

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Agency: U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Title: INTERVIEW OF: DANIEL HINES
DOUGLAS DAUGHHETEE
ELMER PICKETT
JOHN STANLEY

Docket No.

LOCATION: WAYNESBORO, GEORGIA

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1990

PAGES: 1 - 20

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ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF Douglas Daughhete
(Print Identity of Interviewee)

Page Line Correction and Reason for Correction

14 5 After "... point that we..."
insert the words "knew they";
these words were apparently
omitted unintentionally from my
original speech or were missed
in the transcription



Page 1 of 1 Date 3/29/90 Signature

Douglas Daughhete

ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF ELMER L. PICKETT
(Print Identity of Interviewee)

<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Correction and Reason for Correction</u>
9	19-24	THE NOTE I RECEIVED WAS FROM ^{BY 3/28/90} FROM EARL POTTERFIELD OF THE BURKE COUNTY AGENCY NOT GEMA.
10	1-4	SAME AS ABOVE
11	6-8	THE NOTE I RECEIVED WAS RECORDED BY BRENT QUICK FROM EARL POTTERFIELD OF BURKE COUNTY. IT WAS LATER THAT ESTER DIXON QUESTIONED ME ABOUT THE PROBLEMS WITH THE GEMA NOTIFICATION.

ADDENDUM TO INTERVIEW OF John Stanley
(Print Identity of Interviewee)

Page Line Correction and Reason for Correction

No comments

Page _____ Date 4-9-90 Signature

John B. Stanley

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

INTERVIEW OF:)
)
)
 DANIEL HINES)
 DOUGLAS DAUGHHETEE)
 ELMER PICKETT)
 JOHN STANLEY)

Main Conference Room
Administration Building
Vogtle Electric Generating Plant
Waynesboro, Georgia

Tuesday, March 27, 1990

The interview commenced at 2:38 p.m.

APPEARANCES:

On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:

WILLIAM LAZARUS

On behalf of CP&L:

MIKE JONES

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PROCEEDINGS

1
2 MR. LAZARUS: The date is March 27, 1990, 2:38 p.m.,
3 we're performing an interview at the Vogtle plant with John
4 Stanley, Elmer Pickett, Doug Daughhete and Dan Hines, who
5 are Technical Support Center communicators.

6 Whereupon,

7 JOHN STANLEY
8 ELMER PICKETT
9 DOUG DAUGHHETEE
10 DAN HINES
11

12
13 appeared as witnesses herein and were examined and testified
14 as follows:

15 EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. LAZARUS:

17 Q For the record will each of you in turn state your
18 name and your title?

19 A (Witness Stanley) My name is John Stanley, I'm a
20 Senior Plant Engineer and ENN communicator for the TSC.

21 A (Witness Pickett) My name is Elmer Pickett, I'm a
22 Senior Engineer I and during the emergency I was the primary
23 communicator, ENN in the TSC.

24 A (Witness Daughhete) My name is Doug Daughhete, my title
25 is also Senior Engineer I, I think under the new
26 org chart and I'm a TSC ENN communicator.

27 A (Witness Hines) Dan Hines. We always call
28 ourselves Senior Plant Engineer -- Senior Engineer I -- and

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1 during the event I was a TSC ENN communicator.

2 Q Okay, thank you. John, I guess starting with you,
3 would you just tell us in your own words -- give us a
4 narrative of what happened, where you were when the incident
5 occurred with -- on Tuesday regarding the loss of vital
6 power and what you did?

7 A (Witness Stanley) Okay, I was actually in the plant
8 when it occurred. I had gone into a room where we were
9 working the valves and I first realized something was wrong
10 when I couldn't card back out of the door. Evidently it was
11 within the time when it first happened and the security
12 diesel hadn't come back up. So I waited there a few minutes
13 until my card would scan to let me out of the room. I was
14 probably delayed there a minute. Then when I came out, I
15 noticed an operator running toward the diesel.

16 Last week I was the duty engineer for the week, so I
17 went to the control room to see what was going on. I went
18 in the Unit 2 control room which on the way walking I heard
19 some people say Unit 2 had tripped. So I went to the Unit 2
20 control room to see if there was anybody that I needed to
21 get or -- you know, serving my function as a duty engineer.
22 And while I was there, I got sent back to the office to find
23 Mr. Kochery, the supervisor over the diesel. And it was
24 while I had come back to the office that the alert was
25 declared.

