

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)

MR. DOUGLAS D. PRESTON)

IA 94-004

ORDER PROHIBITING INVOLVEMENT IN
NRC-LICENSED ACTIVITIES
(EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY)

I

Mr. Douglas D. Preston was employed by the Berry Construction Company at the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company's (IELPC or Licensee) Duane Arnold Energy Center where he was granted unescorted access. IELPC holds Facility License DPR-49, issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) pursuant to 10 CFR Part 50 on February 22, 1974. The license authorizes IELPC to operate the Duane Arnold Energy Center located near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in accordance with the conditions specified therein.

II

Mr. Preston first applied for employment with Berry Construction Company and was subsequently granted unescorted access to the Duane Arnold Energy Center on or about June 19, 1990, based in part on the representations he made on his access authorization applications. One of the representations was that he had not been arrested and convicted for any criminal offense other than minor traffic violations. The Licensee submitted fingerprint cards to the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and subsequently was

informed that Mr. Preston had a record of arrests, convictions, and imprisonments prior to 1978. However, while waiting for the results of the FBI fingerprint check, Mr. Preston's employment at the Duane Arnold Energy Center was terminated for a lack of work. Mr. Preston's deliberate false statements on his access authorization application on or about June 19, 1990 were essentially the same as his 1993 false statements (addressed below), but are not being cited in this Order as a violation because they were made before the effective date of 10 CFR 50.5.

On June 21, 1993, Mr. Preston again applied for a position at the Duane Arnold Energy Center and was hired on June 21, 1993 by the Berry Construction Company as a laborer with responsibilities involving NRC-licensed activities. On June 23, 1993, Mr. Preston filled out an access authorization application and again denied having a criminal history. The Licensee granted Mr. Preston temporary unescorted access to the plant on or about July 15, 1993. On or about August 13, 1993, the Licensee received the results of a second FBI fingerprint check which again detailed Mr. Preston's criminal history. Mr. Preston, when questioned by an IELPC investigator on August 13, at first denied having a criminal history and then admitted that he had lied about his criminal history to gain employment in 1990 and again in 1993. He further stated that he would lie again to gain employment in the future. The Licensee then revoked Mr. Preston's unescorted access based on the deliberately false information regarding his criminal history

on his access authorization application.

III

Based on the above, Mr. Preston engaged in deliberate misconduct on or about June 23, 1993, by deliberately falsely stating on the access authorization application that he had no criminal history for crimes other than minor traffic offenses. The Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 50.5, in part, prohibit any employee of a contractor of a licensee from deliberately submitting to the licensee information that the employee knows to be incomplete or inaccurate in some respect material to the NRC. Mr. Preston's actions constitute a violation of 10 CFR 50.5(a). Information concerning criminal history is material to the determination the licensee must make to meet 10 CFR 73.56(b)(2).

IV

The NRC must be able to rely on the Licensee, its contractors, and the licensee and contractor employees to comply with NRC requirements, including the requirement to provide information that is complete and accurate in all material respects. Mr. Preston's actions in deliberately providing false information to the Licensee constitute deliberate violations of Commission regulations and his statement to the Licensee that he would do it again have raised serious doubt as to whether he can be relied upon to comply with

NRC requirements and to provide complete and accurate information to the NRC in the future.

Consequently, I lack the requisite reasonable assurance that nuclear safety activities within NRC jurisdiction can be conducted in compliance with the Commission's requirements and that the health and safety of the public would be protected if Mr. Preston were permitted to be engaged in the performance of licensed activities. Therefore, the public health, safety and interest require that Mr. Preston be prohibited from being involved in the performance of activities licensed by the NRC for a five year period. In addition, Mr. Preston is required to notify the NRC, for an additional five year period, of his acceptance of employment in NRC-licensed activities so that appropriate inspections can be performed. Furthermore, pursuant to 10 CFR 2.202, I find that the significance of the deliberate misconduct described above is such that the public health, safety and interest require that this Order be immediately effective.

IV

Accordingly, pursuant to sections 103, 161b, 161i, 182 and 186 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the Commission's regulations in 10 CFR 2.202 and 10 CFR 50.5, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THAT :

- A. Mr. Douglas D. Preston is prohibited from engaging in activities licensed by the NRC for five years from the date of this Order. For the purposes of this Order, licensed activities include the activities licensed or regulated by: (1) NRC; (2) an Agreement State, limited to the Licensee's conduct of activities within NRC jurisdiction pursuant to 10 CFR 150.20; and (3) an Agreement State where the licensee is involved in the distribution of products that are subject to NRC jurisdiction.
- B. After the five year prohibition has expired as described in paragraph A above, Mr. Preston shall provide notice to the Director, Office of Enforcement, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555, for acceptance of any employment in licensed activity for an additional five year period.

The Regional Administrator, Region III, may, in writing, relax or rescind any of the above conditions upon demonstration by Mr. Preston of good cause.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.202, Mr. Preston must, and any other person adversely affected by this Order may, submit an answer to

this Order, and may request a hearing within 30 days of the date of this Order. The answer may consent to this Order. Unless the answer consents to this Order, the answer shall, in writing and under oath or affirmation, specifically admit or deny each allegation or charge made in this Order and shall set forth the matters of fact and law on which Mr. Preston or other person adversely affected relies and the reasons as to why the Order should not have been issued. Any answer or request for a hearing shall be submitted to the Secretary, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Chief, Docketing and Service Section, Washington, DC 20555. Copies also shall be sent to the Director, Office of Enforcement, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, to the Assistant General Counsel for Hearings and Enforcement at the same address, to the Regional Administrator, Region III, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 801 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351, and to Mr. Preston, if the answer or hearing request is by a person other than Mr. Preston. If a person other than Mr. Preston requests a hearing, that person shall set forth with particularity the manner in which his interest is adversely affected by this Order and shall address the criteria set forth in 10 CFR 2.714(d).

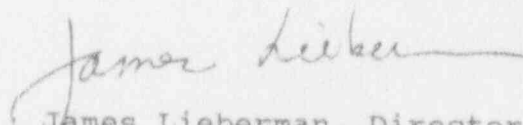
If a hearing is requested by Mr. Preston or a person whose interest is adversely affected, the Commission will issue an Order designating the time and place of any hearing. If a hearing is held, the issue to be considered at such hearing shall be whether

this Order should be sustained.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.202(c)(2)(i), Mr. Preston, or any person adversely affected by this Order, may in addition to demanding a hearing, at the time that answer is filed or sooner, move the presiding officer to set aside the immediate effectiveness of the Order on the ground that the Order, including the need for immediate effectiveness, is not based on adequate evidence but on mere suspicion, unfounded allegations, or error.

In the absence of any request for a hearing, the provisions specified in Section IV above shall be final 20 days from the date of this Order without further order or proceedings. AN ANSWER OR A REQUEST FOR A HEARING SHALL NOT STAY THE IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS ORDER.

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION


James Lieberman, Director
Office of Enforcement

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this 5th day of April 1994

Mr. Douglas D. Preston

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Licensing Project Manager, NRR

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EA File (2)

State of Iowa

RAO:RIII

SLO:RIII

PAO:RIII

IMS:RIII

DCS: Yes No

PDR: Yes No

~~OE:DL~~
~~JLieberman~~
~~4/4/94~~

~~DEDR~~ *on leave*
~~JMilhoan~~
~~4/ /94~~ *4/4/94*

*Per April 94 summary
coordinated definite
Time period with
each of Commission's
offices etc*

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