

ORIGINAL

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

DKT/CASE NO. 50-454 OL & 50-455 OL

TITLE COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY
(Byron Nuclear Power Station, Units 1 & 2)

PLACE Rockford, Illinois

DATE March 4, 1983

PAGES 935-1041

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3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
4 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
5 BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

6 - - - - -x
7 In the Matter of: : Docket Nos.:
8 COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY : 50-454 OL
9 (Byron Nuclear Power Station Unit 1) :
10 COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY : 50-455 OL
11 (Byron Nuclear Power Station Unit 2) :
12 - - - - -x

13 United States District Courthouse
14 211 South Court Street
15 Rockford, Illinois

16 March 4, 1983

17 The hearing in the above-entitled matter
18 convened, pursuant to notice, at 8:30 A. M.

19 BEFORE:

20 IVAN W. SMITH,
21 Administrative Judge

22 DIXON A. CALLIHAN,
23 Administrative Judge

24 RICHARD F. COLE,
25 Administrative Judge

APPEARANCES:

On behalf of Licensee, Commonwealth Edison
Company:

Alan Bielawski, Esq.

SONNTAG REPORTING SERVICE, LTD.

1 Victor Copeland, Esq.
2 Joseph Gallo, Esq.

3 Isham, Lincoln & Beale
4 Three First National Plaza
Chicago, Illinois 60602

5 On behalf of Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Staff:

6 Steven Goldberg, Esq.
7 Richard Rawson Esq.

8 On behalf of the Intervenors:

9 Bryan Savage, Esq.
10 Diane Chavez
11 Paul Holmbeck
12 Betty Johnson
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C O N T E N T S

WITNESSES: DIRECT CROSS REDIRECT RECROSS BOARD

ALECK SERKIZ

BY MR. GOLDBERG 939

BY MS. CHAVEZ 940

BY JUDGE COLE 986

BY MS. CHAVEZ 987

BY MR. COPELAND 1009

BY JUDGE COLE 1012

BY JUDGE CALLIHAN 1021

BY MR. GOLDGERG 1030

BY MS. CHAVEZ 1035

RECESS:

Morning - 1008

Prepared Direct Testimony of Aleck Serkiz, on
Behalf of DAARE/SAFE.....page 940

1 JUDGE SMITH: Is there any preliminary business?

2 MR. GALLO: Judge Smith.

3 JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Gallo.

4 MR. GALLO: It would be helpful, if it's
5 possible and convenient for the board, if we could find
6 out the schedule for Monday in order to schedule in
7 witnesses.

8 JUDGE SMITH: 2:30 to 6:00, no afternoon break.

9 MR. GALLO: That's fine. Thank you.

10 JUDGE SMITH: Are you ready to testify, sir?

11 MR. SERKIZ: Yes, sir.

12 JUDGE SMITH: May I administer the oath?

13 (Witness sworn.)

14 JUDGE SMITH: Where are you going to sit?

15 MR. SERKIZ: If the board wants me to sit there,
16 I will sit there.

17 JUDGE SMITH: Yes, I think that would be a good
18 place.

19 MR. GOLDBERG: Could the witness sit --

20 JUDGE SMITH: I am sorry. I could see him
21 better there.

22 JUDGE COLE: I can't see him from there. then.

23 MR. GOLDBERG: You are better here then. Okay.
24 Go ahead.

25 We will be breaking today at 11:30 today.

1 ALECK SERKIZ
2 called as a witness by counsel for NRC Staff, having been first
3 duly sworn by the Chairman, was examined and testified
4 as follows:

5 DIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. GOLDBERG

7 Q Mr. Serkiz, do you have before you a document entitled
8 testimony of Aleck Serkiz on DAARE/SAFE Contention 9A?
9 A I do.
10 Q Did you write that document?
11 A Yes, I did.
12 Q Do you have any changes you wish to make?
13 A No, sir.
14 Q Are the contents true and correct?
15 A The contents are true and correct to the best of my
16 knowledge.
17 Q Do you adopt this as a statement of your testimony in this
18 proceeding?
19 A I do.
20 Q Do you also have attached thereto a written statement of
21 professional qualifications?
22 A I do.
23 Q Did you write that document?
24 A Yes, sir.
25 Q Do you have any changes to make?

1 A No, sir.

2 Q Are its contents true and correct?

3 A The contents are true and correct.

4 Q Do you adopt it as a statement of your professional
5 qualifications in this proceeding?

6 A I do.

7 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, at this time I would like
8 to move that the written testimony of Aleck Serkiz and
9 accompanying statement of professional qualification be
10 received in evidence and bound into the record as if read.

11 JUDGE SMITH: Are there any objections?

12 MR. COPELAND: Applicant has no objections, your
13 Honor.

14 MS. CHAVEZ: DAARE/SAFE has no objections.

15 JUDGE SMITH: The testify is received.

16 (The document referred to, the prepared
17 testimony of Aleck Serkiz, received in
18 evidence, follows:)

19 MR. GOLDBERG: At this time, Judge, the witness
20 is available for Cross Examination.

21 JUDGE SMITH: Ms. Chavez.

22 CROSS-EXAMINATION ON BEHALF
23 OF DAARE/SAFE

24 BY MS. CHAVEZ

25 Q Mr. Serkiz, can you hear me?

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

(Byron Station, Units 1 and 2)

}
}
}
Docket Nos. 50-454
50-455

TESTIMONY OF ALECK SERKIZ ON DAARE/SAFE CONTENTION 9A

Serkiz Summary

This testimony addresses the issue raised in DAARE/SAFE

Contention 9(a) regarding the implications of the 1981 KRSKO water hammer event on Byron. It makes the following principal points:

1. As best as can be determined, the KRSKO water hammer occurred external to the steam generator, namely, a bulge or blister in the bypass piping of the secondary shield wall. The cause is attributed to backleakage through auxiliary feedwater (AFW) check valves which were apparently known to leak. It was reported that the incident occurred during intermittent testing of the AFW pumps.
2. Whereas the KRSKO event indicated that a water hammer (due to a steam void collapse) can occur in a plant which employs a preheat steam generator, there are key design features, controls and operating procedures for Byron which differ from those that contributed to the KRSKO event. A generic evaluation performed by Staff consultants concluded that water hammer potential is very low if these features, controls and procedures are present.
3. In the Staff opinion, the KRSKO event is unique to that plant and not generic in nature.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY

(Byron Station, Units 1 and 2)

}
Docket Nos. 50-454
50-455
}

TESTIMONY OF ALECK W. SERKIZ
REGARDING DAARE/SAFE CONTENTION 9(a)

Q.1. Please state your name and affiliation.

A.1. My name is Aleck W. Serkiz. I am a Senior Task Manager in the Generic Issues Branch, in the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A copy of my professional qualifications is attached.

Q.2. What is the purpose of your testimony?

A.2. The purpose of this testimony is to address the staff position with regard to DAARE/SAFE Contention 9(a) dealing with serious water hammer problems.

Q.3. Do you adopt the SER section on water hammer as part of your direct testimony?

A.3. Yes. As task manager for Unresolved Safety Issue (USI) A-1, "Water Hammer", I have reviewed Section C.5 (A-1) of the February 1982 Byron Safety Evaluation Report (NUREG-0876) and adopt it as a part of my direct testimony on contention 9(a).

Q.4. Are you aware of a 1981 water hammer event at the KRSKO nuclear plant in Yugoslavia which utilizes a Type D-4 steam generator?

A.4. Yes. In affidavits accompanying the Applicant's June 7, 1982 motion for summary disposition of Contention 9(a) reference is made to a water hammer event believed to have occurred at the KRSKO Nuclear Power Plant in Yugoslavia during hot functional testing in July 1981 and cite examinations revealing small permanent displacement of some feedwater bypass piping and some bulging in the area of the secondary shield wall. Discovery of damage is given as August 1981.

Q.5 What is the extent of your knowledge about this event?

A.5 The Staff does not have precise details of events leading to the water hammer occurrence at the KRSKO. Some information regarding this KRSKO event was obtained in a meeting with Westinghouse and Commonwealth Edison staff on July 27, 1982, ^{1/} and followup information was transmitted by Commonwealth Edison on September 9, 1982. ^{2/} The Staff's knowledge of the KRSKO water hammer event is based on Applicant answers to Staff questions provided in a September 9, 1982 memorandum. ^{2/} This memorandum also relates the KRSKO event and system design features to the Byron plants. As reported, the KRSKO water hammer occurred external to the steam generator (e.g., a bulge or blister in the bypass piping downstream of the secondary shield wall was reported). The cause was attributed to backleakage through auxiliary feedwater (AFW) check valves "which were known to leak" and were later refurbished. ^{2/} In addition, it was reported that the incident occurred during intermittent testing

(e.g., "start and stop") of the AFW pumps. Thus, it appears that both design deficiencies (i.e., leaky check valves and random AFW system operation) led to the KRSKO event.

Q.6. What corrective measures did Westinghouse recommend to KRSKO?

A.6. The corrective actions recommended to KRSKO were: (a) maintain steam generator water level above the auxiliary feedwater discharge pipe inside the steam generator, (b) at low load or hot standby conditions, the operator is instructed to supply feedwater continuously rather than intermittently, and (c) instrument the piping upstream of the steam generator auxiliary feedwater nozzle to monitor temperature for detecting the onset of steam back leakage. In retrospect, had these corrective measures been in effect in the first place (particularly the continuous feedwater flow in the AFW line), the KRSKO water hammer event would likely not have occurred.

Q.7. What is your assessment of the significance of the KRSKO event to Byron?

A.7. Whereas the KRSKO event reveals that a water hammer (due to steam void collapse) can occur in a plant which employs preheat steam generators, there are important design features, controls and operating procedures for Byron which are designed to prevent establishment of those conditions which contributed to the KRSKO water hammer. These can be summarized as follows:

- (1) In contrast to KRSKO startup, Byron startup uses the main feedwater system. Leakage through the feedwater regulatory

valves is eliminated by closure of the upstream isolation valve and steam generator level control during hot standby is to be controlled by blowdown not intermittent feed.

- (2) Although automatic switchover to the lower steam generator nozzle occurs at 20% power, tempering flow will be maintained through the upper steam generator auxilliary feed nozzle during all phases of power operation. With continuous flow in this line back leakage of steam is essentially eliminated. Also, the Byron steam generators are to be under automatic level control at all times thus further lowering the potential for uncovering of the AFW nozzle within the steam generator and avoiding exposure of the AFW line to steam. A more detailed discussion of the Byron design and operational procedures are contained in the September 9, 1982 Applicant answers to Staff questions.²

- (3) Although the applicant has indicated³ that warming flow to the auxilliary nozzle will not be maintained during the heat-up phase, and that the check valve near the auxilliary nozzle of the steam generator will be removed (or made inoperable), the installation of temperature sensors on the bypass piping near the auxilliary nozzle will provide a means for detecting back leakage of steam or hot water -- thereby avoiding the type of situation which occurred at the KRSKO plant.

In addition, the question of water hammer potential in preheat steam generators has been studied from a generic viewpoint.⁴ This generic evaluation concluded that water hammer potential is very low if the types of design features and operational controls such as planned for the Byron plants are implemented. Thus, it is the Staff position that the KRSKO event is plant-specific and not generic in nature.

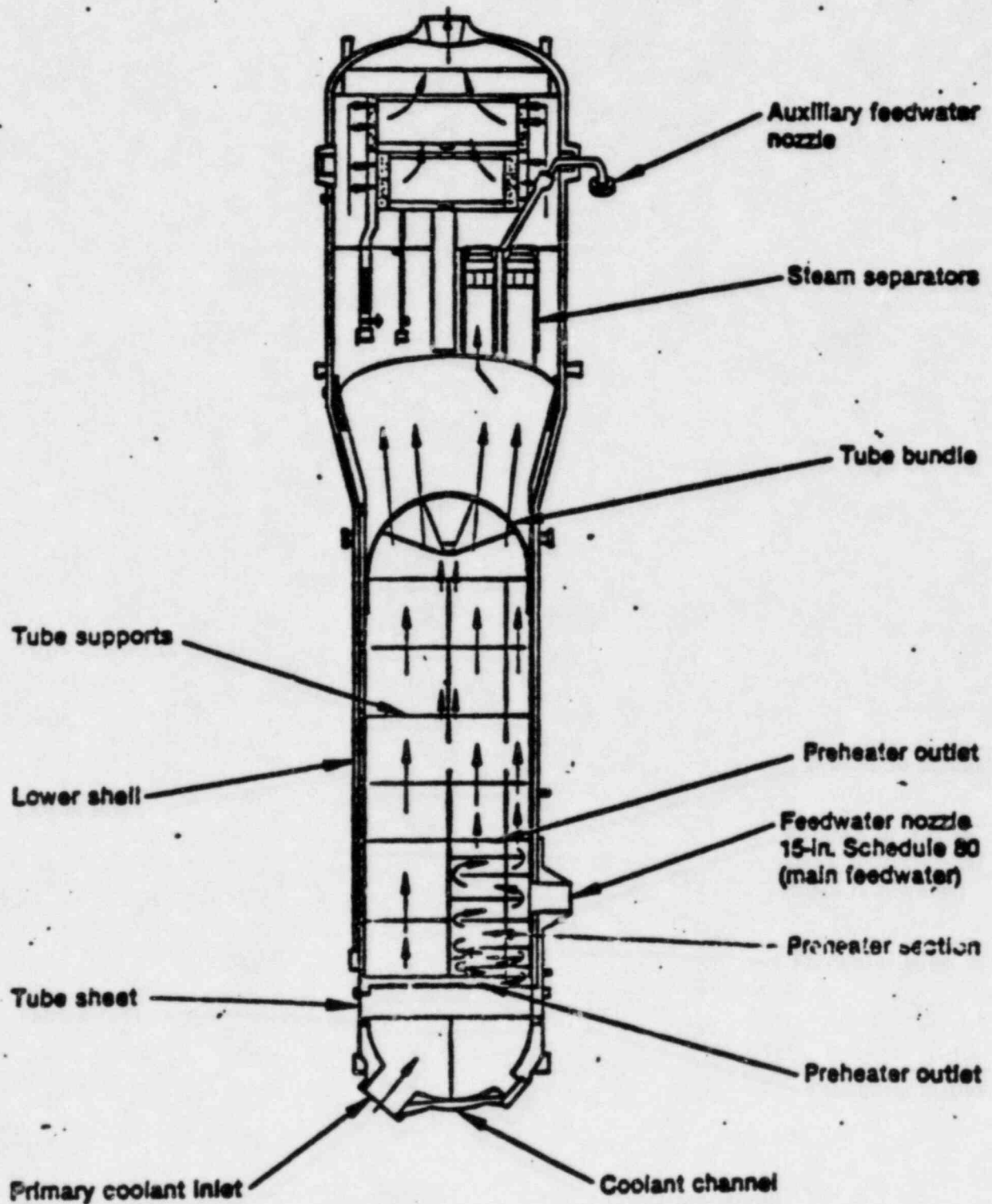
Q.8. Does the Staff believe that any additional water hammer protection features are necessary as a result of this event?

A.8. No. As noted above, the Byron plant design features and operational procedures appear adequate and capable of avoiding a water hammer condition similar to that which occurred at KRSKO. Furthermore, the actual susceptibility of the Byron steam generators to water hammer will be determined during preoperational testing as noted in Section 10.4.7 of the Byron SER.

