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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

DOCKETED
USNRC

'86 APR -8 P1:17

In the Matter of:]
COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY]
(Braidwood Station Units 1 & 2)]

Docket Nos. 50-456
50-457

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
DOCKETING & SERVICE
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Bethesda, Maryland

Monday, March 24, 1986

Deposition of:

ROBERT F. HEISHMAN,

a witness herein, called for examination by counsel for the Applicant, pursuant to notice and agreement of counsel as to time and place, at the offices of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Maryland National Bank Building, 7735 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland, before MARILYNN M. NATIONS, a Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia At-Large, commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m., when were present on behalf of the respective parties:

1 APPEARANCES:

2 On behalf of the Applicant:

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16

17 On behalf of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission:

18 STUART A. TREBY, Esquire

19 Office of the Executive Legal Director

20 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

21 Washington, D.C. 20555

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C O N T E N T S

Examination by Counsel

Deposition of: for Applicant for Intervenor for NRC

ROBERT F. HEISHMAN 5 60 --

EXHIBITS

HEISHMAN DEPOSITION EXHIBIT NOS. marked for identification

No. 1 [Professional Qualifications] 5

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. GALLO: Let's go on the record. This is a
3 deposition of Messrs. Heishman, Hooks and Georgiev. This
4 deposition is in the Braidwood licensing proceeding and is a
5 continuation of the depositions taken of various CAT team
6 members who performed the inspection, I should say, the
7 inspections at Braidwood.

8 This particular deposition has been arranged in the
9 cooperation with staff counsel and I appreciate it. It is
10 now nine o'clock which was the announced start time for this
11 deposition. A representative of BPI, the intervenors in this
12 case, is not present. I think we ought to give him at least
13 ten minutes before we start and I suggest we do that. Do you
14 have any objection, Mr. Treby?

15 MR. TREBY: No, I have no objection. I would like
16 to note for the record of this deposition though that staff
17 counsel and the three witnesses requested to be at the
18 deposition are present.

19 MR. GALLO: Let's go off the record.

20 [Whereupon, a short recess was taken.]

21 MR. GALLO: On the record. Please swear
22 Mr. Heishman.

1 Whereupon,

2

ROBERT F. HEISHMAN,

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having been called as a witness on behalf of the Applicant,

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was first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

5

EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT

6

BY MR. GALLO:

7

Q Please state your full name and business address for
8 the record?

9

A Robert F. Heishman. The business address is
10 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C.

11

MR. GALLO: Let's go off the record for a moment.

12

[Discussion off the record.]

13

MR. GALLO: Back on the record. I have been
14 furnished a copy of Mr. Heishman's professional qualifications
15 and I would like to have it marked and attached to this
16 deposition transcript. We will mark it as Heishman deposition
17 exhibit number "1."

18

[Whereupon, the document previously

19

referred to was marked for

20

identification as Heishman

21

deposition exhibit number "1."]

22

BY MR. GALLO: (Resuming)

1 Q Mr. Heishman, I have your statement of professional
2 qualifications but I have a few questions with respect to
3 them. Your statement of professional qualifications indicated
4 that you attended Upper Iowa University. Where is that school
5 in Iowa?

6 A Fayette, Iowa.

7 Q Is it still called Upper Iowa University?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q Did you graduate from that school?

10 A No, sir.

11 Q How long did you attend it?

12 A I really attended the university on campus for one
13 month. The rest of the time I was enrolled as an off-campus
14 student in the off-campus degree program.

15 Q Did you major in a certain curriculum?

16 A Business Administration.

17 Q Business Administration. How long were you an
18 off-campus student?

19 A About five years.

20 Q Were you able during that five year period to earn
21 credits towards a degree?

22 A Yes, sir.

1 Q How many credits did you earn?

2 A I am sorry, I can't give you the exact number. I
3 just don't know.

4 Q Can you give me an approximate number? I am not
5 really seeking an exact number.

6 A Yes. I have enough credits -- well, let me rephrase
7 it. I need six semester hours in order to graduate.

8 Q That would give you a degree in Business
9 Administration?

10 A Correct.

11 Q Did you attend any other college besides the
12 military school?

13 A I took courses at other colleges but not in
14 attendance.

15 Q Did you take any engineering courses?

16 A Mathematics courses at George Washington University
17 in the late 1950's.

18 Q Is that the extent of what you might call
19 engineering courses?

20 A Yes.

21 Q When did you join the service?

22 A January of 1949.

1 Q Were you an enlisted man or an officer?

2 A Enlisted man.

3 Q Can you describe for me generally the -- you say you
4 graduated from the Army Nuclear Power Program. Can you
5 describe that program just in general terms?