1 We left then and went to the TSC.

2 Q The site area emergency?

3 A (Witness Stanley) Right. And it probably took us
4 two or three minutes to get there. The announcement came
5 over the page, we got to the TSC and went to our position
6 and started getting set up, which, you know, involves
7 getting our procedures out and getting the forms out,
8 getting ready to make notification. Usually it's a period
9 of time after we get there before we start making the
10 notification because our form requires that the Emergency
11 Director be in the TSC and sign the form before we do any of
12 the notifications. Once we got there -- normally we hear
13 somebody making an announcement and we notice -- or I
14 noticed that we didn't hear anything over the ENN when we
15 got there and were setting up. Then after Elmer, Doug and -
16 - they were there, just right behind or at the same time we
17 were. Then Elmer started, you know, making sure we had
18 contact with the ENN -- you know, the ENN was active. And
19 he got some of the parties I know and then after we had been
20 there awhile, we realized that things weren't -- we weren't
21 hearing any announcements over the ENN, which there's a
22 speaker on the table and if somebody talks, even if you're
23 not on the phone, you can hear it and we weren't hearing
24 anything.

25 Q So you expected to be hearing conversations from the

1 control room?

2 A (Witness Stanley) Right, normally we do that. And
3 what we do in drills is we will have a sheet there and we
4 will record what they say so when we have to do our first
5 notification, we'll have that information already laid out,
6 so we'll know what they have already said. We never do the
7 first notification from the TSC.

8 Q Let me clarify one thing. You're all on the same
9 phone circuit here at the ENN?

10 A (Witness Stanley) Well there's only one person
11 actually doing the talking.

12 Q When it started out that was you?

13 A (Witness Stanley) No, it started out with Elmer.
14 See normally us four, there are two normal ENN communicators
15 and two alternates. So -- but when we have -- you know,
16 when there's an announcement, everybody goes because you
17 don't --

18 Q Okay, why don't we shift to you, Elmer, since you
19 were the one who was initially talking on the phone.

20 A (Witness Pickett) I guess when Unit 2 tripped or
21 when the incident occurred, I was in the service building,
22 third floor, I was at my desk. The power went out and some
23 people left. I think our supervisor came back and told us -
24 - Paul came back and told us what had happened, a truck had
25 backed over the pole.

1 The time period that elapsed I'm unsure about, but I
2 left with another engineer, we were going to look at the
3 incident out in the switch yard. We went down the stairway,
4 as I exited the door of the service building, that's when
5 the plant page came out for the -- stating the site area
6 emergency.

7 Q Do you remember about what time that was?

8 A (Witness Pickett) I'm unclear as to the -- it was
9 close to 10:00, I don't know exactly what time, I didn't
10 really look at my clock to really establish time.

11 Q When you speak times are you talking Eastern
12 Standard time?

13 A (Witness Pickett) Yes, I'm talking Eastern time. I
14 was the first one of these guys in the control room because
15 I was already headed out that way and when I got in the
16 control room -- excuse me, the TSC -- there were no chairs
17 there so I went to locate some chairs for us. When I got
18 back I think John and Doug were there and I think Dan was
19 there too. I hadn't found any chairs so John was still
20 there, Doug and myself left to try to locate some other
21 furniture. We went to another area of the control building
22 and we found some chairs and brought them back. When I got
23 back, I think that's about the time that I made the
24 communications check which is something that we just
25 normally do in case we have to give any messages.

1 Q Who else was present in the TSC when you started
2 making the communication?

3 A (Witness Pickett) Okay, as far as --

4 Q Was it pretty much staffed up at that point?

5 A (Witness Pickett) It was staffed, it was pretty
6 much staffed at that point, by the time we got back with the
7 chairs.

8 Q Had Mr. Kitchens arrived yet?

9 A (Witness Pickett) Yes.

10 Q Okay.

11 A (Witness Pickett) I'm pretty sure he was there. I
12 made a communications check and there were --

13 Q Can you estimate about what time that communications
14 check was made?

15 A (Witness Stanley) I'd say it was probably around
16 10:15. We have a log, do you have the log.

17 Q Here's a copy of the log, if you can find it in
18 there.

19 A (Witness Daughhete) Do you have a copy of the TSC
20 ENN communicators log as well? Because I made --

21 Q No, that's just the TSC --

22 A (Witness Pickett) It'd be in the log that Doug
23 kept.

24 A (Witness Daughhete) There's an ENN log, I made
25 many entries in that.

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1 Q I'm pretty sure that I haven't seen that. That
2 would be -- I would like to get a copy of that if you can
3 get me a copy.