References

1. 8/5/82, Memo from S. H. Chestnut to B. J. Youngblood summarizing 7/27/82 meeting with Westinghouse.
2. 9/9/82 Memo from T. R. Tramm (Commonwealth Edison) to H. R. Denton (NRC), "Byron Station Units 1 and 2, Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2 Water Hammer Prevention, NRC Docket Nos. 50-545, 50-455, 50-456, 50-457."
3. Affidavit of Kenneth A. Ainger (Commonwealth Edison Co.) submitted before the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board on February 10, 1983.
4. NUREG/CR-3090, "Evaluation of Water Hammer Potential in Preheat Steam Generators," December 1982.

Figure 1 Preheat Steam Generator at McGuire 1



PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Aleck W. Serkiz

My name is Aleck W. Serkiz and I am employed as a Senior Task Manager in the Generic Issues Branch, Division of Safety Technology, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D. C. I have held this position since April 1981 and am responsible for managing efforts related to the resolution of the Unresolved Safety Issue A-1, Water Hammer.

I received my Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Clarkson College of Technology in 1956 and attended the University of Cincinnati graduate school in 1958-1960. I am also a registered Professional Engineer in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Prior to joining the Generic Issues Branch, I was employed in Division of Reactor Safety Research, Office of Nuclear Reactor Research, NRC for 7½ years in the position of Senior Nuclear Engineer, Section Leader and Branch Chief (Acting). During those years I planned and supervised experimental research programs directed at resolving thermal hydraulic questions associated with the loss-of-coolant accident phenomena. I joined the Atomic Energy Commission in 1973, being employed by the Division of Reactor Licensing. Prior to government employment I was employed by Battelle Memorial Institute - Columbus Laboratories and by the General Electric Company. I have accumulated 26 years of experience in engineering, project management and supervision; 17 of those years have been in the private sector. Most of my experience has been related to power systems (both nuclear and non-nuclear), nuclear safety related research and reactor licensing.

1 A Yes, I can.

2 Q If at any point in the proceeding, you don't understand
3 what I am saying, please indicate so.

4 Can you identify for me a short description of what
5 the water hammer phenomenon is?

6 A Would you repeat that question again, please?

7 Q Yes. Can you give me a short description of the water
8 hammer phenomena?

9 A Water hammer phenomena as related to the contention in
10 question has to do with steam water hammer.

11 That phenomena has to do with steam condensation
12 that is brought about by cold water coming in contact with
13 steam, causing a condensation locally and then setting up
14 a potential for a water slug to impact structures.

15 Q Okay. Mr. Serkiz, is there any differentiation between
16 water hammer in bubble collapse phenomena in preheat steam
17 generators as opposed to other types of steam generators?

18 A Repeat the question, please.

19 Q Is there any difference between bubble collapse water
20 hammer in preheat steam generators as opposed to other
21 types of steam generators?

22 A The phenomena referred to as bubble collapse is the same
23 as I indicated earlier, steam pocket collapse.

24 A bubble or a pocket can be considered the same
25 terminology.

1 Q Okay. Does it occur in the same location in both types --
2 in all types of steam generators?

3 A Steam water hammer can occur in a system where steam and
4 water come in contact. There is no one preferred place
5 that steam water hammer has to occur.

6 Q Can you give me an idea of the locations at which bubble
7 collapse water hammer has occurred in steam generators?

8 MR. COPELAND: Your Honor. I would like to
9 object to the relevance of this question.

10 We have a specified contention here where the water
11 hammer occurred. We only have three hours here this
12 morning.

13 I don't think it's necessary to go into a general
14 exposition of water hammer in other steam generators.

15 JUDGE SMITH: I might say, Ms. Chavez, that,
16 perhaps, the relevancy of the question is really arguable
17 and debatable; and that will be a judgment call.

18 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

19 JUDGE SMITH: No matter what, you will have to
20 complete your Cross Examination this morning.

21 So suit yourself as to the detail in which you go
22 into these questions.

23 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

24 JUDGE SMITH: In the meantime, the objection is
25 overruled.

1 Excuse me. Let me clarify that point: I am not
2 even saying that you have the entire morning to do it,
3 either; but you have no more than the morning.

4 MS. CHAVEZ: I see. Okay.

5 MR. COPELAND: Your Honor, at this point I would
6 like to add, also, that Applicant has a few questions for
7 the witness, also.

8 JUDGE SMITH: Of course.

9 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

10 Q Mr. Serkiz, in your testimony you referred to the document
11 which I have one copy of -- Staff may have more copies --
12 entitled, "Evaluation of water hammer potential in
13 feedwater in generators."

14 Do you have a copy of that document?

15 A Is the document NUREG/CR-3090?

16 Q That's right.

17 A I have a copy.

18 JUDGE SMITH: Before you proceed, I overruled
19 the objection to your last question; but it was not
20 answered.

21 THE WITNESS: I beg your pardon?

22 JUDGE SMITH: Do you want the question answered?

23 MS. CHAVEZ: No, I don't.

24 JUDGE SMITH: You withdraw the question?

25 MS. CHAVEZ: I withdraw the last question that I

1 addressed to you.

2 JUDGE SMITH: Okay. Proceed.

3 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

4 Q On Page 3-9 of the Staff report, the last paragraph in
5 Section 3.2.3 identifies the water hammer prevention logic
6 at Byron which will automatically close the main feedwater
7 isolation valve and open the bypass valve to the auxiliary
8 feedwater line if flow -- if temperature and flow --
9 conditions reach a state conducive to steam bubble
10 collapse in the preheat section of the steam generator.

11 Mr. Serkiz, are you familiar with that logic?

12 A With respect to the paragraph that you are referring to in
13 this report let me clarify for the record, this is not a
14 Staff report. It is a contractor report I am familiar
15 with.

16 With respect to your question as to the water hammer
17 prevention logic that is mentioned in that paragraph, that
18 is the terminology which is used to describe the control
19 on automatic valves in that plant or other plants, which
20 are tied into other functional sensors, which would then
21 perform the function there, which is to open or close the
22 valve to admit water to the auxiliary feedwater line.

23 Q Are you familiar with it in general or are you
24 specifically familiar with the system at Byron?

25 A I am familiar with it in general.

1 Q Okay. In general then, based upon your general
2 familiarity, do you know what sort of instrumentation is
3 usually placed in these systems?

4 A Generally speaking, when you have a valve, you will sense
5 flow by appropriate instrumentation.

6 Q So you cannot specify any particular type of
7 instrumentation?

8 A I will repeat what I said.

9 For the type of valve that you are questioning and
10 the logic in question, in general, or the design practices
11 that are used, will sense flow through a sensor.

12 The sensors vary plant to plant, application to
13 application.

14 Q Uh-huh. Do you know what type of sensors would be placed
15 in --

16 A I have not seen the specifications on the sensors in this
17 plant.

18 Q Okay. So --

19 JUDGE SMITH: So the answer is no?

20 THE WITNESS: The answer is no, sir.

21 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

22 Q Do you know why there happens to exist that particular
23 logic for that location?

24 MR. COPELAND: Your Honor, again I would like to
25 object.

1 The section she is referring to talks about or
2 concerns water hammer in the preheater section, which was --
3 this issue was disposed of in motion for summary
4 disposition.

5 We are concerned with the KRSKO water hammer events
6 which occurred in the auxiliary feedwater system and the
7 feedwater bypass system. She is asking questions
8 concerning bubble collapse in the preheater section.

9 JUDGE SMITH: Do you agree?

10 MS. CHAVEZ: Your Honor, I would like to say
11 that as far as I understand the ruling on the motions for
12 summary disposition, the particular type of water hammer
13 excluded from consideration in this case was the type
14 associated with the Zion plant, which is a prefeed ring
15 steam generator, which means water hammer occurring in the
16 upper half of the steam generator.

17 JUDGE SMITH: So do you understand your
18 contention then as it's revised --

19 MS. CHAVEZ: I understand my contention not to
20 say anything in particular about the preheater section.

21 JUDGE SMITH: But you understand your contention
22 as it survived to include every other type of water hammer
23 event, other than the one that was disposed of by summary
24 disposition?

25 MS. CHAVEZ: Your Honor, my interpretation of

1 that contention may include that; but it specifically
2 intended and was directed toward that type of water hammer
3 which could occur at the KRSKO plant; and, to my
4 knowledge, no one has addressed the possibility of
5 preheater or any other type of water hammer occurring at
6 the KRSKO plant.

7 JUDGE COLE: I don't think it was the Board's
8 intention to expand it that far.

9 MS. CHAVEZ: Oh, okay.

10 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, I think we could only look
11 to the language of the stipulated contention that the
12 parties filed on February 15th to ascertain the language
13 and scope of the contention; and it, basically, is what
14 precautions have been taken at Byron to preclude the type
15 of bubble collapse water hammer that occurred at KRSKO
16 feedwater bypass line.

17 I haven't been objecting to the questions because --
18 I mean, I have let them go for a while; but it is arguably
19 irrelevant to the issue.

20 JUDGE SMITH: Objection sustained.

21 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

22 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

23 Q In response to Question 3 on the bottom of your first page
24 of your testimony, you identify yourself as a Task Manager
25 for Unresolved Safety Issue A-1, Water hammer.

1 Can you define for me the scope of the NRC task
2 force and its responsibilities and your participation in
3 that task force?

4 A Let me address your first question.

5 As Task Manager on this Unresolved Safety Issue, I
6 have studied and evaluated water hammer occurrences in
7 nuclear power plants.

8 I have looked at the underlying causes, the
9 attendant damage, the corrective measures taken and the
10 safety significance of those occurrences relative to this
11 Unresolved Safety Issue, which goes beyond the scope of
12 this contention, as is my understanding.

13 In the capacity as the Task Manager on this
14 Unresolved Safety Issue I act, in effect, as a Project
15 Manager.

16 This means that I prepare the work scope, lay out
17 the work, draw in specialists from both within the NRC
18 Staff and external, utilize those resources placed at my
19 disposal, to come up with an understanding of water hammer
20 as we see it today based on fact and to develop a position
21 of resolution on this generic issue. That is my role as
22 Task Manager.

23 Q Can you define for me the number and scope of their
24 responsibilities of the respective members on the task
25 force?

1 A There is not a task force studying water hammer.

2 Q Okay. Can you define me what nature of staffing there is
3 in the NRC investigating this phenomena?

4 A The staffing in the NRC that is utilized is Staff from the
5 respective review branches that address different aspects
6 of the nuclear systems or subsystems.

7 Q Can you tell me what review branches are involved in this
8 process?

9 A In the case of water hammer, the Auxiliary Systems Branch
10 and Reactor Systems Branch were the primary branches
11 involved.

12 Q Was that latter Reactor Systems Branch?

13 A That was the Reactor Systems Branch.

14 Q Can you tell me if either of these two branches have had
15 direct input into the investigation of the KRSKO
16 water-hammer event?

17 A The NRC has not had an investigation of the KRSKO
18 water-hammer event.

19 Q Okay. You identify in your testimony that fact that the
20 information upon which the NRC Staff has relied has been
21 based in large or in all part upon information received
22 from Westinghouse and Commonwealth Edison regarding the
23 KRSKO plant event; is this correct?

24 A In my testimony I reference a document for information
25 which is noted as Reference 2, which was transmitted by

1 Commonwealth Edison on September 9, 1982, which responded
2 to a series of questions from the NRC Staff that had to do
3 with the KRSKO water-hammer occurrence and the Byron
4 plant.

5 Q Has this been your only source of information on the KRSKO
6 event?

7 A Also as noted in my testimony, there was a meeting held on
8 July 27, 1982, at which time Westinghouse personnel and
9 Commonwealth Edison personnel provided a presentation.

10 Q Can you tell me the scope of the presentation in terms of
11 transmitting information about the event?

12 A The reference noted here in my testimony is a memo from
13 Steve Chestnut to Joe Youngblood, dated August 5, 1982,
14 which summarized the July 27, 1982, meeting with
15 Westinghouse and Commonwealth Staff.

16 Q Did you participate in that meeting with Westinghouse and
17 Commonwealth Staff?

18 A I attended that meeting, yes.

19 Q Can you tell me details about the scope and nature of the
20 information transmitted to you about the event from
21 Westinghouse and --

22 A The scope and nature of material transmitted in that
23 meeting is also contained -- if your question is directed
24 to the KRSKO event -- is also contained in a transmittal
25 to the NRC, which is my Reference 2 and included in that

1 reference.

2 Q Mr. Serkiz, without referring me to a specific reference
3 that you cite in your testimony, can you tell me the
4 general scope and details of the information that was
5 transmitted to you at this meeting and to other NRC Staff
6 members by Westinghouse and Commonwealth Edison?

7 A There was a presentation made by Westinghouse Staff that
8 described what they knew about the KRSKO event.

9 Q Can you give me more detail?

10 A What detail would you like?

11 Q I would like detail concerning the nature of the event.

12 JUDGE SMITH: Nature of the what?

13 MS. CHAVEZ: Water hammer event at KRSKO plant.

14 A As I indicated in my Answer 5 to Question 5, that meeting
15 reported on the KRSKO water-hammer event and it reported
16 that the KRSKO water-hammer event had occurred external to
17 the steam generator.

18 Evidence of such an event was described in the form
19 of a bulge or a blister occurring external to the steam
20 generator in the bypass piping.

21 The cause attributed to that water hammer by the
22 Westinghouse staff was back leakage through the auxiliary
23 feedwater check valves.

24 It was noted in the September 9th submittal that the
25 valves were known to leak and were later refurbished.

1 In addition, at the same meeting and also in the
2 other transmittal, the second transmittal, it was reported
3 that the incident had occurred during preoperational
4 testing in which there was intermittent testing, namely
5 start and stop of auxiliary feedwater pumps.

6 In my opinion, it appears that both the
7 deficiencies, namely leaky check valves and random,
8 arbitrary feedwater pump operation, set up the conditions
9 which led to the KRSKO water-hammer event.

10 Q Is the information that is transmitted about the nature of
11 the KRSKO event, which you summarize in your testimony,
12 complete and accurate in terms of the scope of information
13 that the NRC has about the event?

14 A To the best of my knowledge, it is.

15 Q In other words, the NRC has no further information about
16 the event, other than what is specified in your testimony?

17 A I don't know. To the best of my knowledge, this is the
18 information available.

19 Q Does the NRC have access to or has it had access to
20 information concerning the investigation and the details
21 of that investigation about the KRSKO water-hammer event?

22 A Please repeat the question.

23 Q Yes. Does NRC Staff have or in the past had access to
24 information from the investigation at the KRSKO plant into
25 the water-hammer occurrence?

1 A I am not familiar with any investigation at the KRSKO
2 plant.

3 Q Correct me if I am mistaken, but are you saying that, to
4 your knowledge, you have no familiarity with any
5 investigation of the water-hammer event that has taken
6 place at the KRSKO plant?

7 A My familiarity of any investigation is summarized in the
8 transmittal that was sent to us, dated September 9th.

9 Q Do you have any familiarity with any of the informational
10 data which may have been obtained as a result of any
11 investigation after the event?

12 A I have none.

13 Q Do you know if any other Staff individuals known to you or
14 dealing with the water-hammer phenomenon would have had
15 access to that information?

