

STATEMENTPLACE: DATE: 3-8-84

I, Richard W. Key, hereby make the following voluntary statement to H. Brooks/GRIFFIN who has identified himself to me as an Investigator with the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I make this statement freely with no threats or promises of reward having been made to me.

I am presently <sup>un</sup>employed, but I previously worked as a welder at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station. I was hired by Brown & Root in April 1977 as a tool room attendant. In March 1978 I qualified as a welder. I left my employment with Brown & Root in July 1980 because of personal problems unrelated to the job. I was rehired by Brown & Root in August 1981 and worked as a welder at Comanche Peak until November 1983 when I became sick and was forced to leave work for 2 months. After I recovered from my illness I tried to return to work, but Brown & Root told me they no longer needed my services.

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I recall the incident described to me by Mr. Griffin which involved welding I was performing in a feed water room on elevation 851. Murray Lea was my fitter, and we were doing some welding rework when another crew began chipping.

concrete in the room. The dust <sup>blow</sup> caused by the concrete can adversely affect the welding, so I complained to J. T. Goode, a QC inspector. Goode told me to stop my welding until the chipping stopped and the dust settled. I then went and told my foreman, either Joe Evans or Jerry Ensign, who in turn contacted the other crew's superintendent, Dale Bullard. I returned to my area and waited. Several hours later Evans or Ensign told me the chipping was being stopped. I resumed my welding when the dust settled.

I do not remember any of the names of the members of the crew performing the chipping but I may have complained or made statements to some of them. I remember that Bullard, a rigging superintendent, came to the area and talked to his crew and to my foreman but I did not hear what was said.

Bullard has a reputation at Comanche Realt for threatening employees with termination especially in cases where he tells

the employee to finish job in a certain time frame or he is fired. I did not work for Bullard but I know his reputation.

Mr. Griffin described a meeting conducted by Bullard regarding increasing production, but I did not attend that meeting.

*RWK 3-8-84*

I have read the foregoing statement consisting of 3 handwritten/~~typed~~ pages. I have made and initialed any necessary corrections and have signed my name in ink in the margin of each page. I swear that the foregoing statement is true and correct. Signed on 3-8-84 at 11:12am.  
(date) (time)

*Richard Key* 3-8-84  
(SIGNATURE: TYPED OR PRINTED)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of March, 1984  
at [redacted]

INVESTIGATOR: *H. Banks M.M.*

WITNESS:

REPORT OF INTERVIEW  
OF  
Luther Michael CRAWFORD

On April 10, 1984, Michael CRAWFORD, a Texas Utilities Generating Company start-up mechanical test technician at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, was interviewed by NRC Investigator K. Brooks GRIFFIN at the CPSES. CRAWFORD said he was first hired in August 1976 and worked as a pipefitter during 1981.

CRAWFORD testified he did not recall the 1981 concrete chipping incident as described by the reporting investigator. CRAWFORD said it was possible he may have been in the valve room on the day the incident occurred, but that he spent most of 1981 as a pipefitter on elevation E10 in the Safeguards building in Unit II.

CRAWFORD also said he was not aware of BULLARD's 1981 production meeting with his ironworkers. CRAWFORD said he was aware of BULLARD's reputation at CPSES as an intimidator. CRAWFORD said it was his opinion that production pressure by the supervisors had resulted in the huge amount of rework that had taken place at CPSES over the years.

REPORT OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW  
OF  
Jerry Allen ENSIGN

On March 20, 1984, Jerry ENSIGN, a Brown & Root mechanical start-up foreman at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, was telephonically interviewed by NRC Investigator H. Brooks GRIFFIN. ENSIGN said he had been a Brown & Root employee at CPSES for about 9½ years, and that he had worked as a piping and welding foreman on site during 1981.

ENSIGN said that during December 1981 he had been the foreman on a welding repair crew. ENSIGN said he remembered that Murray LEA and Rick KEY had worked under his supervision for a short time during this period. ENSIGN was questioned about the circumstances surrounding the concrete chipping incident as described to him by Investigator GRIFFIN. ENSIGN stated that although it is possible he was involved, he said he did not remember the incident. ENSIGN said that similar conflicts between crews were a common occurrence on site. ENSIGN said it was possible that Joe EVANS had supervised LEA and KEY during the incident in question.

REPORT OF INTERVIEW  
OF  
Joe Dennis EVANS II

On March 22, 1984, Joe EVANS, [REDACTED] and a former Brown & Root piping foreman at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, was interviewed by NRC Investigator H. Brooks GRIFFIN. EVANS stated he was hired at CPSES in August 1978 and was subsequently terminated for excessive absenteeism in September 1981.

EVANS was questioned about his knowledge of the concrete chipping incident which allegedly occurred in December 1981. EVANS said he did not recall the incident described by Investigator GRIFFIN, and said he suspected he had already been terminated when the incident occurred.