4 A (Witness Stanley) Lawrence may have -- we made him
5 a copy of it, he's the emergency preparedness guy.

6 Q I'll get a copy, don't worry about it.

7 A (Witness Pickett) I made a communications check
8 over the ENN and it was functioning at that point.

9 Q Who did you make that check with?

10 A (Witness Pickett) What I do is I just request a
11 roll call of all the various agencies. just to make sure
12 that they're there and if we're going to anticipate any
13 problems reaching an agency, then we would have to make
14 additional phone calls.

15 Q All the agencies answered?

16 A (Witness Pickett) Initially all but three and we
17 called them up on the phone and made phone contact with them
18 and directed them to standby the ENN for messages.

19 Q Do you know who those three were?

20 A (Witness Pickett) If I was looking at the form I
21 could tell you. I think GEMA may have been one, Burke
22 County and one county from South Carolina, I'm not sure of.

23 Q So even on the ENN when you had -- when you pick up
24 the ENN it will ring in all these locations?

25 A (Witness Pickett) Right -- well it won't ring, the

1 speaker will just -- you know, when I talk through the
2 phone, it will just --

3 A (Witness Daughhete) It's a live circuit.

4 A (Witness Pickett) Yeah, it's a live circuit.

5 Q So there's no ringing.

6 A (Witness Stanley) Well I don't know what it does in
7 these other places, but like at our station it's just a
8 voice box and you know, we keep the sound turned way up. I
9 don't think it rings anywhere.

10 A (Witness Pickett) If they have the same circuits we
11 have.

12 A (Witness Hines) I thought you could pick it up and
13 dial numbers and we had codes in there that you could get it
14 to ring at a location.

15 A (Witness Stanley) That's the backup.

16 A (Witness Hines) That's the backup. Okay.

17 Q So you called the three that didn't answer up on the
18 ENN on regular commercial telephone?

19 A (Witness Pickett) Right. Right around this time I
20 think we were getting -- I got a note from Brent Quick and
21 also some kind of notification from Esther Dickson, I think
22 she was Mr. Kitchen's secretary there, that GEMA was not
23 receiving -- or had contacted and said they were not
24 receiving ENN.

25 Q That was at the EOF that that contact was made?

1 A (Witness Pickett) I don't know how they got through
2 to us, but I just received a sticky pad scribbling from
3 Brent Quick saying that GEMA had not received the message --
4 or had received a partial message -- that one I'm unclear.

5 A (Witness Stanley) Wasn't that the guy from Burke
6 County though, Elmer, wasn't that Earl Potterfield.

7 A (Witness Pickett) Earl Potterfield.

8 A (Witness Stanley) I think he's Burke County.

9 A (Witness Pickett) Okay, well that's who contacted
10 Brent Quick and I called him up.

11 Q Who is Brent Quick?

12 A (Witness Pickett) Brent Quick is the -- he's the
13 TSC coordinator for I guess administrative duties such as
14 making copies of forms and drawings and procedures.

15 Q At this time though you had GEMA and Burke County on
16 the ENN, you had called them and they had come up on the
17 ENN?

18 A (Witness Pickett) I called them and I'm still
19 unsure of the three agencies. I remember there being three
20 agencies not responding initially but they all came up.

21 Q Within a matter of a couple of minutes after you --

22 A (Witness Pickett) After we called them up and we
23 directed them to go to the ENN.

24 Q So essentially everyone at that point was on the
25 line.

1 A (Witness Pickett) The ENN was working at that
2 point.

3 Q And it was after that point that you got this call
4 from someone else saying that GEMA had not been notified of
5 the event?

6 A (Witness Pickett) I received a note from somebody
7 in the TSC saying that GEMA had not been notified or had
8 received partial notification.

9 A (Witness Stanley) One thing that Elmer's talking
10 about, he wasn't making notification, he was just making
11 sure --

12 Q Yeah, I understand that. You did not receive any
13 complaints directly over the ENN from Georgia or Burke
14 County regarding lack of notification?

15 A (Witness Pickett) No.

16 A (Witness Daughhete) I did.

17 Q You did? Would you share that with us?

18 A (Witness Daughhete) Yes. This is Doug
19 Daughhete. I won't recapitulate the whole story of going
20 down to the TSC unless I need to --

21 Q Ho.

22 A (Witness Daughhete) As Elmer and I manned the
23 phones there, Elmer began communications check as he has
24 described. I was getting the materials out to make up
25 message forms and one of the things we were trying to

1 establish was what the status was of earlier notifications.
2 We did not know at that point how many notifications had
3 been made, you know, what the status was of the control room
4 notifications. So we were in the process of elaborating on
5 that and I believe at that time, Elmer was in contact by
6 plant phone with the control room speaking with --

7 A (Witness Pickett) I talked to Steve Douglas
8 initially.

9 A (Witness Daughhete) And it was during the period
10 that Elmer was on the phone that I heard over the ENN GEMA
11 calling, asking for Vogtle to come up. I answered them, I
12 don't recall the person from GEMA's name, but he was asking
13 why GEMA had not been notified over the ENN. This was news
14 to me, I did not know why, I couldn't tell him why because
15 presumably they would have been notified by the control
16 room. We did not know -- I did not know yet that the
17 control room had not contacted them over the ENN.