16 A I don't know.

17 JUDGE SMITH: Would you have been in a position
18 to know?

19 THE WITNESS: I would have been in a position to
20 know but I don't, frankly, know.

21 The information that was provided to us was in
22 direct response to a series of Staff questions to help
23 clarify this sort of questioning and so we would have in
24 one place what we felt was a concise and reasonably
25 accurate record of what had happened.

1 The best reference that I can take anyone to on the
2 KRSKO event is the transmittal by the Utility on September
3 9th that put on the written record what people knew about
4 the KRSKO event.

5 Since there were attendant questions to whether the
6 events could replicate -- excuse me, not replicate but
7 also occur in the Byron plant, we asked a series of
8 comparative questions with the Byron plant.

9 If there were other knowledge or considerations, I
10 am not aware of them.

11 MS. CHAVEZ: Your Honor, can I go off the record
12 for a minute to ask Staff if he has a copy of that
13 document that is referenced in his testimony?

14 JUDGE SMITH: Stay on the record and do it.

15 MS. CHAVEZ: Not that one but that communication
16 from -- it's Reference 2.

17 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes, I do.

18 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay. Do you have a spare copy
19 that I can use?

20 MR. GOLDBERG: You can use it for purposes of
21 questioning. It's my only copy.

22 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

23 MR. GOLDBERG: Does the witness have a copy?

24 THE WITNESS: I have a copy.

25 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

1 Q Are you familiar with the document that you referenced as
2 No. 2 in your testimony?

3 A I am.

4 Q Do you have a copy of it before you?

5 A I have a copy.

6 Q Okay. Figure 4 as an exhibit identifies the layout of the
7 KRSKO upper half of the steam generator.

8 For general informational purposes, is this layout
9 in detail the same or fairly similar to the Byron layout?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Okay.

12 JUDGE SMITH: Excuse me. You are looking at a
13 very sizeable document.

14 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes. It's Figure 4.

15 I don't see a page citation on it.

16 JUDGE SMITH: Well, as I read your testimony,
17 Reference 2 is a memo.

18 MS. CHAVEZ: Right, right.

19 JUDGE SMITH: And that is it?

20 THE WITNESS: For the Board's clarification,
21 Reference 2 is a memo with an attachment.

22 The figure that Ms. Chavez is referring to is a
23 cross-sectional view of the upper portion of a D4 steam
24 generator.

25 (Indicating.)

1 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Can that document be identified
2 for the record?

3 JUDGE SMITH: Do you want it in evidence?

4 JUDGE CALLIHAN: No.

5 THE WITNESS: It's identified as my Reference 2,
6 sir; and I apologize that I don't have an extra copy for
7 you, for the purpose of this hearing.

8 MR. GOLDBERG: I only have one copy, your Honor.

9 MR. COPELAND: Excuse me, your Honor. We have
10 quite a few copies here.

11 Would you like a copy?

12 JUDGE COLE: Yes. You said you have quite a
13 few. How many do you have?

14 MR. COPELAND: Well, I am not sure. This was
15 the document as sent to Staff, the letter from from
16 Commonwealth Edison and the attached document.

17 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Should we have this? Is this
18 somewhere in our files, Mr. Goldberg?

19 MR. GOLDBERG: No, it isn't, Judge Callihan.

20 MR. COPELAND: I thought I would clarify, your
21 Honor.

22 On October 14th of 1982 Mr. Gallo sent a letter to
23 the Board and attached to that letter was an affidavit of
24 Leslie A. Bowen and further attached was a copy of this
25 document, the letter from Tom Tramm of Commonwealth Edison

1 to Harold Denton, Director of the Office of Nuclear
2 Reactor Regulation, and attached to Mr. Tramm's letter was
3 this document which we are now concerned with

4 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Is it true that Ms. Bowen's
5 affidavit will not be a part of this record?

6 MR. COPELAND: We are not submitting it as part
7 of the record.

8 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Thank you.

9 MR. COPELAND: We are concerned with -- I am
10 just indicating when it was served on the Board.

11 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Yes. I have a copy and I just
12 wondered of its disposition.

13 This is the attachment to her affidavit?

14 MR. COPELAND: It was a second attachment to the
15 letter from Mr. Gallo. It was not actually an attachment
16 to Ms. Bowen's affidavit.

17 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Thank you.

18 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

19 Q Mr. Serkiz, can you tell me if the information contained
20 within this document is the full extent of the information
21 that's been transmitted to Staff about the KRSKO plant?

22 A To the best of my knowledge, this is the record that we
23 have based our evaluations on for this contention.

24 Q Mr. Serkiz, what part or what weight is given to the
25 evaluation of the KRSKO water-hammer event to the

1 evaluation of your generic task?

2 A The KRSKO water-hammer event is another event which
3 demonstrates that when steam and water come in contact,
4 you can generate a water hammer.

5 With respect to the generic issue, this event is the
6 only example we have at this point in time that for a
7 nuclear power plant system employing preheat steam
8 generators, that a steam water hammer occurred.

9 We, therefore, look at it as an example to evaluate
10 generic implications.

11 We also, as indicated in a contractor's report that
12 you referred to earlier, the NUREG/CR 3090, looked at it
13 generically to see if there were implications to similar
14 nuclear power plant designs in the United States.

15 The contractor's evaluations are presented in that
16 report. As noted in that report, there are certain
17 conditions that are necessary to establish a steam water
18 hammer, these being, when you boil it all down, that you
19 have to have steam in contact with cold water.

20 That there are design features and operational
21 procedures which can be used --

22 MS. CHAVEZ: Your Honor, can I interrupt the
23 witness?

24 He is getting into areas which I will address in
25 going over specific detail concerning that document.

1 JUDGE SMITH: It's your option.

2 Do you feel that you have answered the question?

3 It does seem like you have gone beyond the simple
4 answer that she requested.

5 THE WITNESS: I will stop.

6 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

7 Q Can you tell me on a scale of 1 to 10 -- can you give me --
8 can you assign a value to the relative weight you will
9 give in evaluating the KRSKO event and evaluating the
10 generic water-hammer potentialities?

11 A No.

12 MR. COPELAND: Objection, your Honor. It calls
13 for speculation of the witness.

14 THE WITNESS: My answer is no.

15 MR. GALLO: Ask for an instruction that the
16 witness not answer in the face of an objection.

17 MR. COPELAND: Your Honor, if I may ask that the
18 witness not answer a question while there is an objection
19 on the floor.

20 THE WITNESS: Excuse me.

21 MS. CHAVEZ: Your Honor, I wish to respond to
22 that objection by saying that I know of no one with better
23 qualifications to respond to it.

24 JUDGE SMITH: It's moot, it's moot.

25 MS. CHAVEZ: It's moot?

1 JUDGE SMITH: Yes.

2 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

3 JUDGE COLE: He already answered it.

4 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay. Thank you.

5 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

6 Q Mr. Serkiz, on Page 3 of your affidavit -- I mean your
7 testimony -- you respond to the question about what
8 corrective measures did Westinghouse recommend to KRSKO
9 and list them.

10 Can you tell me whether or not the -- can you tell
11 me upon what basis you have evaluated those specific
12 recommendations in terms of their effectiveness at KRSKO?

13 A I am not sure I understood the question, but let me answer
14 it this way --

15 JUDGE SMITH: Two of us, at least, did not
16 understand it, either.

17 MS. CHAVEZ: All right.

18 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

19 Q You have identified the document you call Reference 2 as
20 being one source of information your office has had in
21 making its evaluation of the KRSKO water-hammer event.

22 I am wondering if you were solely dependent upon
23 that document in reaching your evaluation of the
24 modifications that Westinghouse recommended to KRSKO to
25 remedy the water-hammer event.

1 A The recommendation you are referring to was not made --
2 excuse me.

3 The recommendation that is referenced in my Answer 6
4 was, indeed, made by Westinghouse and are abstracted from
5 my Reference 2.

6 My evaluation or our evaluations were not based
7 totally on that.

8 Q Can you identify any other documents or information which
9 was or which served as a basis for your evaluation?

10 MR. GOLDBERG: What evaluation are we talking
11 about now?

12 MS. CHAVEZ: His evaluation of the KRSKO
13 water-hammer event.

14 MR. GOLDBERG: Of what occurred or --

15 MS. CHAVEZ: Of what occurred.

16 MR. GOLDBERG: Just what occurred, all right.

17 JUDGE SMITH: You see, the difficulty is
18 Question and Answer 6 related solely to --

19 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes. Okay. Let me --

20 MR. GOLDBERG: -- Westinghouse recommendations.

21 JUDGE SMITH: Yes.

22 MS. CHAVEZ: You are right.

23 JUDGE SMITH: If you have changed the direction
24 of your questioning, you should indicate, I believe.

25 MS. CHAVEZ: No, your Honor. I am still

1 referring to the recommendations.

2 MR. GOLDBERG: Can you repeat the question then
3 in that context?

4 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

5 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

6 Q Can you identify to me any other information or documents
7 that you or NRC referenced and used in its evaluation of
8 the recommendations that Westinghouse made to the KRSKO
9 plant concerning the KRSKO water-hammer event?

10 A The recommendations made by Westinghouse can be put into
11 category of good engineering design practices and prudent
12 operating procedures.

13 We did not need additional documents to make that
14 evaluation.

15 The point I make in the conclusion of my Answer 6
16 is, in retrospect, if those corrective measures
17 recommended after the fact had been in place, particularly
18 the continuous feedwater flow in the aux feedwater line,
19 the KRSKO water-hammer event would likely not have
20 occurred.

21 I think for the record it should be clearly stated
22 that if you do not have a condition where cold water can
23 come in contact with steam, you will not have the type of
24 event that occurred at KRSKO.

25 Q Mr. Serkiz, I don't think that was a direct response to my

1 question. I will ask it again.

2 A I have not used nor has the Staff used any additional
3 documents, other than those referenced, to review the
4 Westinghouse recommendations regarding the KRSKO event.

5 Is that an answer. Ma'am?

6 Q Yes, that is.

7 Let me ask one follow-up question to that answer.

8 That includes, I am presuming -- and please correct
9 me if I am wrong -- the information contained in that
10 document?

11 MR. GOLDBERG: Let the record reflect that
12 document is Reference 4 to Mr. Serkiz' written testimony.

13 JUDGE SMITH: If that document is not offered by
14 one of the parties, it's going to be brought in as a Board
15 Exhibit, so we might as well start referring to it by
16 proper identification.

17 Does anybody plan to offer it?

18 (No response.)

19 JUDGE SMITH: All right. Then it will be Board
20 Exhibit 2.

21 MS. CHAVEZ: Exhibit 2?

22 JUDGE SMITH: Yes.

23 (The document was thereupon marked as Board
24 Exhibit No. 2 as of March 4, 1983.)

25 MR. GOLDBERG: Would you like me to read the

1 reference into the record?

2 JUDGE SMITH: Yes. Would you read the entire
3 identification?

4 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes, Judge. Board Exhibit 2 is
5 entitled, Evaluation of Water Hammer Potential in Preheat
6 Steam Generators.

7 It was prepared by the Quadrex Corporation. E. G.
8 and G., Idaho, Incorporated, for the Nuclear Regulatory
9 Commission and bears the title number NUREG/CR-3090.

10 JUDGE SMITH: Are there any objections to
11 receiving it in evidence?

12 MR. GOLDBERG: No objection.

13 JUDGE SMITH: It's received.

14 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

15 Q Mr. Serkiz, you indicated to me that further information
16 other than what is contained in your testimony in that
17 document which was referenced as Reference 2 to your
18 testimony was not necessary -- and correct me if I am
19 wrong and you did not use the words, "not necessary" -- to
20 your evaluation or NRC Staff's evaluation of the
21 recommendations that Westinghouse made to the KRSKO plant;
22 is that correct?

23 A Ms. Chavez, what I said in response to your question,
24 which had to deal with my Answer 6, is to what additional
25 documents the Staff used to evaluate the Westinghouse

1 recommendations for the KRSKO plant.

2 We did not use any additional documents to evaluate
3 Westinghouse's recommendations to the KRSKO plant.

4 Q Did you feel it necessary then to use any other document?

5 A With respect to the base question addressed,
6 Westinghouse's recommendations to the KRSKO plant, no,
7 because the KRSKO plant is not a United States nuclear
8 power plant.

9 We looked at the recommendations in the context that
10 I responded previously.

11 There were recommendations that embodied good design
12 practices and prudent operating procedures, which trained
13 engineers or designers in the field will not need
14 additional references to to make an evaluation thereof.

15 Q Are those your words, good operational practices and
16 prudent -- I forget the exact phraseology that you just
17 used; but are those your words?

18 A No. I used the phrase using good design practice and
19 prudent operational considerations.

20 Q Are those your own? Is that your own terminology to
21 describe --

22 A That is my own terminology in response to your question.

23 Q Okay. Can you tell me what is the basis for your using
24 those terms in your evaluation of the recommendations
25 based upon your use of your document referenced as 2 in

1 your testimony?

2 MR. GOLDBERG: Did the witness understand the
3 question?

4 THE WITNESS: I was going to ask for the
5 question to be clarified or repeated.

6 MR. GOLDBERG: I think you are combining a lot
7 of concepts in there.

8 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

9 Q Can you tell me --

10 MR. GOLDBERG: If you want to just know the
11 basis for his opinion, maybe you can just ask the basis
12 for his opinion.

13 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

14 Q Can you give me the basis for your opinion, then?

15 A Opinion with respect to what?

16 Q With respect to using that terminology by which you
17 characterize the recommendations.

18 A Yes. With respect to my reply to your question addressing
19 my Answer 6, professionals that are trained to design
20 these types of plants or components would incorporate some
21 of the features that were recommended by Westinghouse.

22 The issue at hand, which is steam water hammer --
23 okay? -- is, basically, founded on whether or not you
24 have steam and water come in contact.

25 Prudent operating procedures. as I responded to your

1 question. deals with simply: Operate the plant so you do
2 not set up a condition leading to contact of cold water
3 with steam, which could lead to a water hammer.

4 Q So is it an assumption on your part that those good and
5 prudent actions will be followed?

6 MR. GOLDBERG: May I have a clarification?

7 The question is the Westinghouse recommendations to
8 KRSKO, corrective action recommendations of Westinghouse
9 to KRSKO; and those were the questions to which the
10 witness was responding.

11 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

12 MR. GOLDBERG: Now, if you want to apply those
13 recommendations to KRSKO in some other context, I think we
14 are getting into a different area.

15 MS. CHAVEZ: Let me clarify my application of
16 that.

17 MR. GOLDBERG: Okay.

18 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

19 Q Mr. Serkiz, you are characterizing those practices which
20 form the basis for the recommendations and implementation
21 of those recommendations at the KRSKO plant.

22 Is that an assumption on your part that those
23 characterizations will be carried out?

24 A It's not an assumption. It's a recommendation that
25 Westinghouse went on the record and provided documentation

1 accordingly. I don't need to make an assumption.

2 Q But isn't an assumption of yours based more upon your
3 scientific experience that they will use good designing
4 and prudent operation?

5 A I cannot speak to what KRSKO is going to do.

6 JUDGE SMITH: All right. Let's get straight to
7 the point here.

8 You say, in retrospect, had these corrective
9 measures been in effect in the first place, particularly
10 the continuous feedwater flow in the AFW line, the KRSKO
11 water-hammer event would likely not have occurred.

