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12/1/83

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD



In the Matter of)
DUKE POWER COMPANY, et al.)
(Catawba Nuclear Station,)
Units 1 and 2))

Docket Nos. 50-413
50-414

TESTIMONY OF MICKEY STANDRIDGE

- 1 Q. STATE YOUR NAME AND YOUR WORK ADDRESS.
- 2 A. Mickey Standridge, Duke Power Company, Catawba Nuclear Station,
- 3 P.O. Box 223, Clover, SC 29710.
- 4 Q. WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT JOB WITH DUKE POWER COMPANY?
- 5 A. I am a Welding Inspector. I work in the interior and exterior
- 6 doghouses in Unit 1 and 2, and also at elevation 594 in the
- 7 Auxiliary Building.
- 8 Q. SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS, INCLUDING
- 9 OTHER NON-DUKE JOBS, EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS, AND
- 10 COMPANY SPONSORED COURSES AND TRAINING.
- 11 A. I am a 1975 graduate of Westminster High School. From 5/30/75 to
- 12 7/11/77 I worked with Bahnson, a sheet metal company out of
- 13 Winston-Salem, NC. I hired on with Duke in 7-11-77 as a utility
- 14 worker in the Construction Department. On 6-12-78 I was
- 15 transferred to Q.C. Department as a learner. In the QC
- 16 Department, I took training in Welding Inspection, radiography,
- 17 ultrasonics, liquid penetrant, magnetic particle, and leak testing
- 18 inspections. I was certified in all of the above. I was transferred
- 19 on 3-30-81 to Catawba Nuclear Station from Cherokee Nuclear
- 20 Station. Catawba Nuclear Station is where I am presently employed

1 and I am doing welding inspection and some magnetic particle, and
2 liquid penetrant inspections.

3 Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH WHAT IS COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS
4 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS WHICH WERE EXPRESSED IN
5 LATE 1981/EARLY 1982?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THESE CONCERNS
8 WERE?

9 A. My understanding of the concerns is that the inspectors were not
10 getting the support they needed to get from their supervisors and
11 upper management on the quick resolution of small technical
12 problems. Also in some instances, management did not communicate
13 to the inspectors the total and completed information leading to
14 conclusions of investigations they made in resolving NCIs.

15 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ANY CONCERNS AS A WELDING INSPECTOR TO
16 ANY OF THE TASK FORCES OR TO DUKE POWER MANAGEMENT?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. TO WHOM DID YOU EXPRESS YOUR CONCERNS?

19 A. I expressed my concerns to the Task Force I.

20 Q. WERE YOUR CONCERNS WRITTEN?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. DESCRIBE EACH DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAINS YOUR EXPRESSION
23 OF CONCERNS, AND INDICATE WHO IT WAS SUBMITTED TO.

24 A. My concerns were written on a two page letter and were given to
25 the Task Force.

26 Q. DID YOU FEEL FREE TO EXPRESS ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS?

27 A. Yes.

1 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS?
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. HAVE YOU DISCUSSED YOUR CONCERNS WITH ANYONE ELSE?
4 A. No.
5 Q. HAS ANYONE ELSE CONTACTED YOU AND ASKED YOU TO
6 DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS?
7 A. No. Only people from the Task Force discussed the concerns with
8 me.
9 Q. DOES THE DOCUMENT ATTACHED TO YOUR TESTIMONY AS
10 ATTACHMENT A REFLECT YOUR WRITTEN CONCERNS?
11 A. Yes.
12 Q. ARE ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT?
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE AND EXPLAIN WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO
15 COMMUNICATE BY YOUR CONCERNS.
16 A. In my concerns I was saying that the Q.C. Inspectors did not have
17 the rapid management support and resolution of small technical
18 issues as they should have had. Our supervisors and upper
19 management were in some instances overriding our decisions without
20 telling us why. I mentioned in the two page letter one particular
21 situation that happened to me. This is when I found a problem
22 with some identification on some safety related miscellaneous steel,
23 and upper management told me that it was alright. However, they
24 did not tell me why it was alright.
25 Q. WERE YOUR CONCERNS INVESTIGATED BY THE TASK FORCES?
26 A. Yes.

1 Q. DID YOU ATTEND ANY MEETINGS WITH TASK FORCE AND/OR QA
2 MANAGEMENT MEMBERS WHERE THE TASK FORCE FINDINGS,
3 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE DISCUSSED?

4 A. Yes. I attended a meeting where the Task Force was reporting its
5 finding. They said what the problems were and what they were
6 going to do to solve them. Also they told what they were going to
7 do to make the system better and the recommendations that they
8 were going to make to upper management. They told us they were
9 going to review all of our concerns and get them straightened out
10 and taken care of.

11 Q. WERE THERE ANY CHANGES MADE IN THE QA PROGRAM AFTER
12 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS AND THE TASK FORCE
13 INVESTIGATION OF THESE CONCERNS?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. DESCRIBE THE CHANGES OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE IN THE QA
16 PROGRAM.