6 A Yes. That program was a 52-week program. Basically
7 a third of it was academic subjects. It was taught in Fort
8 Belvoir, Virginia. The second third had to do with physical
9 qualifications at both a simulator and the SM-1 nuclear power
10 plant which was also located at Fort Belvoir. The third
11 portion was physical on-the-job training for operator and
12 maintenance technician qualifications.

13 Q How long were you stationed at Fort Belvoir?

14 A Oh, I was there on a number of different
15 assignments. The total amount of time at Fort Belvoir in the
16 20 years I spent in the military was approximately 12 years,
17 not all of which was assigned to the nuclear program.

18 Q Did you run into Mr. McGregor?

19 A Oh, yes.

20 Q You say from 1959 to 1969 you were a member of the
21 U.S. Army Engineer Reactors Group serving on numerous military
22 reactor systems as operator, supervisor and plant manager.

1 Were these service reactors that provided power and steam to
2 military bases?

3 A Yes.

4 Q You were actually a reactor operator in connection
5 with some of those plants?

6 A Correct as well as the other positions mentioned.

7 Q What was the size of these power plants in terms of
8 megawatts?

9 A One was the SM-1 reactor at Fort Belvoir which had a
10 net electrical output of about two megawatts. One was the
11 MH-1A floating nuclear power plant which had a net electrical
12 output of ten megawatts. One was a gas cooled reactor program
13 which was a research and development facility in Idaho and its
14 intended net output which we never achieved was 750 kilowatts.

15 Q You joined the AEC in 1969, is that correct?

16 A That is correct.

17 Q You have worked, I guess, at the AEC/NRC from 1969
18 to the present?

19 A Correct.

20 Q Your present duties are branch chief?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Your statement of professional qualifications

1 indicates what those duties are and I won't repeat those and I
2 need not ask questions with respect to those areas as a
3 result.

4 Your statement of professional qualifications
5 indicates that during the period September 1981 through
6 January 1982 you were the supervisor of the Performance
7 Appraisal Team which conducted in depth team inspections of
8 selected reactors in operation from the Bethesda office.

9 What type of reports are issued by this Performance
10 Appraisal Team, are they the SALP Reports?

11 A No, sir. They are the so-called PAT reports. They
12 are a forerunner of the Construction Appraisal Team
13 inspections that were conducted at operating facilities so
14 they were similar type reports that were issued but they dealt
15 with operating reactors rather than construction reactors.

16 Q How long have you had supervisory responsibility for
17 CAT team inspections in the mid-west?

18 A I have had responsibility for CAT team inspections
19 since their inception in late 1982 not only in the mid-west
20 but throughout the United States.

21 Q All right. Have you participated in the actual
22 inspections?

1 A Yes, sir, but I must define participation for you.

2 Q All right.

3 A My participation varied from being the team leader
4 in some of the early inspections when we were just developing
5 the program to a point where I would go for the beginning of
6 the team inspection and conduct the entrance interview and
7 some discussion about what the intent of the program was and
8 then to participate on the final portions of the inspection to
9 review the findings with the inspectors and to basically
10 conduct the exit interview at the conclusion of the
11 inspection.

12 Q Did you do any actual inspection in the plant in the
13 various disciplines that the CAT teams typically inspect?

14 A I would not characterize what I did as inspection
15 because while I went out in the plant and reviewed with the
16 various inspectors what their findings were and looked at
17 physically the hardware in a number of cases it was restricted
18 to those areas where they had made some findings and I was
19 looking at the findings in order to get a better understanding
20 of what their problem was.

21 I would not characterize what I did as the
22 responsible inspection of those activities.

1 Q Would it be fair to characterize your role as a
2 management role?

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q The role we have just been discussing and the role
5 that you have just described, was that the role that you
6 played with respect to the Braidwood CAT inspection?

7 A Yes, sir. The Braidwood inspection, basically
8 Mr. Keshishian was the team leader and I functioned as I
9 described the latter part of my description of what was
10 occurring.

11 Q That is you participated in the entrance interview
12 and the exit review as well?

13 A And a few days at the end to look at the problems
14 that had been identified up to that point.

15 Q Do you have a copy of the CAT team inspection for
16 Braidwood?

17 A Yes, sir.

18 Q All right. I just want to identify it for the
19 record to make sure we are looking at the same document. My
20 document has at the beginning a two-page letter signed by
21 Mr. Vollmer for Mr. Taylor and then there is a service list
22 and an executive summary entitled, "Appendix A," potential

1 enforcement actions entitled, "Appendix B" and then the report
2 itself signed by you as approving it on February 15, 1985. Do
3 you have that document?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q Could you identify for me the portions if any of the
6 report that you actually wrote?