12 Well, inherent in that retrospective view is that
13 procedures would be followed and that good engineering
14 practices would be followed and that is an assumption of
15 regularity.

16 THE WITNESS: The recommendations are
17 technically sound, sir, yes; and if they are followed and
18 implemented in that vein, we should not have an occurrence
19 of a water hammer such as occurred at KRSKO; and,
20 furthermore, as I continue in my testimony, by looking at
21 that event -- and if the question that was being directed,
22 are these being implemented at the Byron plant -- and
23 immaterial not trying to lead the intervenor, sir; okay?

24 JUDGE SMITH: I think what they are seeking is:
25 Have you assumed that ordinarily competent engineering

1 judgment will be applied?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

3 JUDGE SMITH: Or would have been applied?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. I don't have a basis
5 not to.

6 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

7 Q Does that mean that you have never known in your
8 operational or scientific experience for those -- for that
9 not to occur?

10 A For what to occur, Ma'am?

11 Q For faulty design or faulty operation to occur.

12 A No.

13 JUDGE SMITH: My observation is -- and I haven't
14 consulted with the Board -- that when he stated what his
15 assumptions are, examination into the details of the
16 assumptions go beyond the scope of the direct examination.

17 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, I am not ensure that we
18 are talking about assumptions here.

19 We are talking about Westinghouse recommendations to
20 a foreign nuclear utility, namely, KRSKO; and he has
21 described what those recommendations were. He has given
22 his opinions that if they had been implemented at KRSKO,
23 the bubble collapse water-hammer event that occurred would
24 not have likely occurred and then goes on to testify what
25 precautions are going to be taken at the Byron plant to

1 similarly preclude a recurrence but I am not sure --

2 JUDGE SMITH: For example, Item B, at low load
3 or hot standby condition the operator is instructed to
4 supply feedwater continuously, then intermittently. Well,
5 simply instructing the operator doesn't do anything. The
6 assumption is that the operator will do it, too. This is
7 all inherent and I think that is the direction --

8 MR. GOLDBERG: Okay.

9 JUDGE SMITH: -- where Ms. Chavez is going.

10 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay. I am going to move on.

11 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

12 Q Is the KRSKO event then -- tell me if I am wrong, but is
13 the KRSKO event the extent of your experience with bubble
14 collapse water hammer in preheat steam generators?

15 A The KRSKO event is the only reported event I am aware of
16 that has experienced a steam bubble or a steam water
17 hammer in a nuclear power plant.

18 Q Is it also the only event that the NRC Staff is aware of?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Okay. A clarification. Did you say in response to my
21 first question that that is the only event that you are
22 aware of by having read about it?

23 A I stated in response to your question which was addressed,
24 is this the only one the NRC, this is the only reported
25 event that we are aware of.

1 Q Okay. In terms of -- okay. Is there any other -- is
2 there any other possibility that an unreported event could
3 have occurred that neither you nor Staff could have been
4 aware of?

5 A Yes.

6 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, I am not sure you can know
7 about an unreported event. Would you know about --

8 JUDGE SMITH: Wouldn't it be more productive to
9 establish that there are systems in place at the Nuclear
10 Regulatory Commission where such events would probably be
11 reported or not probably be reported, whichever the case
12 is, and when they are, you would know about them? I mean
13 there are requirements that they be reported.

14 THE WITNESS: Yes. The Nuclear Regulatory
15 Commission has what they call licensee event reports; and
16 in the case of events such as water hammer, these are
17 reported.

18 As I indicated in my testimony in reviewing this
19 Unresolved Safety Issue, that over 100 water-hammer events
20 have occurred in nuclear power plants. This has to do
21 with my Answer 3 and it's in the Byron Safety Evaluation
22 Report.

23 Our evaluation of water hammer is a generic issue.
24 It was based on reported events, as I indicated earlier,
25 the underlying causes, corrective measures and so on.

1 With respect to Ms. Chavez' question, the only event
2 that I am aware of in a nuclear power plant system that
3 does apply preheat steam generators wherein a water hammer
4 has occurred is the KRSKO plant.

5 JUDGE COLE: Mr. Serkiz, were you aware or are
6 you aware of any other steam bubble water-hammer event in
7 any other kind of plant?

8 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. The steam bubble water
9 hammer was the principal underlying cause for another type
10 of steam generator, which is called the top feed ring.
11 The phenomena or the physics associated with this
12 phenomena are the same, where you have an opportunity to
13 produce steam and bring cold water in contact.

14 So the answer to that is yes. with respect to a
15 system or a plant using preheat steam generators. we
16 looked at the three plants which the Board has termed
17 Exhibit 2, where we have some operating experience in the
18 United States, namely McGuire and Summer -- I correct that --
19 two plants that are operating. We also looked at the
20 Byron plant and its features; and based on what we know
21 about the physics of the problem and events that have led
22 to a steam water-hammer occurrence, the design features in
23 a plant like Byron and operating procedures which call for
24 tempering flow support a situation where you will minimize
25 or avoid back leakage of steam. If you do not have back

1 leakage of steam -- and there are several layers, if you
2 will, of precautions that are proposed for the Byron plant --
3 I think the situation is such that the probability is low
4 for a water hammer of this type to occur.

5 JUDGE COLE: That was more than my question
6 asked for. I didn't want to stop you.

7 THE WITNESS: I am sorry. I get carried away.

8 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

9 Q Mr. Serkiz, part of what you address there -- I don't
10 know. Is the Board finished?

11 JUDGE COLE: Yes. Thank you.

12 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

13 Q Part of what you address brings me to my next topic, which
14 is Page 3-12 of Exhibit 2 --

15 MR. COPELAND: Is that Board Exhibit 2?

16 MS. CHAVEZ: Board Exhibit 2.

17 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

18 Q -- wherein the report identifies the four conditions which
19 you have identified must be present in one form or another
20 in order for bubble collapse water hammer to occur.

21 Mr. Serkiz, was there any Staff participation in the
22 draw-up of this report?

23 A What do you mean by Staff participation?

24 Q Direct participation.

25 A No.

1 Q Okay. Either by yourself or by any other individual?

2 A No.

3 Q Okay. Can you tell me if there was indirect
4 participation. and, if so. to what extent and what the
5 nature of that participation was?

6 A Yes. There was indirect participation on my part in that
7 I provided to this contractor information related to the
8 KRSKO event and plant design specifics for the McGuire,
9 Summer and Byron.

10 As indicated in the Board Exhibit 2, there are a
11 series of references in the latter part of the report,
12 which constitute reports or information dealing with what
13 I have just mentioned. These were provided to the
14 contractor for his independent evaluation. to look at this
15 particular issue.

16 Q In terms of those references in Board Exhibit 2, can you
17 tell me if the information pertaining to the Byron plant
18 that you transmitted to the contractors who drew up this
19 report was contained in Reference 7, which I will identify
20 as the affidavits of Robert W. Carlson and Leslie A. Brown
21 or Bowen?

22 A That's correct. that's one of them.

23 Q Were there any others?

24 A Yes. If you will look at Reference 4 on Page 5-1. This
25 is a letter from Mr. Tramm to Mr. Denton, which I

1 referred to as my Reference No. 2.

2 Q Okay. In response --

3 A If you look at Reference 9, this is information on the
4 Virgil Summer plant.

5 Q Okay. I am speaking specifically concerning the Byron
6 plant and not about the Summer plant or the KRSKO
7 facility.

8 A What is your question then?

9 Q My question is whether or not Reference 7 contained a --
10 contained all of the information pertaining to the Byron
11 plant which was transmitted to the contractors of this
12 report to draw --

13 A I just answered the question no, because Reference 4 and
14 Reference 7 both contain information pertinent to the
15 Byron plant.

16 JUDGE COLE: How about 14?

17 THE WITNESS: 14 also, but I didn't get that
18 far.

19 JUDGE COLE: Thank you.

20 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

21 Q Can you tell me whether or not for Reference 14 you
22 transmitted the entire SER for Byron and Braidwood or
23 whether you transmitted portions and if so, which
24 transmissions?

25 A I transmitted what is referenced there, Section 10.2.

1 JUDGE COLE: You mean the FSAR. I believe you
2 said SER.

3 MS. CHAVEZ: I meant FSAR.

4 THE WITNESS: FSAR, yes, sir.

5 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

6 Q Can you identify for me the origination of the information
7 which was contained in Reference 7 that you transmitted?

8 MR. COPELAND: Your Honor, I will object to
9 this. We have been over this before. As I explained
10 earlier, this letter was sent to -- this was attached to a
11 letter from Mr. Gallo sent to the Staff.

12 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, I believe Reference 7
13 refers to affidavits that accompanied --

14 MR. COPELAND: I am sorry.

15 MR. GOLDBERG: Applicant summary disposition
16 motions in this case.

17 MR. COPELAND: I stand corrected.

18 THE WITNESS: That is the information that was
19 transmitted to Quadrex.

20 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

21 Q On Page 3-12 of Board Exhibit 2, you identify four
22 conditions, one of which must be present in order for
23 bubble collapse water hammer to occur.

24 MR. GOLDBERG: Ms. Chavez, can you repeat that?

25 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes.

1 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

2 Q On Page 3-2 of Board Exhibit 2 --

3 MR. COPELAND: 3-12?.

4 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

5 Q I mean 3-12, yes.

6 -- you identify -- I mean the report identifies four
7 conditions. one of which --

8 JUDGE SMITH: That's where I think Mr.
9 Goldberg's trouble comes.

10 MR. GOLDBERG: My question was: She said you
11 identified and I just want to reflect that this is a
12 contractor report.

13 MS. CHAVEZ: Right.

14 JUDGE SMITH: Finish your question. I am sorry.

15 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

16 Q Let's see.

17 -- as having to be present in order for bubble
18 collapse water hammer to occur?

19 JUDGE SMITH: Now, do you agree with the premise
20 of the question?

21 A No, because the report states, "for water hammer similar
22 to that of the KRSKO plant to occur in U. S. plants which
23 use preheat steam generators, the following conditions
24 must exist concurrently in the feedwater bypass and
25 auxiliary feedwater lines. not singularly."

1 Q All right. I stand corrected there.

2 The first condition involves a drop in the steam
3 generator water level, which would drop low enough to
4 uncover the internal discharge pipe from the auxiliary
5 nozzle for an extended time period.

6 Based upon Figure 4 in Reference 2 of your
7 testimony, which is essentially that schematic depiction
8 of the internal portion of the KRSKO water hammer -- I
9 mean water steam generator, can you tell me if -- can you
10 tell me how long that -- what that time period would have
11 to be?

12 A I don't -- I don't know which figure you are referring to.
13 Would you take me to the figure?

14 Q Figure 4.

15 A Of which document?

16 Q Of Reference 2 of your testimony.

17 A Figure 4 you referred to before?

18 Q Yes.

19 A Would you ask your question again now that I have the
20 correct figure?

21 Q Yes. Looking at that steam generator design and the
22 location of that pipe and the angle and diameter of that
23 pipe as indicated in the -- as indicated in Figure 4 --

24 JUDGE COLE: I am sorry. Which pipe are you
25 talking about on Figure 4?

1 MS. CHAVEZ: Figure 4 is the internal discharge
2 pipe connected to the auxiliary feedwater nozzle.

3 THE WITNESS: I am having difficulty relating to
4 that pipe; but let me look at this.

5 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

6 THE WITNESS: To place myself in prospective on
7 this figure is that the pipe that would be at or near the
8 vertical elevation. we are on the right-hand side, the
9 words are, "top of auxiliary nozzle discharge."

10 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes.

11 THE WITNESS: Your question again, please?

12 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

13 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

14 Q Can you tell me for what extended time period that
15 discharge pipe would have to be uncovered in order to lead
16 to conditions which would initiate a water hammer?

17 A That would be dependent on two factors. One, the
18 operational mode of the plant; and, secondly, the system
19 design in a feedwater or auxiliary feedwater system
20 external to the pipe that you are referring to in this
21 figure, which is introduced through the auxiliary nozzle,
22 auxiliary feedwater nozzle, even though not termed such on
23 this drawing.

24 Q Right. Can you tell me if there are a number of factors,
25 not only those two that you specified but others which

1 would determine the length of time that that nozzle would
2 have to be uncovered in order for a water hammer to
3 initiate?

4 A Those two factors encompass the answer to that question.
5 It depends on the operational mode of the plant and also
6 the design of the feedwater and auxiliary feedwater system
7 upstream of that nozzle.

8 Now, if you can be specific, I can try to address
9 your question.

10 Q All right. The implication of your answer is that
11 depending on the mode of operation and a number of
12 variables associated with the design of this, of the
13 feedwater system, water hammer could or could not occur at
14 a specific facility?

15 A That's correct. The Board Exhibit 2 that's been referred
16 to, I think, on Page 3-12 at the top, indicates four
17 conditions which must exist concurrently, which could set
18 up conditions. These are dependent on the plant
19 operational mode and the plant design.

20 In my response or in my testimony, going with my
21 Answer 7, I tried to address the latter question that you
22 posed here, that there are design features and operating
23 modes which would prevent setting up conditions leading to
24 it.

25 Now, I can try to further address your question and

1 not talk in the abstract; but if your question is
2 fundamentally aimed at in the Byron plant: Do I expect
3 the type of water hammer in the KRSKO? My answer is no.

4 Q Okay. That's not the direction my question is leading.

5 A Again, I will try to be responsive.

6 Q Okay. What I am trying to determine by my line of
7 questioning is to whether or not there exists a
8 significant number of variables which could be
9 differentiated for each of those conditions identified on
10 Page 3-12 of that report according to specific facilities?

11 A The only way I can answer that question, I don't feel
12 there are a significant number of variables; but I don't
13 know how to deal with your terminology of variables.

14 Q What variables other than those specifically identified on
15 Page 3-12 would you consider to be pertinent to each of
16 those conditions?

17 A None.

18 Q Would you consider it important to know details at a more
19 specific level for each of those conditions in order to
20 determine whether or not any one of those conditions could
21 exist?

22 A No.

23 Q So, in other words, in your opinion, those conditions as
24 set out on Page 3-12 form an adequate basis, without
25 consideration of any specific detail related to any one of

1 those for --

2 A No, no. Those conditions set forth are the conditions as
3 stated there. If they existed concurrently, you
4 could have water hammer.

5 My answer to you just previously was based on the
6 design as we see it submitted by the Applicant on Byron,
7 both from the design features and the operational
8 considerations; and the operational considerations are
9 further detailed in the testimony of Mr. Pleniewicz, which
10 will come before the Board.

11 I feel that there is adequate design and operational
12 consideration and precaution taken to avoid a water hammer
13 such as occurred at KRSKO. However, it should be clearly
14 stated the water hammer will continue to occur. The fact
15 that you have a water hammer occur does not automatically
16 make it a safety issue.

17 Q When you state that water hammer will automatically
18 continue to occur, can you give me a number of instances
19 that you would predict for that to occur over the lifetime
20 of a steam generator?

21 A Water hammer is unpredictable.

22 Q Are you familiar with Westinghouse recommendations that in
23 any particular facility no more than ten water-hammer
24 events of significant severity occur per steam generator?

25 A I am familiar with that and that is not applicable to the

1 contention being discussed here. That is a different
2 issue. It is not steam water hammer.

3 JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Serkiz, that may very well be.

4 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. I am familiar with it.
5 yes.