EVANS stated he was unaware of Dale BULLARD's winter 1981 production meeting with his (BULLARD's) crews or any subsequent events related to the incident as described by Investigator GRIFFIN. EVANS said he knew who BULLARD was, but that he had never had any contact with him.

REPORT OF INTERVIEW  
OF  
Harold Gene MORRIS

On March 27, 1984, Harold Gene MORRIS, a Brown & Root, Inc. start-up foreman at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, was interviewed by NRC Investigator H. Brooks GRIFFIN at the CPSES. MORRIS stated he had been employed at CPSES since February 1977 and that he had worked as a general foreman on a pipe crew during 1981.

When MORRIS was given a description of the December 1981 concrete chipping incident by Investigator GRIFFIN, he stated he did not specifically recall the incident though he may have been involved. MORRIS stated that Dale BULLARD had a reputation for threatening to fire employees and that he had, over the course of the years, fired many good employees. MORRIS stated that it was his belief that when BULLARD threatened to fire an employee BULLARD meant what he said.

MORRIS was questioned by Investigator GRIFFIN about his knowledge of the 1981 production meeting that BULLARD called for the welding crews under his supervision. MORRIS stated he was not aware of the meetings or BULLARD's statements regarding his expectations regarding production of the crews. MORRIS also stated that he had never heard BULLARD threaten to fire anyone, nor had he ever heard him instruct anyone to work out of procedure.

REPORT OF TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW  
OF  
James T. GOODE

On March 18, 1984, James GOODE, a Quality Control inspector at the River Bend nuclear power plant, was telephonically interviewed by NRC Investigator H. Brooks GRIFFIN. GOODE stated that he had worked as a QC inspector at the CPSES from July 1979 until September 1983.

GOODE was questioned about his knowledge of the December 1981 concrete chipping incident and he said he did not specifically remember this incident. GOODE said such conflicts between the crews were common. GOODE said he remembered Rick KEY and Murray LEA, and also remembered Dale BULLARD. GOODE said he did not recall ever hearing BULLARD threaten anyone, nor did he remember ever having an argument with BULLARD. GOODE concluded that the concrete chipping incident may have occurred, but he did not recall the incident.

GOODE said he did not recall attending or hearing about BULLARD's 1981 production meeting with his iron crews as described by the reporting investigator. GOODE said he had no knowledge of BULLARD setting a quota for his welders or BULLARD threatening to fire his subordinates over production demands.

GOODE said he was not aware if BULLARD had a reputation as being an intimidator or for threatening employees.



REPORT OF INTERVIEW  
OF  
Steven N. DUNN

On March 27, 1984, Steven N. DUNN, a Brown & Root, Inc. structural ironworker general foreman at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station was interviewed by NRC Investigator H. Brooks GRIFFIN at the CPSES. DUNN stated he had been employed at CPSES for about 6½ years. DUNN stated his immediate supervisor was Dale BULLARD, the ironworkers' superintendent. DUNN stated that in 1981 he worked as a foreman on a structural iron crew, also under BULLARD's supervision.

DUNN was given a description of the concrete chipping incident which occurred in December 1981 by Investigator GRIFFIN, and DUNN stated that he did not specifically remember the incident. DUNN stated that such conflicts between crews were common and that BULLARD regularly used threat of termination to emphasize his orders. DUNN stated BULLARD had indicated to him that this technique of threatening certain unproductive employees was an effective method of making them improve their performance. DUNN stated that BULLARD may have threatened MILES with termination over the concrete chipping incident in 1981, but that he did not specifically remember BULLARD making any threat. DUNN stated he did not believe that BULLARD would knowingly issue instructions to his subordinates to work out of procedure or to conduct work improperly. DUNN offered the fact that Harold MORRIS would probably have been the pipe general foreman whose crew would have been working in the area described in the chipping concrete incident. DUNN was asked about his understanding of BULLARD's use of the term "corrective action." DUNN stated that what he believed BULLARD meant by corrective action was a change in personnel or the termination of the employee in question.

When DUNN was questioned by Investigator GRIFFIN concerning his knowledge of, or attendance at, the winter of 1981 meeting called by BULLARD regarding increasing welder production on the crews under BULLARD's supervision, DUNN stated he did not believe he had attended the meeting. DUNN said he recalled that BULLARD's crews were working on the switch gear during that period and that he did not become involved in work on the switch gear until 1982. DUNN stated he did not remember hearing that BULLARD had set a quota for his welders, but he did recall that BULLARD did conduct a check of rod counts on specific welders.

DUNN confirmed he had heard a rumor or talk among employees that BULLARD had set a 200 rod quota on the welders during the course of this meeting. DUNN stated he did not remember any follow-up or subsequent meetings called by BULLARD in which BULLARD instructed these same welders slow down and/or improve the quality of their work.