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RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION INTO
ALLEGATIONS OF HARASSMENT OF QUALITY CONTROL
INSPECTORS AT THE SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT

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PURPOSE OF INVESTIGATION

- . INVESTIGATE CURRENT (NOV. 1979) ALLEGATIONS OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION OF CONTRACTOR QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTORS AT THE SITE.
- . REVIEW EFFECTIVENESS OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.

BACKGROUND

- . SERIES OF ALLEGATIONS MADE DURING THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1977 TO NOVEMBER 2, 1979. MOST OF THE ALLEGATIONS WERE NOT SUBSTANTIATED.
- . CONSIDERABLE MEDIA INTEREST.
- . CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST.
- . MIDTERM QUALITY ASSURANCE INSPECTION SCHEDULE MOVED UP ONE YEAR (TO AUGUST 10, 1979) SOME COMMON PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED.
- . FBI INVESTIGATION JUNE 1979 OCTOBER 1979.
- . DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EXPRESSED INTEREST.
- . OIA LOOKING INTO HISTORY OF ALLEGATIONS WITH IE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.
- . RESIDENT INSPECTOR ASSIGNED AUGUST 26, 1979.
- . ALLEGATIONS MADE BY WORKERS TO RESIDENT INSPECTOR ON NOVEMBER 2, 1979.
- . DIRECTOR, IE DIRECTS INVESTIGATION NOVEMBER 3, 1979.

INVESTIGATION

- . MULTIDISCIPLINE TEAM
- . UNDER HQ DIRECTION
- . REGIONS I, II, III, IV REPRESENTED
- . FORMAL INTERVIEWS 57 (24 STATEMENTS UNDER OATH)
- . LESS FORMAL INTERVIEWS 50
- . TIME PERIOD NOVEMBER 10, 1979 TO FEBRUARY 7, 1980
- . 1113 INSPECTOR HOURS
- . AREAS COVERED
 - -- CATEGORY I CONCRETE AND STRUCTURES DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE ALLEGATIONS
 - -- SOILS
 - -- WELDING/NDE
 - -- HANDLING OF NONCONFORMANCE REPORTS
 - -- AUDITS

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

- . NUMBER OF ALLEGATIONS SUBSTANTIATED REGARDING CONTRACTOR BROWN & ROOT QC INSPECTORS (CIVIL)
 - -- THREATS
 - -- HARASSMENT
 - -- INTIMIDATION
 - -- LACK OF MANAGEMENT SUPPORT
 - -- PRODUCTION PRESSURES
- . AMOUNTS TO LACK OF REQUIRED INDEPENDENCE OF QA FUNCTION
- . OTHER SIGNIFICANT QUALITY RELATED PROBLEMS
 - -- QUALITY OF CERTAIN PLANT BACKFILL QUESTIONED
 - -- WELD QUALITY/WELDER QUALIFICATIONS
 - -- DISPOSITION OF NONCONFORMANCE REPORTS
 - -- ADEQUACY OF AUDITS
- . A NUMBER OF ITEMS FOR FOLLOWUP
- . TOTAL OF 22 ITEMS OF NONCOMPLIANCE
- . NO CLEAR TRACK TO GENERICALLY DEFICIENT SYSTEMS, STRUCTURES OR COMPONENTS

CONCLUSIONS

- . QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM IMPAIRED.
- . LACK OF INDEPENDENCE OF QA INSPECTION FUNCTION CIVIL DISCIPLINE.
- . NO CLEAR CAUSE EFFECT RELATIONSHIP RESULTING IN DEFICIENT SYSTEMS COMPONENTS AND STRUCTURES.

CURRENT STATUS

- . IMMEDIATE ACTION LETTER IN EFFECT COMPLEX CONCRETE PLACEMENTS SINCE DECEMBER 21, 1979 HAVE BEEN HALTED.
- RESUMING AS CORRECTIVE ACTION IS MADE.
- . LICENSEE HAS STUDIED WORK ENVIRONMENT. CONCLUSIONS
- . LICENSEE HAS COMMITTED TO CHANGES IN QA PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.

PLANNED NRC ACTION

CIVIL PENALTY ORDER(S)

PUBLIC MEETING