7 A Counsellor, I can't identify any specific portion of
8 this report that I provided the initial writing of. I guess
9 in order to answer your question the best way I know to do it
10 is to tell you how I approached my role in this report.

11 Q Please do.

12 A Basically the individual inspectors would make their
13 initial drafts of the report. They would provide it to the
14 team leader. The team leader would draft the front portions
15 of the report, that is the letter of transmittal and the
16 Appendix A and B that we talked about earlier, the executive
17 summary and the potential enforcement actions.

18 At the time of that particular part of the process
19 he then would provide to me after he had reviewed it, he would
20 provide me the draft document. My method of reviewing these
21 reports is that I basically will take the individual sections
22 of the report, I will review them first and provide any

1 comments that I might have about those for clarity or for
2 understanding, for editorial content, back to the team leader,
3 through the team leader to the individual inspectors who would
4 then resolve those comments.

5 Following that period of time I would then
6 concentrate in the front of the report and I would perhaps
7 make more suggestions to the front of the report than I had in
8 the back because in reality this was to document some of the
9 things that had gone on in the exit interview which I was
10 responsible for and had participated in and as such, it is not
11 unusual for me to re-write if you will or change some of the
12 things that are in the first part of the report.

13 I cannot tell you, however, specifically for the
14 Braidwood report what I might have done in terms of what words
15 I changed, what paragraphs I re-wrote, these kinds of things.

16 I have done 15 of these and I cannot separate them
17 out specifically to tell you which specific parts, but that,
18 in general, is the way I do business.

19 Q How do you record your comments? Do you send a
20 memorandum to the people with your comments? Do you use that
21 approach?

22 A No, sir. They provide me with a copy of the report

1 that is double spaced and I have a nice red pencil and I mark
2 all over it in terms of what I think needs to be done and that
3 is returned to them and I don't even keep a copy of it myself.

4 Q I see. Is it my understanding that you do not have
5 in your possession copies of the draft versions of the
6 Braidwood CAT team inspection report with your comments
7 written on them?

8 A That is correct.

9 Q I am going to ask you before we delve into the CAT
10 team inspection a little more deeply, I am going to ask you
11 some general questions.

12 Why did the NRC establish the concept of CAT team
13 inspections?

14 A I mentioned earlier that there was a program called
15 the PAT team or the Performance Appraisal team which was
16 basically a similar type program for operating facilities. In
17 1982 we went to the Commissioners with a proposal that said
18 that we were having difficulty performing the number of
19 inspections that they had requested that we perform because of
20 getting qualified staff plus the fact that the Institute of
21 Nuclear Power Operations, INPO, had started doing a similar
22 type thing and we went with a recommendation to the

1 Commissioners that said that we ought to reduce the number of
2 PAT inspections that we were doing down to four or five a year
3 from some higher number of ten or 12 that had been planned
4 which we had not been able to accomplish.

5 They approved that recommendation but at the same
6 time directed that we take some of the resources that we had
7 not been able to gather to use for the PAT program and start a
8 similar type program for reactors under construction.

9 In mid or late 1982 we went back to the Commission
10 with a proposal that said we would perform four construction
11 appraisal team inspections per year and that generally these
12 inspections would be conducted by a team of so-called experts
13 made up of people from the NRC staff as well as consultants
14 and they would concentrate on the hardware of the power plant
15 as opposed to what the general inspection philosophy had been
16 prior to that of looking at programs and a lesser amount of
17 hardware.

18 So this program was designed to be a program which
19 would spend a great deal of time looking at the completed
20 hardware of the power plants as opposed to a programmatic
21 look.

22 So we started that program in the fall of 1982 and

1 to date 15 of these inspections have been conducted.

2 Q Do you know what prompted the Commission to
3 establish CAT inspection programs?

4 A They stated to us that the intent of the program was
5 to try to determine whether or not these power plants were
6 being constructed as designed and there had been some
7 difficulty with plants under construction during and prior to
8 that time which indicated that perhaps there were some
9 problems in this area.

10 So my understanding of their intent was that this
11 program was to provide some added assurance that indeed these
12 plants were being constructed as designed.

13 Q What is your understanding of the purpose of a CAT
14 inspection and in particular, let's use the Braidwood
15 inspection as an example?

