backgrounds in the Unit 2 auxiliary building--or service building,
9 excuse me--were such that they had an excessive dead time and additional
10 shielding needed to be provided for calibration, operation of that detector.
11 Are you familiar with that?

12
13 FREDERICK: I think that statement is inaccurate. There was a question
14 with shielding. We were in the process of procuring shielding, but it had
15 nothing to do with dead time. It was in an effort to reduce the background
16 further to obtain lower MDAs. It had nothing to do with excessive dead
17 times. You can put that detector sitting right out in the middle of an
18 open field, and then, there is no problem with dead time. So I feel that
19 that statement would be not accurate. I would say that the question with
20 shielding was more to reduce background to obtain lower MDAs, and to permit
21 lower MDAs with reasonable counting times.

22
23 YUHAS: Okay. You mentioned earlier that you were involved in the relocation
24 of the Unit 1 counting system to apparently the screen house.
25

1 FREDERICK: Right. Okay, the Unit 1 circulating water pump house.

2
3 YUHAS: Okay. Do you remember the approximate time and date that that was
4 done?

5
6 FREDERICK: I believe it was done on Saturday, March 31. It was either
7 Saturday, March 31, or the first day of April.

8
9 YUHAS: In reviewing the health physics aspects in general prior to the
10 incident and during the incident, we note that there were particularly long
11 counting times involved during routine operations of Unit 1. Is this
12 because of the same sort of problem with--you just needed more shielding
13 for the detector, or was it due to the detector location, or...? We saw
14 particularly long delay times in talking to people, for instance, people
15 tell us to just to count a couple of air samples, charcoal filters, noble
16 gas for entering the reactor would require two to three hours.

17
18 FREDERICK: Dead times and/or MDAs were not a problem, to my knowledge.
19 The original Cram program, which is the name that we've assigned to the
20 program that analyzes the spectra, operates on a Hewlett Packard Model, I
21 think 9830A, which is a fairly slow calculator. Its actual analysis of the
22 program would take anything from twenty-five to forty-five minutes, depending
23 on the number of peaks that it found. Counting times, the Unit 1 GeLi
24 detector, I should be more accurate and say the Unit 1 intrinsic, was
25 located in the shield and was capable of the kind of sensitivity, so I

1 don't feel that contributed to longer count times. Well, count times to
2 get the sensitivities that we need are frequently on the order of twenty
3 minutes, anyway. So I don't feel that the shielding, or lack thereof,
4 would have contributed to longer count times.

5
6 YUHAS: What's the purpose of your routine gross fifteen minute degassed
7 activity?

8
9 FREDERICK: It's primarily a number to see whether the activity is going up
10 or down. It's something to--it's a trend number.

11
12 YUHAS: Is that number corrected for power history?

13
14 FREDERICK: Frederick: No. The number is essentially a fifteen minute
15 gross beta gamma degassed, which is used as a trend number and to make a
16 proper--or to use the number it is necessary to know what had been done
17 with the reactor plant for some time preceeding the numbers generation.

18
19 YUHAS: Could you describe your involvement in the TMI 2 or TMI general
20 emergency plan?

21
22 FREDERICK: Pretty much what most of the people--essentially, to follow the
23 drills and to go the musters. I was not directly involved with either of
24 the two emergency plans. That was primarily a health physics function.
25 The chemistry personnel were designated as one foreman or supervisor in

1 each unit who responded to the plan in the slot provided, but I didn't fill
2 any of those positions at a time which we actually had one of the drills.
3 And I responded pretty much as anyone else that was onsite, not specifically
4 called--to go to the muster areas and stay there and be counted.

5
6 YUHAS: Were you contacted or--rephrase the question. When were you contacted
7 and informed of the incident TMI 2?

8
9 FREDERICK: Mid to late morning on March 28th. I was at one of our coal
10 stations in North Jersey. I was contacted, from an informational standpoint
11 by Kerry Harner and Gary Reed, who were the two chemist onsite, who at that
12 time had very little information. I talked briefly with them again in the
13 afternoon of that day, and I believe the next morning--on the 29th, I was
14 back in my office in Reading.

15
16 YUHAS: Did either Kerry Harner or Reed describe to you the sequence of
17 decreasing boron sample results?

18
19 FREDERICK: No.

20
21 YUHAS: In the ensuing days--I am thinking primarily of the urgent need to
22 take a reactor coolant sample to identify the extent of fuel damage and
23 some other aspects--were you contacted or asked, or did you volunteer any
24 information in the planning, preparation or execution of this sample?

25
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1 FREDERICK: You mean prior to the taking of the first sample?
2

3 YUHAS: I mean prior to taking of the first real deliberate sample which
4 occurred the evening of Thursday, March 29.
5

6 FREDERICK: No.
7

8 YUHAS: Were you aware the sample was going to be taken?
9

10 FREDERICK: No.
11

12 YUHAS: Were you informed after the sample had been taken, as to assist in
13 the evaluation of the sample, with the results, or who was going to analyze
14 it for what?
15

16 FREDERICK: I had seen some of the results as they came back from the areas
17 where they were to be analyzed. And I was involved with discussions of who
18 might be capable of analyzing the sample. I was more involved with subsequent
19 samples, okay, the bomb samples that went to Idaho, to Bettis and I believe
20 to Oak Ridge.
21

22 YUHAS: You mentioned that you were aware, to a certain extent, that a
23 sample was going to be taken and who might ...
24
25

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1 FREDERICK: I was aware that the sample had been taken ... not was going to
2 be taken ... after it was taken.

3
4 YUHAS: You had not been contacted prior to it being taken?

5
6 FREDERICK: No.

