



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

November 6, 1986

TO: Don Driskill, Director of Investigations, RIV

FROM: C. E. Johnson, SRI/D. L. Garrison, RI, South Texas Project

On November 5, 1986, Messrs K. Hess (Bechtel), J. T. Westermeier (HL&P), and S. Dew (HL&P) came to the NRC site office to discuss the concerns of [redacted]. His concerns dealt with valves and equipment in inconvenient or inaccessible locations. It was stated by Mr. K. Hess that [redacted] expressed his concerns in writing to Mr. Alden Yates, President of Bechtel Corporation. Mr. Yates then inform Mr. A. Zaccaria to look into these concerns. It should be noted that Mr. [redacted] concerns were generated after he was notified verbally that he would be laid off during the next lay off. Mr. Hess stated that they took Mr. [redacted] off the lay off list because they wanted to investigate his concerns. They took a plant tour with Mr. [redacted] so he could point out all his concerns. As stated previously, his concerns were the inconvenience and inaccessibility of equipment. All concerns were documented and evaluated by Bechtel engineering. Mr. [redacted] stated to Bechtel that he wanted to be in charge of the re-engineering re-work and re-evaluation of the problems he pointed out. Only one case was considered to be a problem. A Design Change Request Approval Request was initiated to re-route an instrument air header located in the corridor of train "C" chiller room 067F, EAB at El. 10'-0". The areas pointed out by Mr. [redacted] was non-safety.

After Mr. [redacted] concerns were investigated, he was then placed back on the layoff notification list. Mr. Hess stated that Mr. [redacted] was more concern about his employment with the company because of his 25 year service. He was told that they just didn't have any more work to send him to. He reply to Mr. Hess that if I can't work within the system then he'll work against the system.

At Les Constable request to determine date of first layoff, Mr. Garrison talked to Bill Davis on 11-5-86 concerning [redacted]. Mr. [redacted] was due to be laid off on the first of 1986. This was not done because he had 24½ years of service with Bechtel, so management kept him on and in July, when his anniversary was up, they sent him to the Bechtel home office where he received an award. It was stated that he had probably been informed of his impending layoff in April (verbally) but was not actually told until after his return from the home office. He had been high on list for layoff for sometime.

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in accordance with the Freedom of Information

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Victor Stello, Jr.  
 Executive Director for Operations

FROM: Robert D. Martin  
 Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO SENATOR BENTSEN

Region IV has prepared the enclosed response to Senator Bentsen's October 29, 1986 letter to Carlton Kammerer. We propose responding promptly and following up with a more detailed response at the conclusion of our inquiries. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Original Signed by  
 P. S. Check  
 Robert D. Martin  
 Regional Administrator

Enclosure:  
 As stated

cc:  
 J. M. Taylor, IE  
 OCA  
 EDO Control 2297  
 (Ref: EDO 2249)

bcc: P. S. Check  
 D. A. Powers  
~~D. D. Driskill~~  
 E. H. Johnson  
 M. E. Emerson  
 G. F. Sanborn

AI 86-566

RIV:SL *[Signature]*  
 GFSanborn:cms  
 11/7/86

EO *[Signature]*  
 DAPowers  
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 DDDriskill  
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 RMartin  
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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

The Honorable Lloyd Bentsen  
961 Federal Building  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Senator Bentsen:

This is in response to your October 29, 1986 letter to Carlton Kammerer regarding allegations made by an employee of the Bechtel Energy Corporation at the South Texas Project nuclear power plant.

The NRC has interviewed [redacted] related to his allegation that his employer "now refuses to allow me to identify many more deficiencies (sic) I have knowledge of."

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Our regional office in Arlington, Texas, is looking into questions raised by [redacted] about design deficiencies involving plant equipment, instrumentation and valves. As is our custom, we will attempt to determine the validity of the allegations and, if found valid, their implications for plant safety.

We will advise [redacted] and your office of the outcome of these inquiries. If you require additional information in the interim, please contact Mr. Robert D. Martin, Regional Administrator, NRC, Region IV.

Sincerely,

Victor Stello, Jr.  
Executive Director for Operations

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