16 A The prime reason for the construction appraisal team
17 inspections is to determine whether or not at that facility
18 the plant has been constructed as designed. There are some
19 other issues that the Commission put into their directions
20 that have do to with the evaluation of a similar type program
21 that INPO has and an evaluation of whether or not the region
22 has performed the specified inspection.

1 Q Is it also a purpose to determine the caliber and
2 quality of the management of the project?

3 A That is one of the things that we have tried to do
4 in different ways because in our judgment it is germane to
5 whether or not the facility is being constructed in accordance
6 with the design.

7 Q Is the CAT team and indeed you in your role as
8 supervisor, are you able to on the basis of a CAT inspection
9 determine whether or not the facility is being constructed as
10 designed?

11 A Nothing is absolute but in my judgment we are able
12 to provide a good measure of how well the facility is being
13 constructed depending on, of course, the status of the
14 facility at the time we are there and when that is combined
15 with the other efforts that the Commission does, the regional
16 inspection efforts and the licensing reviews, then I think it
17 is indeed a good measure, a part of the overall Commission
18 review prior to licensing.

19 Q If I understand your testimony, the CAT inspection
20 report would be one building block in determining whether or
21 not a particular facility was constructed as designed?

22 A That is correct.

1 Q I think one of your team members characterized the
2 CAT inspection as a snap shot in time. Would you agree with
3 that characterization?

4 A That is realistic.

5 Q What does that term mean to you?

6 A It means that what we are doing is during the four
7 weeks that we are physically on site with this team of
8 approximately 15 people, we are looking at various parts of
9 this plant that has been constructed to date and we are
10 determining or making an evaluation as to whether or not it is
11 in accordance with the design and as such, what you are saying
12 is that for this point in time, for these systems that we
13 looked at, here is what it looks like, so, hence, the snap
14 shot concept that you described.

15 Q Was that a fair characterization of what was done at
16 Braidwood by the CAT?

17 A I think so, yes.

18 Q Are you familiar with the intervenor's QA contention
19 in this case?

20 A I have read the contentions. I must admit I do not
21 claim to have studied them to the extent that I am an expert
22 on them.

1 Q Are you aware that some of the sub-contentions are
2 based on the items of non-compliance and other items noted by
3 the CAT?

4 A Yes, I am.

5 Q Although Mr. Treby's witness list does not indicate
6 it, I will ask the question anyhow, are you going to be a
7 witness in this case?

8 A That is up to Mr. Treby, sir.

9 Q Are you aware at the present time whether or not you
10 are going to be a witness?

11 A I am not aware, I should say. I didn't want it to
12 be misconstrued that I am not going to be a witness. I am
13 sorry.

14 Q Now you indicated that you reviewed a draft of the
15 Braidwood CAT report before it was issued and you also were
16 not certain of the comments that you might have made because
17 you had looked at approximately 15 of these reports and that
18 your comments kind of blend together.

19 The area that I am interested in, in particular, is
20 the letter that Mr. Vollmer signed for Mr. Taylor and in
21 particular, the last paragraph on the first page. For the
22 record, Mr. Keshishian indicated that he had drafted this

1 letter and sent it to you for review and comment.

2 Do you recall whether or not the draft you received
3 had the last paragraph in it which noted that the major areas
4 of concern to the CAT were items one and two?

5 A I can't remember, counsellor, whether or not the
6 draft contained those specifics or not. I may very well have
7 added those specifics because those are the specifics that I
8 discussed with the utility during the exit interview.

9 Those are also the specifics that I discussed with
10 ACRS at some subsequent meeting that they had. Those were the
11 major areas of concern to me based on what I knew about the
12 facility, based on what the CAT inspectors had told me during
13 meetings and what I had reviewed in the report.

14 So I could have built that paragraph. I just don't
15 know.

16 Q All right. Is it fair to say that you are the
17 driving force behind these two concerns listed on the first
18 page of the Taylor letter?

19 A I don't know whether I would call it the driving
20 force. Those particular items are the synopsis of my concern
21 that I got out of this inspection, the major issues. So with
22 that as the case, then perhaps as you characterize it, it is

1 correct.

2 Q Mr. Keshishian testified that based on your comments
3 at the exit interview he incorporated these two concerns being
4 aware of your point of view if I could use that phrase and I
5 draw from that that you are the primary author of these two
6 concerns as opposed to either Mr. Keshishian or your team
7 members McLellan, Compton and Serb.

8 Would you agree with that or not?

9 A Yes. I think that is fair.

10 Q All right. Now I have some questions about the
11 basis for those two concerns. Let's try to take them one at a
12 time.