6 MR. GOLDBERG: I will make any objections, Mr.
7 Serkiz.

8 (Laughter.)

9 THE WITNESS: Pardon me. I apologize.

10 JUDGE SMITH: Well, it's not necessarily an
11 objection. It can also be a factual explanation.

12 THE WITNESS: That's why I was trying to make
13 the point, that it is a different type of water hammer.

14 MR. GOLDBERG: All right. I am sorry. your
15 Honor.

16 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

17 Q Does that statement imply that different types of water
18 hammer cause different types of fatigue rates on the metal
19 associated with the piping in the feedwater systems and
20 preheat steam generators?

21 MR. GOLDBERG: Now I will object on the
22 relevance to the Contention 9A.

23 MS. CHAVEZ: The relevance of the question
24 addresses the basis for Westinghouse recommendation that
25 no more than ten water-hammer events occur during the

1 lifetime of the facility because of the concern that --
2 concern of the result that this may have upon the fatigue
3 factor of the piping systems in those facilities.

4 MR. GOLDBERG: But as Mr. Serkiz has testified,
5 there is water hammer and there is water hammer. There is
6 water hammer of the type that occurred at KRSKO and there
7 is water hammer of a different character.

8 MS. CHAVEZ: Right, and he has differentiated
9 between the two; and I am trying to find the basis for his
10 differentiation.

11 THE WITNESS: I will answer your question
12 correctly of anyone who wants me to.

13 MR. GOLDBERG: Well, if you can --

14 JUDGE SMITH: Wait a minute. Nobody talk now.

15 (Board conferring.)

16 JUDGE SMITH: Is there an objection?

17 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes, there is. I think it's
18 irrelevant to the specific contention, which is KRSKO
19 incident and precautions at Byron to reduce the --
20 demonstrate that a similar event will not occur at Byron.

21 MS. CHAVEZ: Can I add something?

22 JUDGE SMITH: Just a minute.

23 Go ahead. You can comment.

24 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay. I think the question is
25 relevant because it concerns the fatigue rate of water

1 hammer upon the piping systems of facilities, and I am
2 trying to determine whether there is a differential in
3 that fatigue rate between bubble collapse water hammer and
4 the more -- more familiar type of water hammer.

5 JUDGE COLE: Classical water hammer.

6 MS. CHAVEZ: Classical, yes.

7 JUDGE SMITH: Some of the ten would be KRSKO
8 types. bubble collapse types?

9 THE WITNESS: No, sir. What Ms. Chavez has
10 brought up is a Westinghouse recommendation, which, as I
11 read the background material on this, has to do with,
12 under certain conditions, in a preheater section, and the
13 valving that goes with it, to avoid setting up situations
14 wherein you might induce the classical water hammer; and
15 if you had a situation that tended or -- that tended to
16 continued recurrence even though at a fairly low frequency
17 or a low magnitude, could be categorized as inducing
18 fatigue-type loadings.

19 That type of water hammer, Ms. Chavez, that would be
20 attached to your question is not the type of water hammer
21 that occurred at KRSKO or that we were discussing
22 previously.

23 JUDGE SMITH: But is the same type of fatigue
24 produced?

25 JUDGE COLE: Could the same type of fatigue be

1 produced?

2 THE WITNESS: I will answer it this way. No,
3 because fatigue, generally, is driven by a higher
4 frequency of occurrence. I don't pretend to be a
5 metallurgist, but it's a repeated, imposed loading.

6 In another sense, any time you load a structure, you
7 could construe it as adding to fatigue.

8 JUDGE COLE: Well, I --

9 THE WITNESS: I don't know how to answer your
10 question there any better than that.

11 BOARD EXAMINATION

12 BY JUDGE COLE:

13 Q Westinghouse made a recommendation that they not exceed
14 ten water-hammer events in a certain section; is that
15 correct, sir?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q Now, the end result of a bubble collapse water hammer and
18 the end result of the classical water hammer, wouldn't
19 that have about the same effect on the piping system?

20 A It could. It also should be noted that the type of water
21 hammer and the magnitudes associated with it are related
22 to the conditions that set it up; and I can't answer, you
23 know, quantitatively; and that's why I said earlier in my
24 response to this that because of the frequency as observed
25 now, one event of the KRSKO type, versus another type.

1 which is where the Westinghouse recommendation comes from.
2 which is principally established on a concern that you
3 could have valve closures, sudden valve closures, if you
4 will, that lead to the classical water hammer, there if
5 one does a dynamic system piping evaluation, Westinghouse
6 came to the conclusion and transmitted to Commonwealth, to
7 avoid the occurrence of ten of these type of water
8 hammers. I don't know what other way to answer it. I
9 have not gone into it in more detail to be aware of that
10 recommendation and some background on it.

11 Q My question is: How does the pipe that is impacted know
12 what the cause of it is?

13 A It doesn't, it doesn't.

14 JUDGE COLE: All right. Thank you.

15 JUDGE SMITH: Objection overruled as modified,
16 as explained later on, the question was relevant.

17 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

18 Q Mr. Serkiz, can you tell me whether or not the fact that
19 Westinghouse has not made a recommendation on the
20 restriction and number of bubble collapse water-hammer
21 events to be practical or to be minimized at a facility,
22 relates to the fact that Westinghouse has not yet had
23 significant -- sufficient information regarding the bubble
24 collapse water hammer phenomenon to make such a
25 recommendation to utilities?

1 A You will have to ask that question of Westinghouse or the
2 Applicant. I don't know.

3 Q Okay. Can you tell me whether or not in the case of
4 bubble collapse water hammer it might be true that as in
5 the case of classical water hammer, there exists magnitude
6 pulses of such small size and duration as to be virtually
7 unnoticeable?

8 A It's a possibility.

9 Q Do you know whether or not that is the case?

10 A I just answered it's a possibility.

11 Q Is it likely?

12 A It's a possibility.

13 Q How possible?

14 A I don't know. It's a possibility. You are asking me to
15 quantify something and I don't know.

16 Q Okay. Is your lack of knowledge associated with your lack
17 of knowledge about the bubble collapse water hammer
18 phenomenon?

19 A I do not have a lack of knowledge about bubble collapse
20 water hammer. I answered your question honestly.

21 Since you couched the question in abstract terms, I
22 could only answer it that way.

23 Q Okay. Do you know whether or not then these minimal
24 pulses with regard to classical water hammer have been
25 included in consideration of the number of recommended

1 water hammer occurrences that Westinghouse has stated not
2 to exceed for classical?

3 A I don't know. You will have to ask Westinghouse.

4 Q Okay. With respect to Page 3-12 again, are you familiar
5 with the -- with direct evaluation of the length of time
6 by which the internal discharge pipes in differing systems
7 must be uncovered in order for water hammer to occur?

8 A Can you take me to specifically on 3-12 so I can relate to
9 your question, please?

10 Q Okay. Specifically on 3-12 I am talking about paragraph --
11 well, the second paragraph in the page beneath Condition
12 4.

13 Do you feel you have the basis to --

14 A Just a moment. I am trying to relate to the page.

15 You are talking Item 2 on Page 3-12?

16 Q No. I am speaking about the middle of the page beneath
17 Item 4.

18 JUDGE SMITH: For Condition 1 to be an
19 initiating mechanism?

20 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes.

21 THE WITNESS: Your question, please.

22 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

23 Q Can you tell me whether or not you feel that you have the
24 basis to evaluate the time length period by which the
25 internal discharge must remain uncovered long enough for

1 steam to leak back through the lower horizontal line?

2 A That's dependent on plant condition.

3 Q Do you feel that you have the basis, if you were making an
4 evaluation of a specific water-hammer event at a specific
5 facility, to evaluate whether or not check valve back
6 leakage had occurred?

7 A That's a different question.

8 Do you want to come back to your first one or your
9 second one?

10 Q The second one.

11 A Repeat the second question.

12 Q Do you feel whether or not -- do you feel whether or not
13 you have the basis to evaluate a specific facility after a
14 specific water-hammer event, whether or not steam back
15 leakage had occurred?

16 A I will answer the question this way, but I recognize it
17 may not be responsive.

18 If the information is provided in sufficient detail.
19 yes.

20 Q What would you define sufficient detail to be?

21 A Well, let me define the information first. The plant
22 operating conditions. the level of damage, if there was
23 damage; and one could then do an after the-fact diagnosis
24 to make --

25 Q Isn't it --

1 A May I finish my response?

2 Q Sure.

3 A One could do an after-the-fact or after-the-event
4 diagnosis to address the questions or the items that you
5 put on the table.

6 Q Isn't the extent of damage one of the variables that you
7 would be trying to determine in your investigation of that
8 event?

9 A Certainly.

10 Q Do you feel qualified to go onsite and make a direct
11 examination after an event of that nature and be able to
12 determine those -- that information your for yourselves?

13 A Which examination are you referring to?

14 Q Of a water-hammer event at a specific facility.

15 A That's a different question than you posed previously.

16 Q Such as occurred at the KRSKO plant.

17 A You asked me what I would be qualified to go make an
18 examination?

19 Q Yes.

20 A Or you are asking me if I am qualified to go to a plant?

21 Q I am asking you if you are qualified to go to a plant and
22 make a specific examination of a specific water type event
23 such as occurred at Byron -- I mean KRSKO.

24 A I am qualified to go to a plant and make an examination.
25 I cannot be responsive to a question on inspection without

1 understanding what you are referring to.

2 Q Well, let me put it this way.

3 Are you qualified, if it were part of your job
4 responsibility, to make routine investigations of water
5 hammer bubble collapse events at specific facilities that
6 had occurred?

7 A If I were qualified to do all of what you just
8 encountered, very specifically, in quotes. I could do
9 that, yes.

10 Q I am asking: Are you qualified?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Then can you tell me what the extent of your knowledge is
13 in relation to check valves at the KRSKO plant?

14 A None. I didn't go to KRSKO.

15 Q Can you tell me then how it is that you reached an
16 evaluation on the character and nature of the KRSKO
17 water-hammer event without that information?

18 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, I think we have had a
19 whole -- you know, we are sort of back full circle about
20 the basis for Mr. Serkiz' knowledge of the KRSKO
21 occurrence.

22 Also, this is not an NRC publication. It's a
23 contractor publication.

24 I think, you know, we have asked and answered the
25 same if not similar questions.

1 JUDGE SMITH: You see, you don't always have to
2 agree with the purposes of the question. She got you to
3 say, okay, you are qualified to go to a plant and to
4 investigate a water-hammer event.

5 THE WITNESS: I am qualified, sir, to go to a
6 plant and do an investigation.

7 JUDGE SMITH: Then the next question was, assume
8 the premise, if that being the case, then you should be
9 able to tell us all about the check valve at KRSKO and you
10 should have said "Well, it doesn't follow or does it
11 follow?" You didn't have to accept that second premise.
12 If you don't know, if you can't, say it.

13 THE WITNESS: I don't know. I didn't go to
14 KRSKO.

15 JUDGE SMITH: After all, it's your testimony and
16 not hers.

17 THE WITNESS: I understand, sir. I am just
18 trying to be responsive.

19 JUDGE SMITH: I know you are.

20 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

21 Q Have you ever made a direct examination of a facility of
22 either a classical water-hammer occurrence or a bubble
23 collapse water-hammer occurrence?

24 A No.

25 Q Is that part of your job responsibility?

1 A No.

2 Q Is that part of a responsibility that -- well, identify
3 for me the office or branch in the NRC whose direct
4 responsibility that would be?

5 A Plant inspections fall under the cognizance and purview of
6 the regional offices. When an event occurs at a plant,
7 the principal responsibility lays or, rather, rests with
8 the particular regional office and they send
9 representatives to a plant to investigate or in many cases
10 there are resident inspectors.

11 The onsite inspectors are the people most qualified
12 to take immediate action to determine what has occurred,
13 level of damage, et cetera.

14 Q Can you tell me whether you have ever based your
15 evaluation of a water-hammer event of a bubble collapse
16 nature upon the information from one of those regional
17 offices?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Can you tell me what facility in particular it concerned?

20 MR. COPELAND: I object to the relevance of this
21 question.

22 JUDGE SMITH: Well, in a theoretical sense it's
23 relevant, all right.

24 My concern is more how productive.

25 MR. COPELAND: Your Honor, I would like to point

1 out that we are now halfway through the time allotted for
2 Cross Examination of Mr. Serkiz this morning.

3 JUDGE SMITH: That's true, that's true.

4 MR. COPELAND: And this is, in my opinion, it is
5 rather unproductive here, and if she could direct her
6 questions and get to her point.

7 JUDGE SMITH: I did want to make an observation
8 about your Cross Examination, Ms. Chavez.

9 A relatively small amount of it has been directed to
10 the physical phenomenon in dispute. Much of it has been
11 directed to the papers surrounding it and this man's
12 qualifications and things which have remote relevance to
13 the actual issue that we have to decide.

14 MS. CHAVEZ: Uh-huh.

15 JUDGE SMITH: I want to point out to you that
16 you are using your time in what I view not as productive a
17 fashion as you might be.

18 One of our responsibilities is to be assured that
19 Cross Examination is productive and, also, we would like
20 for you to know that you are not making the best use of
21 your time.

22 MR. COPELAND: Do I have a ruling on the
23 objection, your Honor?

24 JUDGE SMITH: Overruled. As I understand it,
25 you conceded that it was an objection of productivity and

1 not one of relevance.

2 MR. COPELAND: I would also object on the
3 materiality of this line of questioning.

4 JUDGE SMITH: Well, I think that the relief has
5 been granted in the form of the admonition.

6 MR. COPELAND: Thank you.

7 JUDGE SMITH: Where does that leave the
8 question. that's your point, isn't it?

9 MR. COPELAND: I am sorry?

10 JUDGE SMITH: The point is: Where does it leave
11 the question. and I don't recall the question.

12 MR. COPELAND: I don't, either.

13 JUDGE SMITH: Is there a question pending, Ms.
14 Chavez, do you know?

15 MS. CHAVEZ: No, your Honor.

16 JUDGE SMITH: If there had been a question, it's
17 now withdrawn. You will have to repeat it.

18 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

19 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

20 Q Based upon my questions to you, I have pretty much
21 corrected the conclusion -- and correct me if I am wrong --
22 that you have lacked the specific detail what happened or
23 familiarity with the operations of the system that were
24 responsible for the KRSKO water-hammer event to reach the
25 conclusion that you reach in your testimony?

1 A No, I disagree with that.

2 Q All right. I understand that.

3 What I am trying to determine is what specific
4 information you had that was specific enough for you that
5 you felt you could reach that evaluation.

6 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge, I object. This question
7 has been asked and answered. The references for his
8 opinion testimony are identified in his prefiled written
9 testimony. He has been examined at considerable length on --

10 JUDGE SMITH: We have made the same observation.

11 Objection sustained.

12 MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you.

13 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

14 Q Do you know what the steam generator secondary side
15 pressure was at the time of the KRSKO feedwater event?

16 A I don't recall it. I think it was mentioned in Reference
17 2.

18 If you want me to look it up, I will take the time
19 now to look it up.

20 Q No, I don't need you to look it up.

21 Do you know what the flow rate at the plant was?

22 A I think that also was mentioned in that reference, and I
23 could look that up, also.

24 Q Okay. Could you tell me what the mode of operation of the
25 plant was?

1 A It was in preoperational testing or some time termed high
2 functional testing.

3 Q Okay. Can you tell me specifically what was occurring at
4 the plant at that time in that mode?

5 A As best I can read it back from Reference 2, Ma'am.
6 Would you like me to do that?

7 MS. CHAVEZ: No.

8 JUDGE SMITH: This line of questioning is
9 designed to see what he knows about it without reference
10 to Reference 2?

11 Otherwise, it seems to be rather pointless. You ask
12 the question, he offers to get the answer and you say
13 never mind.