18 (Brief pause.)

19 Q Okay go ahead.

20 A (Witness Daughhete) I responded to the fellow from
21 GEMA that we would attempt to find out, we would get in
22 contact with the control room and have them get on the ENN
23 or find out why. And I mentioned that to Elmer who was on
24 the phone with Steve at the time. And on the other end of
25 the phone, presumably Steve I think was trying to find out

1 from the control room ENN communicator what was going on. I
2 wasn't getting any immediate answers back and the fellow
3 from GEMA came on again and I couldn't give him -- the GEMA
4 person knew pretty much what our situation was, as a matter
5 of fact, GEMA had gotten South Carolina to fax them a copy
6 of the notification message that South Carolina had
7 received.

8 Q How do you know that, did they tell you that?

9 A (Witness Daughhete) He told me that.

10 Q This is GEMA that told you?

11 A (Witness Daughhete) GEMA told me that. I still
12 had no official information to give him. At this point, I
13 believe the TSC had been -- probably had been activated but
14 control had not been transferred from the control room to
15 the TSC. I believe there is a log entry in the ENN log as
16 to when TSC was activated and as I recall from the entry I
17 made in the ENN log, this is like 10:27 or so I made an
18 entry to the effect that GEMA had contacted us over the ENN.
19 I made that entry, there was some other information in the
20 entry and the actual GEMA contact was probably somewhat
21 earlier like 10:20, 10:23, somewhere in that time phase. By
22 10:27 I had made an entry in the log.

23 Because we were not getting information forthcoming
24 from the control room immediately reassuring us that yes,
25 they were getting ahold of GEMA and GEMA was not -- we

1 weren't hearing anything go out over the ENN, I picked up
2 the South Carolina back up ENN which does not have a speaker
3 phone, it's just a handset, and I picked it up and monitored
4 it and heard the control room ENN communicator making a
5 third message. That was the first point that we were at the
6 point of the third message. And she continued through the
7 third message and when she got to the end of it she called
8 roll and she included Burke County and GEMA on her roll call
9 and of course was not receiving any response since those
10 agencies do not monitor that system. So I came on the
11 backup ENN at that point and advised her that she needed to
12 contact GEMA and Burke County through other means, that they
13 were not on that system.

14 It was sometime subsequent to that that control was
15 formally transferred to the TSC and we were given a message
16 -- we were given authorization to send a message, so we sent
17 the fourth message, Elmer was the one who actually read the
18 message over the ENN and we had all five -- more than that --
19 -- we had all seven agencies responding on ENN for that
20 message that was made from the TSC.

21 Q So the fourth message was the first one that you
22 sent out from the TSC, right?

23 A (Witness Daughhete) Yes.

24 Q At any point -- I guess when did it become obvious
25 to you that the control room ENN wasn't functioning? When

1 you were listening in on the ENN at that point?

2 A (Witness Daughhete) Yeah.

3 Q Or the backup ENN?

4 A (Witness Daughhete) Yeah, it was obvious that the
5 control room wasn't using the ENN for their messages but it
6 became really apparent that there was a glitch here when I
7 monitored the backup ENN and found that they were using that
8 and were apparently unaware that Georgia and Burke County
9 were not receiving that. I would have presumed prior to
10 that that if they were not using the ENN, that they were
11 contacting the Georgia agencies through other means.

12 Q Which is what they were trying to do, they were
13 trying to notify them by commercial telephone.

14 A (Witness Stanley) I mentioned to -- I guess after
15 about ten minutes or so, I mentioned to Skip that, you know,
16 we weren't hearing anything on the ENN. That was before we
17 knew about the backup being used and he said that the
18 control room had made notification and I assume he had been
19 in contact. So I guess we didn't really know what was going
20 on there at the start.

21 A (Witness Pickett) Yeah.

22 A (Witness Daughhete) Yeah, we advised Skip that we
23 were capable of sending the message but the presumption was
24 that the control room was handling messages at that point
25 and we weren't required at that point.

