



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE OF REGULATORY OPERATIONS
REGION I
970 BROAD STREET
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

E. R. Kelly
Carlson
C. Cantrell

TO: File

MAY 14 1973

THRU: Robert T. Carlson, Chief, Facility Operations Branch, RO: *R*

SPILL OF CHROMATED WATER AT OYSTER CREEK

On April 5, 1973, following the discussion in your office among J. P. Stohr, D. Caphton, F. Cantrell, R. T. Carlson and A. F. Ryan, Mr. Cantrell telephoned to Don Ross, Superintendent, Nuclear Power Generation, J. C. P. L. at Parssipany, New Jersey. Cantrell introduced me to Ross on the telephone. Ross identified Ray Russo as Manager of Security for GPU Service Corporation. Russo may be reached at Area Code 201-334-7888, Extension 682.

I succeeded in getting Russo on April 26, 1973. He informed me in our telephone conversation that a man from his department had checked the names of all persons on shift at the time of the spill of chromated water from a tank truck occurred. These people were questioned from midnight Wednesday, to 5:00 a.m. April 25, April 26. Photographs were taken of the area and the equipment contained therein. However, Russo stated that as of that time, it did not appear that they would have any result of their investigation of the spill of an estimated 1,500 gallons of chromated water.

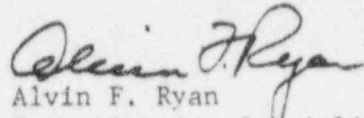
Russo referred to the management meeting at which receipt by Region I of an anonymous letter concerning radwaste handling at Oyster Creek was disclosed. He was most insistent on getting a copy of this letter in order to try by handwriting comparison to identify the writer. I informed him that the letter had not been handwritten but was printed. You will recall that after consultation with you and your staff, and confirmation by the Director, disclosure of the letter to Russo was refused.

I again called Russo on April 27. At this time, he informed me that the quantity of water spilled was found to be approximately 100 gallons and it appeared the loss may have been accidental and not a deliberate act of sabotage as first suspected. Russo again requested an opportunity to examine the letter. I informed him that the letter was unsigned, did not bear the name of any individual and was hand printed. He persisted in his efforts to obtain a copy of the letter but was again refused.

Russo was not available in his office when subsequent calls were made on April 30, May 1, and May 2.

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On May 3, Russo telephoned and informed me that four men were under suspicion with regard to the spill of chromated water. He stated that the company was no longer assuming that the spill might have been an accident. He informed me that he expected to have results of the investigation completed and available for my review sometime next week. On May 4, 1973, Russo again called me under the mistaken impression that the letter we had received had been typed. He wanted to get a sample of the typing in order to make comparison with machines available to employees at Oyster Creek. I again informed him that the letter had been printed, not typed and that we would be unable to give him any further information from or concerning the letter.


Alvin F. Ryan
Investigation Specialist