

9/20/83

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD

In the Matter of)

DUKE POWER COMPANY, et al.)

(Catawba Nuclear Station,)
Units 1 and 2))

Docket Nos. 50-413
50-414

TESTIMONY OF CHARLES EDWARD FERRELL, JR.

1 Q. STATE YOUR NAME AND YOUR WORK ADDRESS.

2 A. Charles Edward Ferrell, Jr., Catawba Nuclear Project, P.O. Box
3 223, Clover, SC 29710.

4 Q. WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT JOB WITH DUKE POWER COMPANY?

5 A. Senior Welding Inspector - Visual & NDE (M.T. & P.T.), Auxiliary
6 Building Areas (Elevations 577, 560, 543, and 522) and Diesel
7 Generator #1 & #2 Feedwater areas.

8 Q. SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS, INCLUDING
9 OTHER NON-DUKE JOBS, EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS, AND
10 COMPANY SPONSORED COURSES AND TRAINING.

11 A. I am a high school graduate and attended Business College 1 year
12 after graduation. I graduated from York Tech (Welding Course &
13 related subjects).

14 I started welding with Daniel Construction in 1968, and worked
15 for several smaller companies in between the times I was working
16 for Daniel Construction. I always worked in the Pipe Department
17 there.

1 I started work with Duke on June 28, 1976. I took Duke
2 Power's Visual Inspection Course & M.T. & P.T. Course. I was
3 certified as a Duke Welder (L-200 & L-300 Process) before becoming
4 a Welding Inspector in 1977.

5 Q. WHAT OTHER JOB POSITIONS HAVE YOU HELD WITH DUKE POWER
6 COMPANY?

7 A. I was employed on 6-28-76 as a welder. I was promoted to the
8 Welding Inspection Department on 5-2-77, and promoted to Senior
9 Inspector 7-6-81.

10 Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH WHAT IS COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS
11 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS WHICH WERE EXPRESSED IN
12 LATE 1981/EARLY 1982?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THESE CONCERNS
15 WERE?

16 A. My observation was that there was basically 2 items of concern.
17 The first was that our supervisors would overrule us on issues
18 based on their interpretations and investigations without telling us
19 the reasons for their actions. Second, it seemed that we weren't
20 getting enough backing from our supervisors.

21 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ANY CONCERNS AS A WELDING INSPECTOR TO
22 ANY OF THE TASK FORCES OR TO DUKE POWER MANAGEMENT?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. TO WHOM DID YOU EXPRESS YOUR CONCERNS?

25 A. I expressed concerns to Lew Zwissler.

26 Q. WERE YOUR CONCERNS WRITTEN?

27 A. I did not submit any written concerns. I only talked to Lew
28 Zwissler in general about certain concerns that I did have.

1 Q. DID YOU FEEL FREE TO EXPRESS ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS?
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS TO MR ZWISSLER?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. HAVE YOU DISCUSSED YOUR CONCERNS WITH ANYONE ELSE?
6 A. No.
7 Q. HAS ANYONE ELSE CONTACTED YOU AND ASKED YOU TO
8 DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS?
9 A. No.
10 Q. DID YOU ATTEND ANY MEETINGS WITH TASK FORCE AND/OR QA
11 MANAGEMENT MEMBERS WHERE THE TASK FORCE FINDINGS,
12 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE DISCUSSED?
13 A. I attended QA Management meetings in which every one of the
14 inspectors attended, but had no private meeting with anyone.
15 Q. WERE THERE ANY CHANGES MADE IN THE QA PROGRAM AFTER
16 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS AND THE TASK FORCE
17 INVESTIGATION OF THESE CONCERNS?
18 A. Yes.
19 Q. DESCRIBE THE CHANGES OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE IN THE QA
20 PROGRAM.
21 A. I think that we now have better communications with our immediate
22 supervisors and with higher management, and also better
23 understanding with technical support groups. Also we are given
24 more backing by our supervisors.
25 Q. THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS HAVE BEEN
26 CHARACTERIZED AS CONCERNS ABOUT THE QUALITY AND
27 SAFETY OF CONSTRUCTION AT CATAWBA. DO YOU AGREE OR
28 DISAGREE WITH THAT CHARACTERIZATION?

1 A. I disagree. I can only speak for myself, but as a welding
2 inspector I have never been forced to sign anything off that I felt
3 was wrong. Sometimes I may have disagreed with the decision, but
4 was shown why the decisions were made and the reasons for them.

5 Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE CATAWBA PROJECT IS BEING
6 CONSTRUCTED SAFELY?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. IN YOUR VIEW, HAS THE QA PROGRAM BEEN EFFECTIVE WHILE
9 YOU HAVE WORKED AS AN INSPECTOR AT CATAWBA?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY DEFICIENCIES IN CONSTRUCTION OR IN
12 THE QA PROGRAM WHICH WOULD CAUSE YOU TO QUESTION
13 WHETHER CATAWBA IS SAFELY BUILT?

14 A. No.

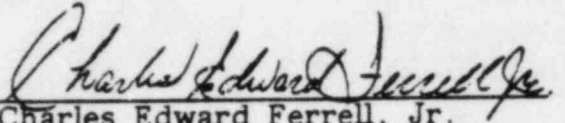
15 Q. DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT THE
16 FUNCTIONING OF THE QA PROGRAM THAT HAVE NOT BEEN
17 RESOLVED?

18 A. No. I feel that we have a better QA Department due to this
19 investigation of concerns that some inspectors have expressed.

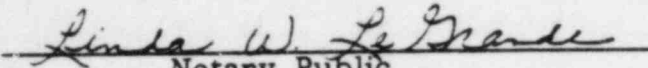
20 Q. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO YOUR
21 TESTIMONY?

22 A. Yes. I feel that we have better communications with the QA
23 Department and also the various Construction Departments. I feel
24 that more time and effort is spent on making decisions and
25 explaining why they are made. I also feel that the Construction
26 Department is taking a closer look at their supervision and
27 craftsman to ensure that they are doing quality work instead of
28 leaving this job up to us as QA Inspectors.

1 I hereby certify that I have read and understand this document, and
2 believe it to be my true, accurate and complete testimony.

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6 
Charles Edward Ferrell, Jr.

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8
9 Sworn to and subscribed before me
10 this 20th day of September, 1983.

11
12
13 
14 Notary Public

15
16 Commission Expires March 7, 1993