13 The first concern indicates that a concern regarding
14 the dependence on the final walkdown inspections late in the
15 construction program to identify and resolve problems -- now
16 what is your concern in that area? That is a poor question.

17 What is the basis for your concern? What are you
18 worried about with respect to walkdowns that occur late in the
19 program?

20 A What happens a lot of times in these nuclear power
21 plants, during construction someone will identify that here is
22 a specific problem that needs to be addressed and get resolved

1 prior to the licensing of this facility. There are many
2 different ways of handling those types of things. The normal
3 way that I would expect is if you find something is wrong, you
4 either fix it or you identify that it is wrong and put it on
5 some sort of a list to make sure that it gets fixed at some
6 future time prior to the time that you are ready to license or
7 operate the plant.

8 What happens in a lot of cases and what was told to
9 us as being one of the solutions that was going to be used at
10 Braidwood was that we know that these things are there, that
11 they will be identified during the final walkdown just prior
12 to turnover to the operations facility.

13 That concerns me from the standpoint of if you go
14 into these power plants, you will find that as they are
15 constructed space had a tendency to be filled, the ability to
16 look and identify various things will become more difficult as
17 the spaces are filled and as things are put in front of other
18 things and so my concern in this area was built around the
19 fact that it is more difficult to identify and correct
20 problems as you get more and more hardware in the facility.

21 That is not to say that it is not possible or that
22 it cannot be done. It says that it is more difficult. It is

1 more difficult to inspect and the opportunity for things to
2 slip by and not get corrected increases as these things occur.

3 That is the basis for stating this as a major area
4 of concern to the CAT.

5 Q You say that the CAT inspectors had advised you of
6 various walkdowns that apparently the applicant was going to
7 rely on to deal with the comments and the proposed items of
8 non-compliance. What is your recollection as to the number
9 and kind of walkdowns that were planned in response to the
10 CAT team findings?

11 A I cannot recite to you specifics that are contained
12 in the details of the report wherein the inspectors were
13 informed that this was going to be reviewed or solved or
14 corrected during walkdowns.

15 I can give you some general areas that have occurred
16 not only at Braidwood but other places, but I cannot testify
17 to you, sir, that these are the specifics from this particular
18 plant. I cannot do that.

19 Q The report itself does identify one area. The
20 walkdown question is raised in section III of the CAT team
21 inspection report having to do with the inspections of
22 mechanical construction equipment or the installation of such

1 equipment. It is on page III-3.

2 A (Perusing document.)

3 Q It is at the top of the page and it is also at the
4 bottom of page III-2. You might want to take a minute to read
5 that. It might refresh your memory.

6 A (Perusing document.)

7 This particular one is one that is not the first
8 time we have seen this, it is found in a number of other power
9 plants as well and the areas where the piping is installed in
10 such a manner that thermal clearance checks, how much is the
11 pipe going to move, is there enough clearance there, not only
12 is it very difficult to predict from an engineering
13 standpoint.

14 It is sometimes very difficult to measure during the
15 testing of the systems. So what we have generally been
16 looking for is to find where they indeed have specified, the
17 engineers have specified, some clearances that are necessary
18 as a target and then to see whether or not people identify
19 during the construction process that indeed these do or do not
20 meet those clearances and then as a final check, these
21 walkdowns can be effective.

22 I think the thing that we had concern about here was

1 that what they were really depending on was the final check to
2 do all of this as opposed to it being something that they
3 would do during the course of construction.

4 Similar type things occur in the electrical area
5 where we start talking about separation of conduit from cable
6 trays and cable trays from cable trays and divisions and so
7 forth.

8 These are the general areas where it is usually
9 found that people say, "I will do that at the end." My
10 concern is as I explained earlier.

11 Q Now still focussing on the mechanical equipment
12 inspections, if I recall correctly the CAT inspectors found
13 certain discrepancies with respect to installed pipe supports
14 and restraints both in terms of installation discrepancies and
15 also the spacing requirement that you refer to in your
16 previous answer.

17 Is that a fair recollection of what they found?

18 A Yes, sir. That is my recollection.

19 Q The CAT inspections occurred in December 1984 and
20 January 1985. Do you have any judgment as to the amount of
21 mechanical installations that had occurred with respect to
22 pipe restraints and supports by that time?

1 A My recollection is that a high percentage, greater
2 than 50-percent, of unit 1 had been installed during that
3 period.

4 Q As I recall, since I have been in the QA litigation
5 business, there is usually two types of corrective actions,
6 one is prospective and one is retrospective. Is that correct?

