



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS FIELD OFFICE, REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011

REPORT OF INQUIRY

February 9, 1984

SUBJECT: COMANCHE PEAK STEAM ELECTRIC STATION;
ALLEGED PROCEDURAL VIOLATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

REPORT NUMBER: Q4-84-007

1. On January 16, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV Regional Administrator escorted a former Brown & Root, Inc., construction employee, Billy Ray JONES, on a site visit at the Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station (CPSSES) to identify construction deficiencies. JONES made statements to the Regional Administrator refuting earlier allegations made by JONES' former supervisor, Robert MESSERLY. JONES indicated he had read an account of MESSERLY's allegations in a local newspaper, and said a portion of MESSERLY's statements were untrue.
2. On January 20, 1984, the Regional IV Regional Administrator requested that JONES be reinterviewed regarding the portions of MESSERLY's allegations that JONES had indicated were untrue.
3. On January 26, 1983, Billy Ray JONES was again interviewed regarding his knowledge of the improper construction practices alleged by Robert MESSERLY. JONES agreed to review MESSERLY's allegations and give a signed, sworn statement related to his personal knowledge of the allegations. (JONES' previous interview regarding MESSERLY's allegation was reported in the CI Field Office Report No. A4-83-005.)
4. JONES stated he was working in the Unit I containment on the day the polar crane was used to relocate the main steam line. JONES stated he specifically remembered that the pipe was not connected to steam generator as alleged by MESSERLY.
5. When questioned regarding MESSERLY's allegation that the NRC's Notice to Employees form was not posted on site, JONES said he had seen the form posted in a number of locations on site during the period of time he had been employed at Comanche Peak.
6. JONES stated holes were regularly cut in tube steel at various angles to accommodate threaded bolts that did not exactly fit as designed. JONES said these cuts were authorized by Component Modification Cards. JONES said these alterations were a normal construction requirement, and said he believed MESSERLY was aware of this since MESSERLY was the supervisor.

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7. JONES said he recalled a large hole cut in a hanger to accommodate a bolt. JONES said this hanger was removed as soon as it was discovered, and the hanger was rebuilt and replaced. JONES said this cut had been made by someone on the night shift, but that he did not know who it was. JONES said this was the only instance of improper cuts made on hangers he knew about.
8. JONES provided the NRC with a signed, sworn statement which is included with this report as Exhibit (1). Although not contained in his statement, JONES was questioned concerning his comments to the Regional Administrator regarding the validity of MESSERLY's allegations. JONES said he did not recall which newspaper he had read about MESSERLY's statements or the specific allegations involved, but said he recalled MESSERLY had, in his opinion, been untruthful in some of the statements attributed to him in the newspaper. During the interview, JONES also indicated he did not have any knowledge of MESSERLY's allegations regarding the improper use of Drillco drills, because he had not use drills as part of his construction duties.

EXHIBIT

(1) Signed, Sworn Statement of Billy Ray JONES

1-26-84

REPORTED BY:

H. Brooks Griffin
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APPROVED BY:

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