14 MS. CHAVEZ: He can refer to Reference 2.

15 JUDGE SMITH: He may or may not?

16 MS. CHAVEZ: He may.

17 JUDGE SMITH: Do you want him to?

18 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes.

19 JUDGE SMITH: Okay.

20 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

21 Q Mr. Serkiz, is your evaluation of the FSAR of
22 modifications that were proposed at the KRSKO plant to the
23 Byron plant based upon any familiarity with the bypass --
24 feedwater bypass -- system at the Byron facility?

25 A As provided in Reference 2, which the Applicant provided,

1 comparative information and specific information on both
2 plants and comparative information between the two plants
3 and also the information Applicant provided in this FSAR
4 and subsequent submittals to the NRC on that docket or
5 dockets.

6 Q Can you tell me whether or not the alteration that
7 Applicant has indicated will take place in the placing of
8 the check valves at the Byron plant will have any
9 significant impact, in your opinion, upon the proposed
10 modifications?

11 A For clarification, which check valve or check valves are
12 you referring to?

13 Q I am referring to the check valve which was placed closest
14 to the auxiliary feedwater nozzle in the Byron feedwater
15 system and which Applicant has indicated will be removed.

16 A The Applicant has also indicated it will be placed back
17 further in the system.

18 Q That is correct.

19 A So in effect there is no basic change. You have three
20 check valves in series, and check valves are designed to
21 prevent back leakage.

22 So you have three check valves in series, as
23 previously admitted, although as previously stated or
24 admitted, one was closer to the steam generator.

25 Q In your opinion, was there any particular reason for

1 originally placing that check valve in its original
2 location as opposed to any other location?

3 A You will have to ask the Applicant that.

4 I am not aware of a specific reason.

5 Q Based upon your qualifications scientifically, do you feel
6 there was a particular reason?

7 A Not particularly.

8 Q Based upon your information about the Byron feedwater
9 system and bypass line, again, do you have any particular
10 concern that steam back leakage could occur and not be
11 detected for a significant length of time?

12 A The Applicant has indicated a commitment to put in
13 temperature sensors, so, if you will, the indication of
14 any back leakage would be accomplished through that
15 system.

16 Q Okay. Do you know where those temperature sensors will be
17 located?

18 JUDGE SMITH: Before you ask your next question,
19 give me a chance to discuss a matter with you, please.

20 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

21 JUDGE SMITH: Go ahead. Answer it.

22 A The Applicant has stated, or Mr. Pleniewicz in his
23 testimony has stated, that Commonwealth Edison plans to
24 install temperature sensors on the feedwater bypass
25 feeding a J tube to the auxiliary feedwater nozzle on each

1 of the generators.

2 The essence of that is he is placing temperature
3 sensors up near the auxiliary steam water nozzle, which is
4 at a very close proximity to the steam generator.

5 JUDGE SMITH: All right. Based upon Mr. Serkiz'
6 written testimony, which is rather short and rather
7 narrow, we have allocated, I believe, more than enough
8 time for all parties to address the testimony. There has
9 to be time left for other parties and the Board to ask
10 some questions.

11 Therefore, I want to discuss with you how much time
12 you think you need, I want to have us agree upon it. if we
13 can, and then caution you that you better start being
14 aware of it.

15 MS. CHAVEZ: Is it possible for me to have 15
16 more minutes?

17 JUDGE SMITH: Yes.

18 MS. CHAVEZ: Okay.

19 JUDGE SMITH: Be realistic about that. Is that
20 15 minutes going to do it?

21 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes.

22 JUDGE SMITH: All right.

23 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

24 Q Are you familiar with the fact: Do you know whether or
25 not those temperature sensors have been used in other

1 facilities in a similar location?

2 A I have not seen the specification on these particular
3 temperature sensors; but temperature sensors have been
4 used on a similar facility, trying to get back to the
5 issue at hand here, temperature sensors of a similar
6 nature design probably were used at the McGuire plant to
7 monitor conditions attendant to the preoperational test to
8 demonstrate whether or not water hammer would have
9 occurred at McGuire and the information given back to the
10 NRC showed no evidence of back leakage of steam or
11 evidence of water hammer.

12 I don't know if that answers your question; but they
13 probably were of a similar nature, but if your question is
14 have I seen specifically the specification of these
15 sensors, the answer is no.

16 Q So you are aware that temperature sensors of a similar or
17 exact type may have been used at McGuire?

18 A I stated of a similar nature probably were used at the
19 McGuire plant, yes.

20 Q Are you -- what is your experience with temperature
21 sensors and the effectiveness of their function?

22 A It depends upon the type of temperature sensors. If this
23 is a resistance RTD device, a device that is commonly used
24 in the industry, both nuclear and non-nuclear.

25 Q What is your familiarity with check valve maintenance or

1 temperature sensor maintenance?

2 A Which question do you want me to --

3 Q Both.

4 A I do not have an intimate knowledge of check valve
5 maintenance.

6 Many years ago I personally put on temperature
7 sensors called thermocouples or RTD's.

8 So I have felt them. I have welded them on, I have
9 pasted them on, both methods apply. I have drilled holes
10 and put them into devices.

11 I have that familiarity. I have a hands-on
12 familiarity at the present time that is about 15 years
13 back of me.

14 JUDGE SMITH: The question is maintenance.

15 A (Continuing.) On maintenance, I had maintenance on those
16 devices 15 years ago.

17 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

18 Q Do you know what the review or inspection time will be at
19 Byron for those devices?

20 A I have not seen information submitted to answer that
21 question. so the answer is no.

22 Q Do you know what the inspection time for the KRSKO plant
23 facility was?

24 A I am not familiar with either maintenance or inspection
25 procedures or matters of that nature with respect to the

1 KRSKO plant.

2 Q Do you feel this information might be valuable in
3 predicting the probability of a water hammer bubble
4 collapse occurrence at a facility?

5 A Possibly.

6 Q Aside from the the features identified in your testimony,
7 can you tell me what familiarity you have with the
8 preoperational testing that will be done at the Byron
9 facility?

10 MR. GOLDBERG: I am sorry. Ms. Chavez, what
11 features identify the testimony are you talking about?

12 MS. CHAVEZ: Aside from the features of the
13 modifications and so forth.

14 MR. GOLDBERG: Are you talking about the
15 features summarized in Answer 7 on Page 3, beginning --
16 the summary beginning on Page 3, Answer 7?

17 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes, the numbers indicated 1, 2, 3 --
18 1, 2 and 3. They begin on Page 3 and they continue on
19 Page 4.

20 THE WITNESS: Your question again, please?

21 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

22 Q Are you familiar with the preoperational -- first, are you
23 familiar with the preoperational testing which will occur
24 at the Byron facility?

25 A No. It hasn't been written right now.

1 Q Do you feel that this would have any importance in
2 determining -- in making your determination that you reach
3 in response to Question A8 on Page 5?

4 A The question is now a new question?

5 Q Yes.

6 A And your question is directed to Page 5 of my testimony?

7 Q Yes, Response 8.

8 A A8?

9 Q Yes.

10 A I think the response stands on its own. I have reviewed
11 the design features and operational procedures that have
12 been submitted or committed to and these are further
13 substantiated by Mr. Pleniewicz' testimony, and they do
14 appear adequate and capable of avoiding a water hammer
15 condition similar to that that occurred at KRSKO.

16 Q Is it an assumption --

17 A May I finish my response?

18 Q Yes, sure.

19 A But I think the key part of my answer there, if I can
20 bring it to your attention, is the actual susceptibility
21 of the Byron steam generators or feedwater systems in the
22 Byron station will be determined during preoperational
23 testing, as noted in Section 10.4.7 of the Byron SER and I
24 will offer for clarification further that preoperational
25 testing is related to an NRC requirement, which is called

1 a Branch Technical Position 10-2, which applies to steam
2 generators in nuclear power plants, wherein the concept is
3 to set up preoperational tests to demonstrate the absence
4 of water hammer in such systems.

5 So the final measure of checking out whether it is
6 design, procedures or whatever is culminated in those
7 preoperational tests, which are designed specifically to
8 demonstrate whether you have water hammer or lack thereof.

9 Q My question is related to the phrasing of your response to
10 Question 8, and I am asking you if lacking specific
11 familiarity with the preoperational testing to take place
12 at Byron, whether or not your response is an assumption
13 that the susceptibility of the Byron steam generators will
14 be determined?

15 A It's not an assumption, it's a conclusion.

16 JUDGE SMITH: You accept the premise of that
17 question, that you lack the relevant familiarity. You
18 just described to me a great degree of familiarity of
19 functional testing with respect to water hammer. So you
20 accept the premise of the question that you don't have
21 relevant familiarity?

22 THE WITNESS: No. I apologize.

23 JUDGE SMITH: You don't have to accept that.

24 THE WITNESS: I apologize. The question as I
25 was interpreting it was: Do I have present and operating

1 procedures at the Byron plant. I do not have because they
2 have not been yet written.

3 JUDGE SMITH: Then her question comes back
4 lacking familiarity, which you have just described in
5 pretty detailed familiarity of what was going to happen
6 with respect to this issue.

7 THE WITNESS: That's correct. And that's why I
8 answered it's not an assumption on my part, it's a
9 conclusion.

10 JUDGE SMITH: Now, is your question he should
11 know more about the preoperational testing?

12 MS. CHAVEZ: Well, your Honor, my question is --
13 maybe I should ask it to him.

14 Whether or not there exists significant differences
15 between specific facilities with regard to preoperational
16 testing programs.

17 MR. GOLDBERG: That is a different question.

18 MS. CHAVEZ: That's right. it's a different
19 question.

20 JUDGE SMITH: It's too broad to be of any value.
21 Ms. Chavez. You can follow it but you don't have much
22 time.

23 MS. CHAVEZ: I would like to follow it up.

24 JUDGE SMITH: It's up to you.

25 THE WITNESS: Repeat the question. please.

1 MS. CHAVEZ: Yes.

2 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

3 Q Are there significant differences between facilities in
4 preoperational testing programs?

5 A There are two parts to that question. Am I interpreting
6 the question correctly?

7 Q How are you interpreting my question?

8 A I am trying to.

9 Q Are there significant --

10 JUDGE SMITH: Even though you are willing to
11 waste your time, we are not. There are many different
12 types of facilities, different types of theory, there are
13 BWR's, PWR's, different manufacturers. Obviously, there
14 are going to be different preoperational procedures. Go
15 on to your next question. Either make it more specific or
16 go on to your next question.

17 MS. CHAVEZ: I believe that finishes my
18 questions.

19 JUDGE SMITH: Is that correct?

20 THE WITNESS: That's correct. That's what I am
21 trying to understand and respond.

22 MS. CHAVEZ: I think that finishes my questions.

23 JUDGE SMITH: We will take a five-minute break.

24 (Recess.)

25 JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Copeland.

1 MR. COPELAND: Thank you, your Honor.

2 BY MR. COPELAND:

3 Q Mr. Serkiz, on Page 5 of your testimony, the third full
4 sentence from the top of the page reads. "Thus, it is the
5 Staff's position that the KRSKO event is plant specific
6 and not generic in nature."

7 Do you see that, what I am referring to?

8 A Yes, I do.

9 Q Could you explain the basis for that statement?

10 A Yes. The basis for that statement is every water hammer
11 that occurs is plant specific.

12 The reason for inserting this statement in my
13 testimony for this contention is it is the Staff's
14 position that the KRSKO event is plant specific and should
15 not be applied unconditionally or generically in nature to
16 all U. S. plants.

17 Q If --

18 A May I continue? I am not finished.

19 Q Yes, please do.

20 A It is also indicated in my answer in a sentence, well,
21 beginning at the top of Page 5, "We have studied the
22 question of water hammer potential in preheat steam
23 generators from a generic viewpoint, particularly as
24 applied to U. S. plants." This, in my consideration, is a
25 generic-type evaluation in which we also did look at what

1 knowledge or indication. as I phrased earlier, we had on
2 the KRSKO event.

3 Our conclusion was, based on what information was
4 given to us from the KRSKO plant, that that was plant
5 specific and set up by the conditions that that plant was
6 operating at the time that water hammer event occurred;
7 and I described some of those earlier in my testimony.

8 That's the underlying basis on why the Staff
9 position was the KRSKO event was plant specific and not
10 generic in nature.

11 It was a plant situation during preoperational
12 testing in which conditions were set up at KRSKO which
13 triggered this water hammer.

14 Q Does that conclude your response?

15 A Yes, it does.

16 Q Do I understand correctly that water hammer is treated as
17 a generic issue by the NRC?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Yet, every instance of water hammer is considered to be
20 plant specific; is that what you stated?

21 A That's correct.

22 Q Do you consider that the KRSKO water hammer event is
23 within the purview of Unresolved Safety Issue A-1, water
24 hammer?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Mr. Serkiz. are you familiar with the general design
2 criteria for nuclear power plants that are found in
3 Appendix A of Part 50 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal
4 Regulations?

5 MR. GOLDBERG: The criteria in their entirety or
6 any individual criteria?

7 I am sorry. I am testifying.

8 A I have familiarity that I have gone to that particular
9 reference and looked up the various general design
10 criterias listed.

11 MR. GOLDBERG: Let me ask: Are you going to ask
12 him about the criteria?

13 I would like to give him a copy of the Code of
14 Federal Regulations.

15 Let the record reflect that I am handing the witness
16 a copy of the bound Title 10 to the Code of Federal
17 Regulations.

18 BY MR. COPELAND:

19 Q Could you tell us, please, if you know, which criteria
20 would be applicable in the design of the bypass feedwater
21 system -- in the design of the feedwater system for
22 prevention of a water hammer?

23 A I believe it's General Design Criteria 2 that deals with --
24 it's either 2 or 4. Let me just check that for a moment.

25 MR. GALLO: Page 406.

1 THE WITNESS: Thanks.

2 MR. COPELAND: Take your time.

3 A The general design criteria wherein water hammer is, if
4 you will, carried under or referenced back to, is General
5 Design Criteria 4; and the portion of that criteria that
6 is used with which to evaluate water hammer has to do with
7 protecting against dynamic effects.

8 Do you see where I am in GDC 4?

9 Q Yes.

10 A "The actual review and/or evaluation for the design for or
11 avoidance of water hammer is normally reviewed through
12 different portions of the safety review plan."

13 MR. COPELAND: We have no further questions.

14 JUDGE COLE: Just a couple of questions, Mr.
15 Serkiz.

16 BOARD EXAMINATION

17 BY JUDGE COLE:

18 Q What is the status of the technical resolution of
19 unresolved Safety Issue 1, water hammer?

20 A The status is as follows: One, the Staff has prepared the
21 technical findings report; and, two, has recommended
22 changes to different portions of the standard review plan,
23 which would reflect the experience and knowledge gained
24 from reviewing water hammer in nuclear power plants to
25 assure that design concepts and/or operational procedures

1 which have appeared to demonstrate a capability to avoid
2 or minimize the water hammer occurrence have been
3 prepared.