7 A Yes.

8 Q If I understand the prospective corrective action,
9 they were to at least with respect to clearances amend the
10 installation specifications to include a specific requirement
11 for the necessary clearance. Is that correct?

12 A I am not sure what corrective action they
13 specified. I would have to research that with the regional
14 people to see what it was. That is a normal thing, however.
15 I can't be specific for you, however.

16 Q All right. Now with respect to the installed
17 systems given the CAT finding, a retrospective corrective
18 action would be necessary, isn't that true?

19 A That is correct.

20 Q How would you with respect to in particular this
21 spacing requirement, that is spacing between mechanical
22 systems or any other installed system, how would one determine

1 whether or not the proper interval between systems was in
2 place for installed systems?

3 A Again, I will have to speak generically because I
4 can't recall the specifics at Braidwood. However, if indeed
5 as we discussed earlier they had gone back and amended the
6 specification to specify these are the kinds of clearances
7 that should be put there, then of course the inspection
8 process would be looking to see whether or not the already
9 constructed items met those clearances in addition to whatever
10 physical measurements and checks were made during the testing
11 program of heat-up to see whether or not those particular
12 clearances had been adequate and that the system reacted as
13 anticipated and as designed.

14 Q You indicate that the inspection process would have
15 to determine the proper intervals and space for the
16 as-constructed items. Wouldn't you determine that through a
17 walkdown?

18 A Well, yes, you could to specifically answer your
19 question. However, the more desirable thing is to make it
20 apart of the normal inspection program that you do as you are
21 doing it and then the walkdown becomes a verification, if you
22 will, or a check of that process as opposed to the process

1 that had been in effect prior to the inspection.

2 Q You indicate that the more desirable approach is to
3 have QC inspection verify that the installation intervals are
4 in place as you are doing it.

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q That wasn't possible given the CAT findings for
7 installed systems that already had been installed prior to
8 CAT inspection, was it?

9 A That is correct.

10 Q So somehow you would have to re-inspect that
11 activity, wouldn't you?

12 A That is correct.

13 Q Wouldn't you do it through a walkdown?

14 A That would be a normal way, yes, sir.

15 Q Then in this area, would it be fair to say that your
16 concern would be as to the timing of the walkdown?

17 A The timing is important. The kind of people who did
18 it, the kind of instructions that they got, the kind of
19 training they got, all of those things, counsellor, would be
20 important in terms of making sure that we ended up with what
21 the designer indicated.

22 Q Does the concern that you indicate on the first page

1 of the Taylor letter extend to the qualification of the
2 individuals conducting the walkdown or is it limited to the
3 timing of the walkdown and not taking other corrective action
4 that might be more appropriate?

5 A I don't think it was intended to limit other than to
6 provide the limit that says we have to make sure that
7 ultimately this system is constructed the way the designer
8 intended it to be and that it will serve that function.

9 So the concern was intended to say, to get that done
10 becomes much more difficult if you wait until the end but as I
11 said before, that does not mean that it is absolutely not
12 possible.

13 Q You were worried about interferences from other
14 systems so that the inspectors couldn't see discrepancies and
15 that sort of thing?

16 A Yes, sir, and how diligent are the inspectors. All
17 of that goes with it. I can't restrict it to just do it on
18 December 25th as opposed to last August.

19 Q You have mentioned the diligence of the inspectors,
20 is there anything unique about a walkdown that would require
21 an inspector to be more diligent than an inspector might have
22 to be in connection with a normal QC inspection?

1 A There is one thing that comes to mind and that is
2 the fact that if as an inspector I am trying to inspect the
3 clearances on this piping system and I am doing it at the time
4 when this system is being installed, I can get to it. I can
5 see it. If they have scaffolding there in order to put it up
6 and to do all those things and at some later time when I do a
7 walkdown, there may be other things in front of it. There may
8 not be the scaffolding there. It may be more difficult to get
9 to and so the diligence of the inspector may be important or
10 more important at that time in that he has to overcome some
11 other obstacles that wouldn't be there originally.

12 Q You mean diligence in climbing over things to make
13 sure he is able to see well.

14 A Whatever it takes to do the job, whether it be
15 physical location or lighting or whatever.

16 Q With respect to the walkdown we have been talking
17 about in the mechanical area, are you aware of walkdowns that
18 were planned for this particular matter identified by the CAT
19 on pages III-2 and III-3?

