

APPENDIX

Title: SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT:
FALSIFIED FIRE WATCH LOGS BY EBASCO CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL

Licensee:

Houston Lighting and Power Company
Post Office Box 1700
Houston, Texas 77001

Docket No. 50-498/499

Case Number: 4-88-004

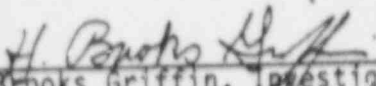
Report Date: April 15, 1988

Control Office: OI:RIV

Status: CLOSED

Reported By:

Reviewed By:



H. Brooks Griffin, Investigator
Office of Investigations
Field Office, Region IV

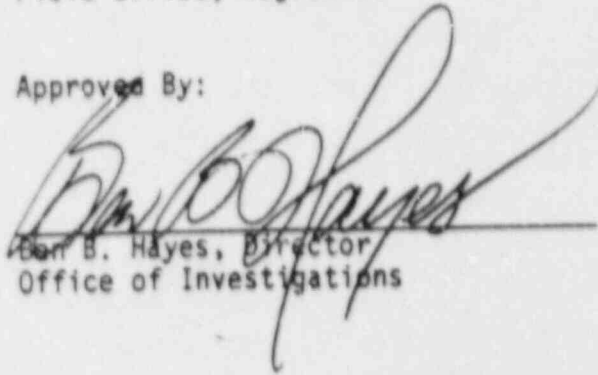


Donald D. Driskill, Director
Office of Investigations
Field Office, Region IV

Participating Personnel:

Elden Plettner, NRC Inspector

Approved By:



Don B. Hayes, Director
Office of Investigations

SYNOPSIS

On January 23, 1988, an NRC inspector, while conducting a routine inspection on the night shift at the South Texas Project (STP), discovered that several hourly log entries were missing on the fire watch log for the Isolation Valve Cubicle (IVC). The NRC inspector reviewed computer access logs for the week of January 16-23 and discovered that two of the three night shift fire watches, one of which was a supervisor, had not made their hourly routes. Further comparison between the access logs and the various building logs established that the two fire watches had also made false entries on building fire watch logs in that they were not in those buildings at the times recorded on the logs. On January 29, 1988, the NRC Region IV Regional Administrator requested an investigation by the NRC Office of Investigations (OI).

The night shift fire watch supervisor and the alternate supervisor, identified as the two fire watches who made false entries, were interviewed regarding the discrepancies between the computer access logs and the entries they had made in the building fire watch logs. Both fire watches admitted that they had made false entries on the logs and had failed to make their hourly routes. A third fire watch on the night shift was interviewed and provided a signed, sworn statement stating that he had not falsified fire watch logs. A review of the fire watch logs for the same week in January for the third fire watch indicated that he had made all of his hourly routes.

The NRC subsequently requested additional computer access printouts for the remainder of January and also for November and December 1987 for all three night shift fire watches. On February 8, 1988, an Houston Lighting & Power (HL&P) licensing official notified the NRC that the December 1987 computer access logs indicated that the third fire watch had also failed to make all of his routes and had made false entries on building fire watch logs.

On February 10, 1988, the third fire watch was re-interviewed and admitted that he had made false statements to the NRC when he denied having falsified fire watch logs. The third fire watch admitted that he had, on a few occasions, made false entries on building fire watch logs. This fire watch offered an explanation that just before his interview with the NRC he had been informed by an HL&P official that they had already reviewed the computer access logs and the building logs and they had not found any instances when he had failed to make his routes. The third fire watch explained that because the licensee did not appear concerned as a result of their review of the documents, he concluded that his lapses in making the routes did not constitute a problem for the licensee.

Additional reviews were made of the day shift fire watches, but no instances were found of falsification of building logs or failure to make the hourly fire watch rounds. Also during the investigation, no indication was found that contractor or licensee management were aware of the night shift fire watches failing to make their routes or falsifying log entries.