



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III  
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

September 26, 1995

IA 95-024

Mr. Alfred C. Bair  
[HOME ADDRESS DELETED  
UNDER 10 CFR 2.790]

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Bair:

This refers to your letter dated August 22, 1995, in response to our Notice of Violation sent to you by letter dated July 25, 1995. The violation was for your deliberate misconduct as a superintendent with NPS Energy Services at the Centerior Service Company Perry Nuclear Power Plant.

On April 9, 1994, you were the responsible superintendent for Work Order 93-3056, a work document used for the removal of a blank flange from the safety-related "A" residual heat removal full flow test line. Work Order 93-3056, Step 010, required, in part, that the responsible foreman and craft independently verify and sign that the component to be worked is in fact the item identified in the work order. You permitted the responsible foreman to sign the work order without performing a second independent verification of the work location and supervised the responsible foreman's falsification of the work order by the foreman's signing that he had performed the second verification. You also allowed the work to proceed without the craftsmen's third independent verification after the craftsmen questioned the work location. We reviewed your response and compared it to written and verbal statements that you, the foreman, and the craftsmen made during the licensee's investigation of this event. We conclude that you have not provided an adequate basis for withdrawal of the violation.

Summary of Your Response

Your response states that there was not any deliberate misconduct involved in this mistake. Your response indicates that after you verified the work location you went to the trailer to sign your verification. The foreman came in and asked if you were satisfied with the verification. You replied yes and asked him if he was satisfied and he replied yes. You believe that indicated that he verified the number on the hanger. The foreman then signed the package. You indicate that you were not aware that the foreman was falsifying the work order since he was satisfied with the hanger identification. You also indicate that in so far as the craftsmen questioning the work location, you and the craftsmen discussed the work location until you found the numbers on the hanger. It was at this time you left the wet well to sign the original verification.

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NRC Evaluation

We reviewed the licensee's investigation of this event. The following are verbatim written and verbal statements that you, the foreman, and the craftsmen made during the licensee's investigation:

During an interview with you and the foreman on April 9, 1994, the foreman was asked to explain his verification process. The foreman responded, "I didn't perform a verification - the superintendent told me it was OK to sign and I did." You responded, "That is true." The foreman's written statement on April 9, 1994, stated, "...I had Al Bair go in with men so I could work other job...stopped to see Al, he said he I.D. flanges and I signed MPL verification in W.O."

The two craftsmen involved with the work order provided written statements on April 11, 1994. One craftsman stated, "Pressure was on to pull apart. Paper work did not seem right. Wanted Al Bair to hold off on work, but Bair wanted the work done...We should have stopped work but Bair said it was the right one." The other craftsman stated, "I then told Al that survey map had shown that orifice was in and blind flange was out. I also stated that WIP stated that blind flange was removed and orifice was installed in March. I argued these points with Al. He then said that we would stop job and talk to night shift to verify what was stated in WIP. The other craftsman and myself were very happy then, because Al Bair was pushing this job too darn fast, like it was a big rush for some reason. About 10-15 minutes later Al came back after making some phone calls and said that everything was alright, WIP was wrong, and that he had found orifice plate and it was being delivered to us...Al was very pushy about everything that I was saying, and kept on saying that he was right. He then said hurry up and start taking it apart to my dislike. I was never allowed to verify anything on my own behalf, and was told to proceed. We then took the flange apart and found an orifice plate was installed...I know now that we had made a mistake, but Al Bair would not let us stop to verify job. He kept saying that he was right, and had it verified. He kept on saying it was hurry job."

NRC Conclusion

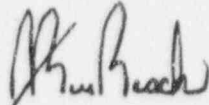
Based on the above, we conclude that your response to the violation is inconsistent with the licensee's investigation. The statements made by you, the foreman, and the craftsmen during the investigation corroborates that (1) you were aware that the foreman and craftsmen had not performed independent verifications of the work location prior to the performance of Work Order 93-3056; and (2) the craftsmen questioned the work location and you allowed the work to proceed. Therefore, we conclude that the violation occurred as stated in the Notice.

Mr. Alfred C. Bair

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As we indicated in our July 25, 1995 letter to you, we will place our July 25 letter and Notice of Violation, your August 22, 1995 letter in response, and this letter in the NRC Public Document Room, with your address removed.

Sincerely,

  
for Hubert J. Miller  
Regional Administrator

cc: Donald C. Shelton,  
Senior Vice President,  
Centerior Service Company

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