



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

July 7, 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Frank Ingram, Assistant to the Director, OPA, HQ  
FROM: Clyde E. Wisner, FPAO, Region IV  
SUBJECT: BLACK FOX PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE, JUNE 29-30, 1978

About one week before the pre-hearing conference was to begin, I contacted Jack Silver of the Federal Court Clerk's office in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to confirm that the previous camera policy prescribed by the chief judge for the reopened hearing for Black Fox in early June would still be in effect for this conference. After confirming the same arrangements, I asked Jack Silver to so advise the guard force at the Federal Building in Tulsa since our previous problems on June 5 arose from their lack of coordination. Again, he assured me everything would be properly coordinated. Our news release of June 23 contained the camera policy statement of the NRC and the chief judge in a "note to editors."

A few minutes before Mr. Wolfe called the meeting to order he advised me that he understood that the chief judge had apparently changed his mind and would not permit either cameras or recorders. I immediately contacted Jack Silver, and he advised me that an NRC employee had contacted him a day or two earlier stating that cameras and tape recorders were not to be permitted in the pre-hearing conference. Mr. Silver indicated that the NRC employee who contacted him was the ASLB clerk who was in Tulsa to coordinate the final room arrangements for the NRC. As a result of the ASLB clerk's instructions Jack Silver called all three local television stations to advise them of the camera policy change.

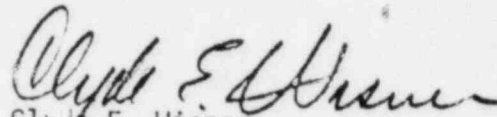
After I corrected the misunderstanding, Jack Silver called each of the television stations in Tulsa to correct his erroneous call. All of the Tulsa TV stations attended the meeting on the first day, but a little later than usual.

I talked to the ASLB clerk following the camera policy mix-up and apparently he misunderstood a conversation he had with Mr. Wolfe. It is obvious to me that Mr. Wolfe clearly understands the current NRC camera policy, and he was very concerned about the late change in the chief judge's policy.

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Jack Silver was very cooperative and somewhat embarrassed by the misunderstanding. He said he would check with me in the future if he receives instructions from someone else about the NRC camera policy contrary to our arrangements.

This incident was not a big problem since it was caught early and corrected. However it could have been more serious if all parties had not been so cooperative and understanding.

  
Clyde E. Wisner  
Field Public Affairs Officer