4 The state of those two items is that they have been
5 prepared and they have been forwarded to the Committee for
6 the Review of Generic Requirements. the CRGR; and there is
7 a meeting scheduled with the CRGR next Wednesday, which I
8 think is the 9th of March, the 9th of March.

9 At this time the Staff will address any questions
10 that the CRGR has relative to the findings or the
11 recommended changes in the standard review plan; and then
12 the process calls for following such dialogue and approval
13 to proceed, we will put these documents out for public
14 comment, receive public comment, which we would probably
15 give people 60 days for public comment, and to then return
16 once again to the documents and received public comments,
17 accommodate those comments pertinent and valid and then to
18 go forward to implement changes in the standard review
19 plan.

20 Q Do you have any feeling or estimate of how far down the
21 road that this issue, if it is to be taken off of -- out
22 of the category of unresolved safety issue, when and if
23 that might occur?

24 A Well, from the viewpoint of the technical findings, the
25 issue is technically resolved at the present time.

1 The actual resolution or the taking off of this
2 safety issue, we go through the cycle -- or the schedule
3 that I see embarked on would be early winter, somewhere
4 around November or December of 1983.

5 Q All right, sir. Thank you.

6 In response to a question, sir, you stated that the
7 Nuclear Regulatory Commission had not made an
8 investigation of the KRSKO event.

9 Do you recall saying that, sir?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q But the Staff has reviewed information of the
12 investigations of the KRSKO plant; is that correct, sir?

13 A That is correct.

14 Q What is the status of the Staff review of the
15 investigations of the KRSKO plant?

16 Are you now satisfied that the Staff knows enough
17 about the KRSKO event to draw conclusions and apply that
18 to U. S. plants?

19 A That's several questions. Let me back up a minute.

20 Q Well, go ahead.

21 Do you understand the question?

22 A The answer to your final question, the answer is yes. I
23 feel we know enough through the documentation that was
24 provided in my Reference 2, consultation among various
25 Staff that have been involved in both the water hammer

1 issue and who are aware that the KRSKO event did take
2 place -- based on what we have been able to learn, the
3 conclusion we reach is that we know enough about that and
4 the design of U. S. plants of a comparable design basis,
5 using preheat steam generators, that the conclusion is
6 that the Byron plant -- or the Applicant for the Byron
7 plant has shown knowledge of what is happening there, has
8 incorporated design features in the intent to instruct
9 operating procedures to take the steps that are outlined
10 in Mr. Pleniewicz' testimony here that should preclude
11 what happened at KRSKO.

12 Q All right, sir.

13 The contractor report, Evaluation of Water Hammer
14 Potential in Preheat Steam Generators, Board Exhibit No.
15 2, which was prepared, I guess, at the request of the
16 Staff by a consultant to the Staff?

17 A That's correct.

18 Q What is the status of the Staff review of that document?

19 A We have completed the review and a report has been issued
20 out.

21 The Staff finds the findings presented in this
22 report as correctly representing the situation as we know
23 it both from the viewpoint of U. S. plants and the KRSKO.

24 Q You said a report is out.

25 What report are you then referring to?

1 A I am referring to your Exhibit 2, sir. This is the
2 contractor's report.

3 We don't edit or censure contractor reports; and the
4 reason for going to an independent contractor here
5 principally was to get an external, independent evaluation
6 of what we knew about the KRSKO event and the type of
7 plants that are in the U. S., and this is the report he
8 has issued for our benefit.

9 Q All right, sir. Maybe you misunderstood my question.

10 A I am sorry.

11 Q I asked about the Staff review of this contractor's
12 document.

13 A It has been completed and there is no follow-up report.

14 Q So the Staff has completed its review, but that is not
15 documented in any additional report --

16 A That's correct.

17 Q -- or summary?

18 A That's correct. No additional Staff documentation on this
19 report.

20 Q Do you have a copy of that report. sir --

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q -- NUREG/CR 3090?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q Could you turn to Page 2-8 of that document. Figure 2-5,
25 which is identified as the main and auxiliary feedwater

1 systems for KRSKO?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Now, at the KRSKO -- in your testimony you refer to an
4 occurrence as the KRSKO event, that plant, which resulted
5 in a bulge or a blister in certain of the piping.

6 Could you identify exactly where that occurred on
7 this figure, sir?

8 A Yes, sir. The bulging I refer to is recorded on Figure
9 2-6 on Page 2-9 in the right-hand margin at the locations
10 numbered -- or between the locations No. 114 and 116.

11 Information was submitted to us that there was a
12 bulge in the feedwater pipe in the KRSKO plant.

13 With respect to the blistering --

14 Q Well, could you locate that on Figure 2-5?

15 A Okay. It's more difficult to locate it on 2-5 because
16 it's a schematic; and it would have occurred between what
17 is shown on Figure 2-5 as the containment wall, which is a
18 vertical series of lines drawn at the left-hand side, and
19 the steam generator.

20 I may not be making myself clear.

21 It would be in a region between where the steam
22 generators are depicted and the containment wall.

23 That drawing is not to scale.

24 (Indicating.)

25 Q All right, sir.

1 A In other words, in this vicinity here.

2 (Indicating.)

3 Q You are pointing to Steam Generator No. 2, and there are
4 two lines extending to the right from Steam Generator 2,
5 and it occurred in the uppermost of those two lines?

6 A It would have occurred in what is represented by the line
7 going to the auxiliary feedwater nozzle near the top.

8 (Indicating.)

9 Q And you are now pointing to the line coming from the top
10 of Steam Generator 2 extending toward the containment
11 wall?

12 A Extending toward the containment wall, yes.

13 Q And it was in that pipe section?

14 A In that pipe section, which is better described in the
15 figure on 2-9, because that contains the dimensions and
16 isometrically shows you how the piping bends.

17 Q All right, sir.

18 MR. GOLDBERG: Excuse me. You meant Figure 2-6
19 on Page 2-9.

20 A I meant Figure 2-6 on Page 2-9. The isometric locates the
21 bulging in the pipe; but with respect to the question in
22 Figure 2-5, it is in a region between the containment wall
23 and the steam generator.

24 JUDGE COLE: All right, sir. Thank you.

25 BY JUDGE COLE:

1 Q Now, on Figure 3-5, Page 3-11, identified as the Byron
2 main feed and auxiliary feedwater connections to the steam
3 generator. there is shown a check valve that has been
4 installed in the feed line near the auxiliary nozzle.

5 Could you identify that on Figure 3-5? Is that in
6 the same location as the break that you -- or the bulge
7 that you identified in Figure 2-5 and in 2-6 --

8 A No. With --

9 Q -- in that same pipe section?

10 A It would be in the same pipe section, but it would be
11 downstream of where the check valve is shown in Figure 3-5 --
12 I am sorry -- upstream.

13 Q But the check valve that is referred to that's shown in
14 Figure 3-5 is the same check valve that is referred to on
15 Page 3-9 in Section 3.2.3 in the first paragraph?

16 A That's correct, sir.

17 Q Okay. Now, just one more question, sir.

18 Based upon what you have learned about the KRSKO
19 event and your knowledge of water hammer events and
20 specifically about the KRSKO event. if a KRSKO-type event
21 were to occur at the Byron plant -- assuming just for
22 argument sake that it were to occur, what would be the
23 consequences at Byron, sir? Do you have any estimate of
24 that?

25 A There wouldn't be any consequences, because if the

1 identical event occurred with, essentially, the same level
2 of damage, the pressure boundary was never breached, so
3 there was no release of any fluid; but even if the
4 pressure boundary had been breached or would be breached
5 in the secondary system, you are not breaching a boundary
6 of the primary coolant.

7 Furthermore, the design basis accidents that are
8 analyzed for different plants as part of that analysis do
9 a limiting type calculation for a feedwater line break,
10 which is a total feedwater line break, to determine the
11 consequences of losing the capability of secondary cooling
12 from that generator or any other attendant accident
13 conditions.

14 This has been done for the Byron plant and reported
15 in the FSAR, and the consequences were found acceptable;
16 in other words, no release.

17 Q All right, sir.

18 A total loss of main feedwater is a design basis
19 event?

20 A That is one of the design basis accidents that are
21 analyzed, sir.

22 JUDGE COLE: I have no further questions.

23 Thank you, sir.

24 JUDGE CALLIHAN: I have a couple of small items,
25 if I may, please.

BOARD EXAMINATION

BY JUDGE CALLIHAN:

Q We are back to leaky valves.

Are there generic or routine methods that are applicable for detecting leaky check valves, anything that is required of designers and steam suppliers and so forth. anything that is practical?

A Yes. In the case for the contention at hand, because there is a concern about check valves leaking, setting up the condition, the Applicant has indicated in his testimony that he is going to implement sampling or checking for leaky check valves; and I am not familiar with the actual sampling technique that the Applicant will implement.

One technique which could be used is a pressure differential or a temperature differential to indicate a movement of fluid across the check valve.

Depending on -- the leakage that would be anticipated would determine the type of monitor that would be installed; and, perhaps, the Applicant could be more specific, you know, to follow up on that type of question that you have raised, because he has indicated that he is going to do this sort of thing in the Byron plant.

It's an in-service type of inspection. In some cases, I guess you could call it that. It's implemented

1 in systems where there is a concern for back leakage.

2 Q Has the NRC taken any position on requirements and
3 methods, that sort of thing, that follow from your
4 knowledge?

5 A Yes. In the case of certain valves that are dependent
6 upon -- I am sorry.

7 In the case of those valves which are relied upon to
8 seal up containment, the concept is generally two valves
9 in series, and those valves are periodically checked for
10 leakage.

11 And so in that sense, yes; and it becomes then a
12 function of the system and the reliance on those valves
13 maintaining containment isolation, I guess, is the way I
14 would phrase it. Those would be the principal ones.

15 In the case here where there is a concern, it's
16 prudent to do something like that.

17 Q Thank you.

18 My remarks are a bit spotty, because I am just
19 filling in gaps on my list, most having been covered
20 before.

21 Back to the matter of the Yugoslavian event and its
22 report and analysis and so forth, I think you made the
23 statement that the Staff per se didn't make an
24 investigation, the NRC per se didn't make an
25 investigation.

1 However, what participation did the NRC have in the
2 IAEA investigation?

3 Was there not an NRC member of that investigating
4 group?

5 A I don't really know. I received inconsistent -- my
6 knowledge, at the time I attempted to pin down that
7 specific thing, which was about the same time frame that
8 we were preparing testimony on this contention, was that.
9 A, the Staff was aware that the KRSKO event had occurred.

10 I was not able to determine whether there was a
11 specific Staff assignment to it.

12 In trying to follow this up, to the best of my
13 knowledge, there was not a special Staff task force set
14 up. However, Staff were aware of it; and since the degree
15 of reliability on what had happened at KRSKO was spotty at
16 the time I was preparing testimony, we felt it proper to
17 request the Applicant to submit to us answers to a series
18 of questions addressing both what had happened at KRSKO.
19 the similarities or dissimilarities between the two plants
20 and any other pertinent information that should be related
21 to the Byron plant.

22 This was then responded to in what I call my
23 Reference 2 in my testimony.

24 So we had at one place, to the best of everybody's
25 knowledge, what happened and the applicability.

1 I don't know if the NRC formally, you know, engaged
2 in that investigation; but Staff were aware that it was
3 going on.

4 JUDGE SMITH: What is the group that Dr.
5 Callihan referred to?

6 THE WITNESS: What is it. IAEA?

7 JUDGE CALLIHAN: International Atomic Energy
8 Agency.

9 THE WITNESS: The International Atomic Engery
10 Agency. It's an international agency that has various
11 functions, and I guess, with respect to the KRSKO event,
12 had solicited Staff's views or opinions on what had
13 happened; but I am not familiar with the administrative
14 interface, if you will. that was set up; and I was never
15 able to opinion that down.

16 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Well, it's not my purpose to
17 testify; but the IAEA report does list a member of the NRC
18 as a member of the mission.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes. Bill Kane was my principal
20 contact on that; and I never got a clear answer out of
21 Bill whether he was formally designated or he was doing
22 this as -- you know, the agency was cooperating, you know,
23 in this investigation.

24 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Well, I just wish the record to
25 show that NRC was in on the act and as a member of the

1 mission which reviewed the event on June 7-12, '82, as
2 listed by Tedesco.

3 THE WITNESS: I guess Tedesco would have been
4 then the designated one.

5 Bill Kane happened to be the technical Staff wherein
6 the Staff. the direct Staff, involvement would have been.

7 BY JUDGE CALLIHAN:

8 Q So NRC was in on it, really?

9 A Certainly aware of it.

10 MR. GOLDBERG: Judge Callahan, could I just ask
11 you to identify the IAEA document to which you refer?
12 Maybe I missed something.

13 JUDGE CALLIHAN: Yes. Thank you.

14 This is entitled "Nuclear Power Safety Report to the
15 Government of Yugoslavia," and the number is -- it's
16 issued by the International Atomic Energy Agency. It's
17 dated 2 July 82, and the designated number is WP/5/1937.
18 and the meaning of that I don't really know, because it's
19 further identified as TA Report 1937, and was transmitted
20 to the Board by you on October 29, 1982.

21 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes. I recall that and --

22 JUDGE CALLIHAN: There was no criticism.

23 I wanted to get the detail in the record, since the
24 interest was spoken about.

25 MR. GOLDBERG: I am not testifying under oath

1 and I am not sure how important this is to the Board.

2 The document was classified by the Yugoslavian
3 authorities prior to my ability to dispatch it to the
4 Board and parties and, as I understood it, the --

5 JUDGE COLE: You mean subsequent to or prior to?

6 MR. GOLDBERG: It was classified prior to my
7 ability to publicly distribute it.

8 I believe it was first referenced in a
9 correspondence Ms. Chavez had with the Board and then I
10 undertook to distribute it.

11 My understanding is the solicitation by the
12 Yugoslavian authorities for NRC technical contribution, if
13 you will, was --

14 JUDGE CALLIHAN: We are uncomfortably close --

15 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes, rather uncertain.

16 JUDGE CALLIHAN: We are rather uncomfortably
17 close to bars in the marshal's office down the hall. I
18 hope we are not incriminating --

19 MR. GOLDBERG: No, I don't mean that. I just
20 wanted to show you the association.

21 JUDGE SMITH: The Board does not intend to use
22 the report in deciding the issue.

23 JUDGE CALLIHAN: I merely brought it up to show
24 that, at least to some extent, the Nuclear Regulatory
25 Commission was rather closely associated with the initial

1 investigation. I am not sure about the final report.

2 BY JUDGE CALLIHAN:

3 Q I would like to return to Applicant's question on the
4 statement that you make on Page 5 of your testimony, the
5 Staff position about the Yugoslavia event being not
6 generic, rather plant specific.

7 Certainly, it doesn't apply to all plants?

8 Certainly it's limited to pressurized water reactors, just
9 to narrow the field; but --

10 A Let me comment a bit further.

11 Q Will you please?

12 A The reason for the wording on that is, as we worked with
13 the information we had on the Yugoslavian plant or the
14 KRSKO event, it appeared to the Staff that it was very
15 unique in the way KRSKO was doing preoperational tests.