17 A. Management has begun to listen to the inspectors more and is
18 working with them as much as possible. If there are any changes,
19 the inspectors are told about the changes as quickly as they come
20 out and with better understanding.

21 Q. TO WHAT EXTENT HAVE THESE CHANGES ADDRESSED ISSUES
22 RAISED BY THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS AND TO WHAT
23 EXTENT HAVE THESE CHANGES ADDRESSED YOUR PARTICULAR
24 CONCERNS?

25 A. The changes have made the inspectors and management listen to
26 each other and work out problems together. In my particular case,
27 it has made a better working relationship between me and my

1 supervisor, and also with upper management. I have a lot more
2 support now.

3 Q. DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT THE
4 FUNCTIONING OF THE QA DEPARTMENT WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN
5 RESOLVED?

6 A. No.

7 Q. THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS HAVE BEEN
8 CHARACTERIZED AS CONCERNS ABOUT THE QUALITY AND
9 SAFETY OF CONSTRUCTION AT CATAWBA. DO YOU AGREE OR
10 DISAGREE WITH THAT CHARACTERIZATION?

11 A. I disagree. I don't think the quality of this plant is affected by
12 the concerns. Myself, I think the quality of Catawba Nuclear
13 Station is outstanding. The construction department has never
14 tried to hide anything from me. They have always worked with me
15 and I have never had any problem with any craft personnel.

16 Q. DID THE EXPRESSION OF YOUR CONCERNS INDICATE YOUR
17 BELIEF THAT THERE WAS A BREAKDOWN IN THE QA PROGRAM
18 OR INDICATE THAT THE QA PROGRAM WAS NO LONGER
19 WORKING?

20 A. I feel like there were problems with the QA program, but only
21 between the inspectors and management, not in the quality of the
22 plant. I feel like the quality of the plant was never affected by
23 the concerns of the inspectors. This is my opinion, because I have
24 not had any problem with the craft department.

25 Q. DID YOUR CONCERNS REFLECT A BELIEF ON YOUR PART THAT
26 THE CATAWBA PROJECT IS NOT BEING CONSTRUCTED SAFELY?

27 A. No.

1 Q. IN YOUR VIEW, HAS THE QA PROGRAM BEEN EFFECTIVE WHILE
2 YOU HAVE WORKED AS AN INSPECTOR AT CATAWBA?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY DEFICIENCIES IN CONSTRUCTION OR IN
5 THE QA PROGRAM WHICH WOULD CAUSE YOU TO QUESTION
6 WHETHER CATAWBA IS SAFELY BUILT?

7 A. No.

8 Q. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO YOUR
9 TESTIMONY?

10 A. I feel like at one time there was a lot of controversy between
11 inspectors and management. But I feel like now they have got most
12 of their problems ironed out. I feel like Catawba is one of the best
13 built nuclear plant that there is, because of all the inspections that
14 we perform and the quality work that the Construction Department
15 does.

16

17

18 I hereby certify that I have read and understand this document, and
19 believe it to be my true, accurate and complete testimony.

20

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23

Mickey Standridge
Mickey Standridge

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25 Sworn to and subscribed before me
26 this 20th day of September, 1983.

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Linda W. Le Grande
Notary Public

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32 Commission Expires March 1, 1993

A

I am concerned about support the Q.I. Department has at Catawba Nuclear station. How come Q.A. department does not recognize what QA procedures say about

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NCIs. It says that NCIs will be written, then it will receive a serial number if valid. If not valid it will be kept on file. If they won't let us write certain NCIs or violates of Q.A. procedures, who will know whether it is valid or not. I have had problem getting NCIs

C

signed by upper management because they say it is not a problem. Our technical support group should determine whether it is a problem or not. One particular case was when I was called for a final visual inspection on miscellaneous steel that was safety related. The weld was O.K. but there was no traceability on the steel. I was told by management not to NCI it because craft said it was the correct material. This is a direct violation of Q.A. procedures. I also would like to know why in some situations we have to have witness to get something proved

to upper management on construction. We should NOT HAVE to have witness to get something proved. If the company does not have any faith in what we say, they should get rid of all of us. Why does our Foreman and general Foreman tell us to tighten up on certain inspection. Then a week later come back and say slack of boys you are finding to much wrong. Or they tell us one week to write Q.I.P's on certain items and then a week later tell us to stop writing Q.I.P's because it is looking bad on construction. If ~~any~~^{these} people are not going to go by Q.A. procedures they should get rid of them. I think the management in Q.A. department is affected a great ^{deal} by construction department. Because if construction has a dead line on something they will get it on line one way or the other. I think the Q.A. department has a bad outlook because the upper management in Q.A. won't let the inspectors do their job right. They let us do just what they want us to do. They say our job is not as important today as it was yesterday. Yet we get more procedures put on us everyday. We have a lot more construction procedures today than I had a year ago.

Michay Sturidge

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Columbo
Mary Ammond
10/1/83