

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)	
GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.)	
(Vallecitos Nuclear Center -)	Docket No. 50-70
General Electric Test Reactor,)	(Show Cause)
Operating License No. TR-1))	

TESTIMONY OF CHRISTIAN C. NELSON

Q.1. Please state your name and present position with the NRC.

A.1. My name is Christian C. Nelson. I am a Project Manager in Operating Reactors Branch No. 3, Division of Licensing, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. I am responsible for coordinating and participating in the review and evaluation of safety and environmental considerations associated with the design and operation of power, test and research reactors licensed for operation. I have been employed as a Project Manager since August 1975.

Q.2. Please describe your educational background and previous positions held.

A.2. From January 1972 to May 1975 I was an officer in the U.S. Navy assigned to the nuclear submarine USS Bancroft SSBN 643. I participated in four deterrent patrols, associated upkeeps and shipyard overhaul. I served as Main Propulsion Assistant, Radiological Controls Officer and Reactor Controls Officer and was qualified Engineering Officer of the Watch, Officer of the Deck and in Submarines. My responsibilities included

safe operation of the nuclear propulsion plant, coordinating upkeep of reactor systems and equipment, and control of ship's radioactive material

From October 1971 to January 1972 I attended the U.S. Navy nuclear power training program including Nuclear Power School at Bainbridge, Maryland and the Nuclear Propulsion Training Unit at Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

I have a B.S. degree in Naval Engineering from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Q.3. Please describe your participation in the NRC Staff review of the General Electric Test Reactor for this proceeding.

A.3. As Project Manager, I was responsible for supervising and coordinating the work of the NRC reviewers who contributed to the Staff's SER (composed of the Staff's September 27, 1979 document modified to delete its conclusions; the Staff's May 23, 1980 document; the Staff's October 27, 1980 document as modified by the Staff's January 15, 1981 document). I also participated in the review contained in Section A of the portion of the Staff's SER dated October 27, 1980 entitled "GETR Structures, Systems and Components Important to Safety".

Q.4. Please describe the review performed by the Staff which is the subject of Section A of the portion of the Staff's SER dated October 27, 1980.

A.4. The Staff has reviewed the licensee's identification of safety related structures, systems and components as well as the proposed modifications

to assure itself that the licensee has identified all the safety related structures, systems and components necessary to shut down the facility and maintain the reactor in a safe shutdown condition during and following the design basis seismic event. The Staff's analysis of the GETR as modified indicates that the principal safety related structures, systems and components are those identified in Section A.

0.5. Please summarize the results of your review in Section A of the portion of the Staff's SER dated October 27, 1980.

A.5. If the equipment identified in Section A satisfies the seismic design criteria for the GETR site and remains operable to the extent described in Section A, the reactor core and irradiated material in the storage canal will remain submerged in coolant and adequately cooled during and following the design bases seismic events.