



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

Enclosure 5

JUL 18 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dudley Thompson, Executive Officer for Operations
Support, Office of Inspection and Enforcement

FROM: *Roger A. Fortuna*
Roger A. Fortuna, Assistant Director for Investigations
Office of Inspector and Auditor

SUBJECT: INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION DEFICIENCIES -
SHOREHAM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

Reference is made to your June 24, 1980, memorandum to me, same subject as above, with enclosures that included (1) a May 20, 1980, letter from Leighton K. Chong to Deputy Director James Allan, Region I, commenting on the subject investigation and (2) a June 13, 1980, memorandum from Director Boyce Grier, Region I, to IE Director Victor Stello, suggesting that the Office of Inspector and Auditor (OIA) conduct a full investigation of the charges in Mr. Chong's May 20 letter that Region I "investigators were under pressure to produce a whitewash for LILCO...."

Based on your memorandum to me and in accordance with Mr. Grier's suggestion, OIA investigators made contact with Chong to arrange to meet him to personally discuss his charges regarding a "whitewash." It should be noted, however, that although Mr. Grier's June 13 memorandum concludes that "Mr. Chong charges on page 8 of his May 20, 1980, letter that the investigators were under pressure to produce a whitewash for LILCO....", this conclusion is not entirely accurate. What Mr. Chong did state is that upon his reading of Investigation Report No. 50-322/79-24, "The shallowness of the findings suggests to me that perhaps the investigators themselves were under pressure to produce a whitewash for LILCO."

Mr. Chong, upon being contacted by OIA and told of the purpose for the requested meeting, explained that he did not have evidence of a willful and knowing effort on the part of any NRC person(s) to produce a "whitewash" but, rather, was of the opinion that the methodology utilized by the NRC to explore allegations was stilted and narrow, and that NRC either failed to, or lacked the ability to, appreciate the significance of many of its findings. He expressed the belief that such deficiencies tended to result in what, in effect, may be an unplanned and unorchestrated whitewash of fact finding efforts. He said that he thought that his May 20 letter to Allen reflected this concern but said that he would send OIA a letter (see attached), dealing with only five specific issues,

CONTACT: L. J. Strickler
2-7170

8010090/110