16 There were several factors involved there. One, we
17 were not able to get explicit details of the type of
18 preoperational tests that were being run other than in the
19 sense that they were doing testing on auxiliary feedwater
20 trips, pumps, a trip and start, stop and start.

21 We tried to determine, you know, if there was
22 anything unique in a particular preoperational test or
23 plant state; and we were not able to get specific
24 information whether procedures were being followed,
25 whether there was some type of specialty tests.

1 The water hammer damage was discovered after the
2 event had occurred.

3 The date of discovery listed is, I believe, August.
4 and the event occurred several months before; and we did
5 want to be sure that if there was a series of
6 preoperational tests that were unique to this type of
7 secondary system design and installation, if we could
8 determine if there was something generic in nature.

9 We kept coming back to obtaining the same
10 information provided to us, that they felt the cause was
11 related to back leakage through check valves, which was
12 acknowledged, as the check valves, after the fact, were
13 noted to have some damage, and were refurbished; and
14 lacking the specifics on what was going on, we categorized
15 this as a KRSKO specific event and not generic in nature.

16 That's, really, the underlying reason. Perhaps
17 those words don't convey that message.

18 Q That's not to say that this occurrence could not be in
19 this country?

20 A No, that was not the intent of the statement, and it's my
21 phraseology, if it's conveying the wrong information.

22 What I have just gone through with you is our
23 attempt to come to grips with exactly what was going on,
24 how the plant was being run, whether there had been a loss
25 of feedwater level in the steam generator that had been

1 allowed to exist and so on.

2 We only got general feedback, and so we said, "Well,
3 there are generic implications in the sense that you did
4 have a feedwater event occur, but this is not surprising
5 from the generic viewpoint; that if you set up a condition
6 that you let a lot of steam in lines and bring in cold
7 water. you are going to have it."

8 So we said, "We can't use the KRSKO event to lay out
9 a generic implication for that same type of plant design."
10 and --

11 Q That is quite helpful.

12 A (Continuing.) -- that was the intent of that statement.

13 JUDGE CALLIHAN: It's quite help, I believe, for
14 the record.

15 Thank you very much. That's all I have, Mr.
16 Chairman.

17 JUDGE SMITH: How much additional
18 cross-examining do you have, Mr. Goldberg?

19 MR. GOLDBERG: I just have one or two questions
20 on redirect examination.

21 MR. COPELAND: I have no cross.

22 JUDGE SMITH: Ms. Chavez, do you have cross
23 based upon the Board's questions?

24 MS. CHAVEZ: No, I don't, your Honor.

25 JUDGE SMITH: Do you have anything?

1 JUDGE COLE: No.

2 JUDGE SMITH: Mr. Goldberg.

3 MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you, judge.

4 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. GOLDBERG:

6 Q Mr. Serkiz, Judge Cole asked you about your professional
7 qualifications as task manager for resolution of the Water
8 Hammer USI.

9 I wonder if you could also tell me what relevant
10 educational experience you have pertinent to the issue.

11 A Well, as indicated in my professional qualifications, I
12 have a Bachelor of Science Degree in mechanical
13 engineering; graduate work done at University of
14 Cincinnati.

15 In order to clarify what my principal areas of study
16 were, they were heat transfer, fluid dynamics and power
17 systems.

18 From the basis of qualifications from that
19 viewpoint, engineers are trained to study and understand
20 the laws of physics and then to apply them to design
21 hardware practical applications.

22 The physics associated with the steam water hammer,
23 which is the gist of this contention, deals with the heat
24 transfer and fluid interaction of steam and water in a
25 power system.

1 As task manager on A-1, the Unresolved Safety Issue
2 Water Hammer. I have studied and evaluated water hammer
3 occurrences in nuclear power plants -- and there have been
4 roughly 150 such occurrences -- their underlying causes,
5 the attendant damage, corrective measures taken and the
6 safety significance.

7 With respect to the underlying causes, steam water
8 hammer happens to be one of them. and if you bring steam
9 and water in contact, you can generate the type of
10 situation that's been of discussion this morning.

11 With respect to the safety significance in the study
12 of water hammer, both by Staff and myself and the
13 contractors we have employed, we feel that the safety
14 significance of this issue. if one stands back and takes a
15 look at the fact that we have had like 150 water hammers.
16 the damage has been principally limited to pipe hangers
17 and snubbers, and the damage has been relatively minor. in
18 the cases like Indian Point 2. where you had a feedwater
19 line break in 1972; and I might state that the Indian
20 Point 2 event was a very principal or dominant reason why
21 the Staff at that time or shortly thereafter decided to
22 designate water hammer as an unresolved safety issue.
23 because there were implications.

24 There were a lot of reactors going on line in the
25 early '70's. New plants were coming on line.

1 Despite the fact that we have had this number, we
2 find that the level of damage is low. We have not
3 released any radioactivity. The damage that has been done
4 to plants has been confined and corrected.

5 About half of the events that have occurred -- and I
6 am speaking to all light water reactors, not only
7 pressurized water reactors -- about half of it has
8 occurred because of design deficiencies, which have been
9 corrected along the way. The introduction of J tubes into
10 top feed ring steam generators is one example, because
11 it's illustrative of the subject at hand here.

12 The other half have been related to operating
13 considerations or operational considerations wherein some
14 portion of the plant's system has been set up that's
15 conducive to it.

16 When one steps back and looks at this -- and the
17 Staff has, again, done this, done it collectively and
18 through the use of external contractors; and based on what
19 has been reported and the corrective action, our
20 conclusion is that it is not the safety issue it was felt
21 to be back in the early '70's.

22 It does warrant a change in standard review plans.
23 If both the reviewer and the designer are aware of certain
24 systems that have worked, certain considerations should be
25 folded in and maintained in future plants.

1 And so I guess my bottom line here is: I am familiar
2 with what has occurred. My training, my background, does
3 give me the knowledge of the physics involved.

4 I don't feel the issue at the present time is a
5 significant safety issue.

6 I don't know if I have answered your question.

7 Q You may have given me more in your answer than I asked for
8 in the question. I may have some questions on your
9 answer.

10 How complicated is this phenomenon, given your
11 educational and professional expertise. to understand both
12 the phenomenon and measures to mitigate?

13 A If one goes back to the underlying causes, the methods to
14 analyze those type of physical occurrences and to design
15 for them is covered in the training that a graduate
16 engineer obtains, and for the persons -- or. I should say.
17 the parties that normally design plant systems, these fall
18 under the category of fluid dynamics, fluid systems, power
19 systems, variously termed. They have the training and the
20 understanding to be able to design for an avoidance.

21 With respect to operational procedures, these become
22 plant specific, and, therefore, you become dependent on a
23 particular design, and the owner of that design developing
24 suitable operating procedures to avoid it.

25 We have a good data base. We understand what has

1 happened. This has been documented in a variety of
2 places.

3 It would behoove the plant owner to fold that into
4 his operating considerations.

5 Q Finally -- you may have given me the answer and we don't
6 have that much time -- you indicated in answer to Judge
7 Cole that the water hammer unresolved safety issue was
8 technically resolved, and you may have given the reasons
9 it is technically resolved.

10 Can you just tell me what the technical resolution
11 is?

12 A The technical resolution is manifested in terms of the
13 additional inserts into the standard review plan in
14 different sections that reflect the plant design features
15 that have been found to be successful in avoiding and
16 mitigating water hammer, and also emphasizing the fact
17 that operating procedures should be structured with this
18 type of information being considered to avoid setting up
19 plant conditions that could lead to a recurrence.

20 So the resolution reflects itself in terms of the
21 changes of the standard review plan.

22 MR. GOLDBERG: I have no further questions.

23 JUDGE SMITH: Is there any additional
24 questioning?

25 MS. CHAVEZ: Your Honor, I have one.

1 RECROSS EXAMINATION

2 BY MS. CHAVEZ:

3 Q With regard to the last question and answer, what was the
4 status of your resolution of the generic task at the time
5 of the occurrence of the KRSKO water hammer event?

6 A It was in the final stages.

7 MS. CHAVEZ: That is my last question.

8 JUDGE SMITH: Thank you. You are excused.

9 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

10 (Witness excused.)

11 JUDGE SMITH: The discussion of the generic
12 safety issue has reminded me of a question that I would
13 like to hear -- an answer I would like to hear from Mr.
14 Goldberg.

15 What is the Staff's plans to address the general
16 issue of relevant generic safety issues? Is that done in
17 your --

18 MR. GOLDBERG: In the safety evaluation report;
19 and those relevant to Byron are enumerated and their
20 treatment disclosed.

21 JUDGE SMITH: Okay. Now, the Board isn't going
22 to have anything further to do with providing cross
23 examination plans among the parties after the testimony.
24 That's up to the parties to work out. It's up to the
25 author of the cross examination plan to provide it, and

1 failing that. it's up to the other parties to demand it.
2 So don't look to us for compliance with that unless you
3 have to.

4 We are going to meet on one other thing.

5 Mr. Miller, on Wednesday evening, I guess it was,
6 asked us what our pleasure was with regard to receiving
7 into evidence some documents, and we put him off. We
8 weren't following it.

9 I don't know what time problem you might have with
10 respect to that; but I didn't mean to put him off too
11 long, but whenever you want to raise it, we will listen to
12 you.

13 Do you recall the discussion?

14 MR. GALLO: Yes, I do, Judge Smith.

15 It had to do with the Staff FES and the Staff SER
16 and also the Applicant's FSAR.

17 I think, because of the hour, it's really too late
18 to launch into that today.

19 JUDGE SMITH: All right.

20 MR. GALLO: I haven't given up that we might be
21 able to stipulate that in yet.

22 JUDGE SMITH: Okay. Is there anything further
23 before we adjourn?

24 MR. SAVAGE: Yes, your Honor.

25 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes. Go ahead.

1 MR. SAVAGE: One housekeeping matter.

2 It has come to my attention that there are probably
3 some errors in the record with respect to the argument on
4 DAARE/SAFE's motion to amend and consolidate the
5 evacuation issues.

6 If you don't mind, if we could have three or four
7 minutes to talk among ourselves and then two or three
8 minutes to correct the record --

9 JUDGE SMITH: To correct the transcript?

10 MR. SAVAGE: Yes, yes, sir.

11 JUDGE SMITH: The transcript is already issued,
12 of course. That's how you noticed it.

13 MR. SAVAGE: Yes, sir, we noticed it from the
14 transcript, when Mr. Bielawski had a chance to read it,
15 and also in discussions among ourselves afterwards.

16 JUDGE SMITH: Okay. We will --

17 MR. BIELAWSKI: Judge, they are not
18 typographical errors or anything else. They are
19 substantive errors in terms of the chronology of certain
20 things which, because of my absence from the courtroom
21 when the argument was being made, I wasn't able to make
22 that disclaimer.

23 JUDGE SMITH: With respect to transcript
24 corrections generally, when the hearing concludes,
25 typically what will happen is that one party or another

1 will make a motion for transcript corrections. Other
2 parties will have a chance to respond to it. Absent an
3 objection, we will adopt the transcript corrections.

4 Now, if you need to make corrections so that we have
5 the argument in context when we make our decision, it's
6 not going to be possible to actually correct the
7 transcript; but why don't you just -- when we schedule the
8 matter for argument again, why don't you give us your
9 proposed transcript corrections on it so we will know what
10 they should be; but we are not prepared to order
11 transcript corrections piecemeal.

12 MR. BIELAWSKI: No. Well, to try to clarify
13 what it is that we are saying:

14 For example, dates were given with respect to when
15 parties received certain information. Those dates, after
16 discussing amongst ourselves, were the wrong dates.

17 JUDGE SMITH: Okay.

18 MR. BIELAWSKI: Now, as the motion is pending,
19 and those dates may or may not be significant to your
20 decision, we feel that it is important that you are
21 informed with the correct dates.

22 JUDGE SMITH: Why don't you stipulate to correct
23 dates?

24 MR. BIELAWSKI: Fine. We can do that.

25 MR. SAVAGE: Certainly.

1 JUDGE SMITH: We will take the stipulation and
2 bind it in the transcript.

3 Is there anything further?

4 MR. GOLDBERG: One final housekeeping matter.

5 Betty Johnson earlier in the week raised the matter
6 of the availability of her steam generator witness.

7 I would just like to say the parties have conferred
8 and as yet have been unable to achieve an agreeable
9 schedule; and I think we will advise the Board at the
10 opening session on Monday about any scheduling agreements
11 we have been able to reach relative to that so the Board
12 and parties can plan the schedule accordingly.

13 JUDGE SMITH: Okay. It looks like we would
14 probably arrive at that issue next week, in any event.

15 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes. It was scheduled to be
16 heard the week following that.

17 MS. JOHNSON: The 14th.

18 JUDGE SMITH: Yes. We will try to schedule
19 further discussion of the emergency planning problems and
20 a report from the parties early next week.

21 Anything further?

22 MR. GALLO: Judge Smith.

23 JUDGE SMITH: Yes.

24 MR. GALLO: I am prepared to give a report now,
25 if you would like to hear it.

1 The Applicant has been meeting with Mr. Savage and
2 has briefed Mr. Goldberg of the NRC Staff.

3 During our meetings we have attempted to reach an
4 accommodation of this issue. We are still far apart.
5 However, we haven't given up.

6 The discussions with Mr. Savage and his clients are
7 going to continue next week.

8 We have scheduled at approximately 9:00 A. M. in
9 Chicago on Monday a meeting with Mr. Erie Jones and other
10 state officials having responsibility for emergency
11 planning.

12 At that meeting Mr. Savage and his clients will be
13 present. we will be present. and we will attempt, with the
14 state people, to reach some sort of accommodation.

15 In addition, we are going to conduct discussions
16 with respect to the wording of the contention. However.
17 we are still far apart on other issues, which I don't want
18 to get into, but that's the status as of right now.

19 JUDGE SMITH: Anything further?

20 (No response.)

21 JUDGE SMITH: All right. We will adjourn until
22 2:30 Monday.

23 We will meet back in the main courtroom.

24 One thing further on the record.

25 Before you leave, I would like to establish the

1 practice, as we leave one issue and enter another issue.
2 that we agree -- would you please be quiet?

3 JUDGE CALLIHAN: You have a gavel there.

4 JUDGE SMITH: I would like to establish the
5 practice that you report to the Board and the parties
6 exactly the identity of the written testimony that comes
7 up on the next issue, because it depends now upon just a
8 bulk list; and so for occupational radiation exposure.
9 could you quickly give us who your witnesses are on it, so
10 we will be sure that we have them all ready?

11 If you are not -- we already know about water
12 hammer. We will make sure we have them.

13 MR. GALLO: I can give you Applicant's.

14 MR. GOLDBERG: Do you want this on the record or
15 off the record?

16 JUDGE SMITH: No. We will adjourn now and you
17 can give us that information.

18 (Whereupon, at 11:20 A. M., the hearing in
19 the above-entitled matter was recessed, to
20 reconvene at 2:30 P. M. on Monday, March
21 7, 1983.)
22
23
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25

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the

ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

in the matter of: COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY (Byron Nuclear
Power Station, Units 1 & 2)

Date of Proceeding: March, 1983

Docket Number: 50-454-OL and 50-455-OL

Place of Proceeding: ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original transcript
thereof for the file of the Commission.

G. Allen Sonntag

Official Reporter (Typed)



Official Reporter (Signature)