1 Q Just as an aside, until this morning, the control
2 room communicators didn't realize that the ENN in the TSC
3 was functional and you're only 50 feet away. If they had
4 known that, they could have walked the message down, but
5 they just didn't realize that.

6 A (Witness Stanley) Well that's the same thing, we
7 could have just as easily gone into them, we're right there.
8 We would have had to go out and around but --

9 A (Witness Daughhete) You know, our badges aren't
10 authorized to go through the back door of the control room.

11 A (Witness Hines) I've got that privilege.

12 A (Witness Stanley) We just didn't realize what the
13 situation was really.

14 A (Witness Hines) As a matter of fact, we offered to
15 go get them, or I did, you know, if they wanted us to go get
16 the information, that we would go get them.

17 Right then we were interested in getting the old
18 sheet so we'd know what had been said before.

19 Q Right.

20 A (Witness Hines) And we could try to maintain some
21 consistency.

22 MR. LAZARUS: Anything else you can add?

23 BY MR. LAZARUS:

24 Q At that point I guess once the fourth message went
25 out from the TSC, communications were I guess normal.

1 A (Witness Stanley) Back to normal.

2 A (Witness Daughhete) Yeah, we had no problem. We
3 sent four messages from the TSC I think.

4 Q Anything you'd like to add, Dan?

5 A (Witness Hines) No, not on the communications
6 issue. Basically what I took the job was of just getting
7 the sheets filled out, getting the Emergency Director to
8 sign them and handing them to Elmer to send out over the
9 phone.

10 A (Witness Daughhete) I might add, during this time
11 period I was on the phone several times with Sandra Threatt
12 of South Carolina DHEC who called with questions and so I
13 was handling that. We kind of had a division of labor there
14 with Elmer reading the actual forms. Once everybody on the
15 other end had Elmer's name down there was no reason to
16 present them with mine, so we let Elmer stay with that job
17 and I handled the phones and talking to South Carolina and
18 Dan gathered data.

19 What did you do, John?

20 A (Witness Stanley) Like I say, I was sort of
21 standing by because I was expecting calls as duty engineer,
22 so I didn't -- I was really just there.

23 A (Witness Pickett) John was basically -- he was
24 standing there but he was just trying to get an overall
25 picture of everything to make sure that we were doing

1 everything that we were supposed to be doing.

2 Q Were there any communications issues with the off-
3 site, things went pretty smoothly according to the emergency
4 plan -- any problems with the procedures or anything that
5 you can remember?

6 A (Witness Stanley) Once we started, it went real
7 smooth. I think we got everybody's attention which
8 sometimes during a drill is hard to -- you know, people will
9 go away but with this, everybody was right there I think.

10 Q Did you have a lot of problems because it wasn't a
11 drill, were people asking you to repeat the information, did
12 it slow things down a lot?

13 A (Witness Pickett) Not really.

14 A (Witness Daughhete) They didn't -- what they did,
15 instead of asking Elmer to repeat things over the ENN, like
16 I said, I got calls back by commercial telephone from DHEC
17 asking questions. There was some confusion because we were
18 noting that Unit 2 reactor had tripped, but we were
19 declaring an emergency on Unit 1. They didn't understand
20 that and I tried to explain that.

21 Q Anything else?

22 A (Witness Hines) This is rather small, there was
23 initially some concern over the meteorological information
24 that we were getting because the ERF computer was not
25 functional when we started to make our notifications. The

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1 guy, and I can't ever remember his name, that I get the
2 information from on HP, they had dispatched a person to the
3 MET tower and were radioing that information back. So
4 that's how were getting that data. The rest of it was just
5 strictly normal.

6 Q Okay. Anything else you can add that might help us
7 out?

8 A (Witness Stanley) Like I said, there is a log from
9 the TSC communicator.

10 Q I will get that, I'm going to talk to Mr. Roberts
11 later today and I'll ask him to get those things for me.

12 MR. LAZARUS: Thank you very much, I appreciate it,
13 it was helpful.

14 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded at
15 3:02 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the matter of:
Name: Interview of JOHN STANLEY, ELMER PICKETT, DOUG
DAUGHHETEE AND DAN HINES

Docket Number:

Place: Vogtle Nuclear Generating Plant, Waynesboro, GA

Date: March 27, 1990

were held as herein appears, and that this is the original
transcript thereof for the file of the United States Nuclear
Regulatory Commission taken stenographically by me and,
thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my
direction, and that the transcript is a true and accurate
record of the foregoing proceedings.

WILLIAM L. WARREN
Official Reporter

Ann Riley & Associates

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