20 A Only in general terms, counsellor. I remember
21 discussions with the mechanical team wherein they had looked
22 at, I believe, from my recollection some draft procedures that

1 said how these were going to be done and the kind of people
2 that were going to do it and in that they were draft
3 procedures at that point in time, they had some concerns about
4 whether the adequacy of those procedures although we could not
5 and did not make a complete evaluation because they were not
6 complete at that time.

7 Q Are you aware that Phillips, Getschow, the
8 mechanical contractor at Braidwood, has completed its walkdown
9 of the pipe support systems that are the subject of the CAT
10 inspection on page III-2 and III-3?

11 A I am aware of it from the standpoint that the
12 regional people have told me that they have been satisfied in
13 terms of getting these systems ready for some of the tests.
14 As to whether or not it is 100-percent done or not, I don't
15 know and that is the basis of that information.

16 Q Are you aware that Sargent & Lundy plans to conduct
17 a walkdown of what they call the hot pipes for these thermal
18 clearance checks in the near future?

19 A That is a normal thing. I would be surprised if
20 they didn't but I cannot say that I was absolutely aware that
21 Sargent & Lundy were going to do it.

22 Q What does the term that I used, "hot pipes," mean to

1 you?

2 A It means that we are getting the systems heated up
3 close to the design temperatures and then determining whether
4 or not they have expanded as designed or as predicted or
5 whether or not they have perhaps not quite gone in the same
6 direction they anticipated.

7 Q Is one purpose of the three-inch pipe-to-pipe and
8 pipe-to-structure clearance to accommodate these so-called
9 thermal -- how would you characterize it? Let me get that.

10 A Yes. I think that those clearances are normally
11 there to accommodate any slight errors that might have been
12 made in the direction or the magnitude of thermal growths on
13 the pipes.

14 Q That is the term I was looking for, thermal growths.

15 A All right.

16 Q Does that mean when these pipes heat up they tend
17 to move depending on the forces generated by the temperatures
18 of the fluids inside the pipes?

19 A That is correct.

20 Q You mentioned the walkdown in the electrical area
21 for Braidwood specifically. Can you be a little more
22 specific?

1 A When I talked about that, I intended that to be a
2 generic type thing. Now whether or not that was Braidwood, I
3 can't answer. I don't recall.

4 Q Are you aware of any other walkdowns planned at
5 Braidwood specifically besides the ones we have been talking
6 about?

7 A No, sir. I cannot give you a specific.

8 Q Were you aware at the time of the CAT inspection --
9 at the time of the exit interview of any other walkdowns than
10 the ones that you have testified to today?

11 A All I can tell you is that I would be surprised if
12 there was only one walkdown planned if I would have made the
13 statements that I made. I would suspect that there are more
14 of those and that there are more areas that we were informed
15 of, but I can't tell you specifically what they are at this
16 time, Mr. Gallo.

17 Q At the time of the exit interview, do you remember
18 what the projected fuel load date was for Braidwood?

19 A No, sir. I don't.

20 Q If I was to mention April, 1986, would that refresh
21 your memory?

22 A That is the right ball park but I don't recall

1 specific months. We were talking about some time as I
2 remember in 1986 but the dates all run together on me. I am
3 sorry.

4 Q Are you aware of the present fuel load date for
5 Braidwood?

6 A It was written on my blackboard but I can't withdraw
7 it right now from memory, no, sir.

8 Q Would the date September 1986 refresh your memory?

9 A I think that is the ball park, yes, sir. It was the
10 fall of 1986.

11 Q Let's assume that at the time of the exit interview
12 for the Braidwood CAT that the fuel load date was projected to
13 be April 1986 and let's also assume that the present fuel load
14 date is projected to be September of 1986, does that
15 approximate four or five month time interval affect in any way
16 your concern about the walkdown?

17 A I don't believe so. That kind of delay seems to be
18 somewhat normal as far as nuclear power plants are concerned.
19 The best plans seem to go awry one way or another. It does
20 help from the standpoint that it gives them a little more time
21 to do the kinds of jobs that we were concerned about that had
22 to be done.

1 So from that standpoint, I guess there is some
2 comfort there.

3 Q You indicated in your earlier testimony that your
4 concern about the conduct of walkdowns late in the
5 construction of the plant was based in part on your experience
6 at other plants, is that correct?

7 A That is correct.

8 Q Can you relate to me that experience?

9 A One in particular at the Waterford facility, they
10 found that during the walkdowns that they were doing on some
11 of the conduit and cable tray separations, they thought they
12 had identified those areas that were problems and we went in
13 with an inspection and we found a number of additional ones
14 that they had not identified which caused them then to go back
15 and do further walkdowns and in fact required that some
16 hardware had to be physically changed in order to meet the
17 requirements.