7
8 YUHAS: Okay. Again, this is an entirely subjective comment on your part,
9 but knowing that the plant has suffered severe transients and the likelihood
10 of fuel damage may have occurred, could you describe what you would consider
11 to be the proper methodology for collection of the sample, if the objective
12 were: one, to know the boron concentrations; two, to try to perform those
13 analyses that might best provide information as to the extent of fuel
14 damage or other parameters within the reactor coolant system?

15
16 FREDERICK: That's pretty all-encompassing question. Well, first of all
17 let me start with the boron. Practically any method that you'd use to take
18 the sample should not hamper its validity for boron analysis. The same
19 thing would be true for the non-gaseous species; the iodine, the cesiums,
20 many of the others that were there at the time. So the primary concerns
21 that I would have would be less on what was necessary to obtain a valid
22 sample, and more on health physics aspects of actually obtaining the sample.
23 And the only things that I would think would be required to obtain a valid
24 sample would be to assure proper valve lineup to recirculate through the
25 sample sink and back to the Unit 2 makeup tank, for some adequate period of

1 time. Probably something between thirty minutes and an hour would assure
2 you of valid samples at the pressure ranges that the system was at that
3 time. As far as the validity of the sample, something on that order would
4 have been all that would have been required, I think. The health physics
5 aspects of course would be something different. To obtain the gaseous
6 samples, then there are other considerations: to be sure that the bomb was
7 properly installed--that a bomb was properly installed; that it was, of
8 course, small enough to have an activity level that could be handled, since
9 you have to physically remove swage-lock fittings to remove the bomb. And
10 these considerations, of course, were some of the things that really did
11 delay the next sample for the length of time that it was delayed--making
12 sure that we could do that properly. It was the health physics con-
13 siderations and the considerations of having a bomb that we felt appropriate
14 that delayed those samples.

15
16 YUHAS: The point of my question was, I would think that as a Chemist, if
17 one were going to incur the exposure to collect a reactor coolant sample,
18 to gain the most meaningful information, one would have collected a pressurized
19 sample, primarily so that the knowledge that was available from the gases
20 in solution, especially the mix of fission product gases as well as the
21 amount of hydrogen that would have come out of solution, would have been
22 very important information not to lose by just collecting an unpressurized
23 beaker of coolant.

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25

1 FREDERICK: Okay. The concerns, I believe--and this is Monday morning
2 quarterbacking, I could say--but the concerns, primarily, when the first
3 sample was obtained was to get a boron number. At that particular time,
4 the only bombs that the site had were something on the order of 150 milli-
5 liters, and I think by that time it was recognized that that was a quantity
6 of the coolant that people simply weren't prepared to handle under the
7 circumstances that it would have had to have been handled in that sampling
8 room. The levels would have been extremely high, and I believe the first
9 effort--and this is not speaking from personal experience--the first effort
10 was to confirm the boron number. And that sample would not--or would have
11 been valid under the circumstances it was taken. It was after the fact
12 that people began to have the concerns about the gases that later developed.
13 And I think, looking at it even from the standpoint of looking at it after
14 the fact, I think that for the earlier sample, I probably would have also
15 placed the same priority on the first number being boron. The other things
16 that people were concerned about were concerns that developed at a later
17 date as more knowledge was available.

18
19 YUHAS: Are you aware of the amount of reactor coolant that was collected on
20 that first sample that we're talking about?

21
22 FREDERICK: I'm told some portion of a 100 milliliter graduated cylinder.
23 I didn't see it personally.

24 895 213
25

1 YUHAS: At this time I don't have any additional questions. Do you have
2 any?

3
4 JACKSON: Yes, I've got just a minute--do you know Mr. Yull, a B&W Chemist?

5
6 FREDERICK: Dale Yule?

7
8 JACKSON: Dale Yule.

9
10 FREDERICK: Yes.

11
12 JACKSON: Can you state briefly what he did here? I understand he was
13 onsite and is no longer with B&W.

14
15 FREDERICK: He coordinated some of the B&W efforts. I'm not sure of all
16 the involvement that he might have had, and I think that would be something
17 that you could better get, say, from Lee Rogers, to whom all of the personnel
18 that came onsite for that company normally report. I think Lee could
19 probably give a much better answer to that than I could. I'm aware of some
20 of the things that he did. Okay, I am sure that he was instrumental in
21 bringing up the small counting trailer, which they set up beside the circulating
22 water pump house, and that he assisted in getting the small secondary
23 laboratory set up that they have in the training facilities. But I'm sure
24 that's not descriptive of the spectrum of his activities.
25

1 JACKSON: Was he a technical type or a non-technical type?

2
3 FREDERICK: Technical.

4
5 JACKSON: Did he get involved in the chemical analyses himself, or was he
6 doing just logistical type support?

7
8 FREDERICK: I suspect that he was somewhat involved in the actual analysis.
9 He may not of done them, but I think that he was probably involved in
10 setting them up.

11
12 RESNER: At this time we'll take a break and change the tape.

13
14 JACKSON: I've got no further questions.

15
16 RESNER: All right. Then let's conclude the interview. I have one question
17 for you, Mr. Frederick. You spoke with swage-lock fittings. Would you
18 spell that for the record please.

19
20 FREDERICK: I'm not sure if they actually are swage-lock or Ty-lok but the
21 term is used to describe a series of small compression fittings that are
22 used to join stainless steel tubing.

23
24 RESNER: Do you know the spelling of that please?

1 FREDERICK: I believe these are actually Ty-lok and, in which case, that's
2 T Y -L O K.

3
4 RESNER: All right. Thank you very much. We'll conclude the interview
5 now, and the time now is 1:50 PM Eastern Daylight Time. Thank you very
6 much for your time, Mr. Frederick.

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