18 A A number of other plants had experiences which
19 required additional engineering efforts to justify what was
20 there rather than what the original intent was. My
21 recollection is that they included plants like River Bend and
22 WNP-2.

1 Q Out of the 15 plants, are there others besides these
2 three that experienced that kind of situation?

3 A I am sure there are but those are the ones that I
4 remember specifically. There were very few plants, my
5 recollection is, that did not offer the correction that said
6 we are going to pick that up and correct that in the walkdown.

7 It got to be and still is a comment that gives me
8 concern when I hear it because of the difficulties that are
9 created as a result.

10 Q At Waterford, you indicated that the CAT had
11 inspected for, I believe, electrical separation with respect
12 to cable trays and conduit.

13 A That is the one that comes to mind, yes, sir.

14 Q That is for the necessary separation that is
15 required by, I think it is, IEEE-384.

16 A Two-seventy nine, yes, sir. It is the separation
17 and then the way the particular utility chooses to meet those
18 standards will dictate what the required space is. The kinds
19 of things that they do is to physically separate and to
20 install barriers between and those kinds of things in order to
21 meet those kinds of requirements.

22 Q Now the utility at Waterford thought that they had

1 satisfied those criteria as a result of their inspections
2 that were conducted after installation or had they conducted
3 a walkdown themselves?

4 A They had conducted a walkdown and basically that is
5 the way -- in other words, they had used some of the same
6 philosophy that says for those particular concerns, we will
7 catch that during the walkdown as opposed to identifying
8 individual examples of where that criteria is not satisfied
9 during the routine inspections.

10 Q I see. So they had consciously decided to postpone
11 verifying compliance with the electrical separation criteria
12 until after the systems were installed, is that it, and then
13 verify it through a walkdown?

14 A Correct.

15 Q I see. Had this walkdown occurred before the CAT
16 team had arrived on site?

17 A Yes, sir, in the specific areas that we found the
18 difficulties.

19 Q Yes.

20 A As part of the CAT team effort, we try to determine
21 and try to inspect those areas that have gone completely
22 through the system designed to make this construction process

1 work in every case that we can. In other words, we try to get
2 to the end of the process if possible to see whether or not
3 the process has worked.

4 Q You indicated the CAT team went in and they
5 conducted a sample inspection and noted some clearance
6 violations if I can use that word.

7 MR. TREBY: I object. It is not clear to me whether
8 we are talking about Braidwood or Waterford?

9 MR. GALLO: We are talking about Waterford.

10 MR. TREBY: Then I object also on the grounds of
11 relevance. The plant at issue here is Braidwood and not
12 Waterford.

13 MR. GALLO: These questions are probing the basis of
14 Mr. Heishman's opinion which he expressed in Braidwood. The
15 Waterford experience serves as one significant pinnacle of
16 that opinion and that is the basis for the questioning and the
17 relevance to the proceeding.

18 MR. TREBY: My objection is noted in the record.

19 MR. GALLO: All right.

20 BY MR. GALLO: (Resuming)

21 Q Let me restate the question.

22 A Please, sir.

1 Q The CAT at Waterford inspected a sample of the cable
2 trays and conduit to determine if the necessary electrical
3 separation existed, correct?

4 A Correct.

5 Q You found that it did not in some instances?

6 A Correct.

7 Q Was the utility's corrective action to conduct yet a
8 further walkdown to check for these electrical separation
9 requirements?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 MR. TREBY: Just so that the record is clear, I have
12 a continuing objection to this whole line of questioning about
13 Waterford.

14 MR. GALLO: I understand.

15 MR. TREBY: I won't interrupt your questioning with
16 an objection each and every time but just so the record is
17 clear.

18 MR. GALLO: All right. Did you get Mr. Heishman's,
19 "yes" to that question?

20 (Reporter indicating an affirmative response.)

21 BY MR. GALLO: (Resuming)

22 Q Which walkdown or perhaps it was both that your

1 concern about the conduct of a walkdown at Waterford late in
2 the construction activity, did it relate to the walkdown that
3 had occurred prior the CAT team inspection or did it relate to
4 the subsequent walkdown that was required as a result of the
5 CAT team inspection or did it relate to both?

6 A It related to both. My concern is based on the fact
7 that when the inspection process that is intended to identify
8 deviations from the design is completed and deviations remain,
9 then there is reason for concern and the concern, the amount
10 of concern, would somewhat depend upon the magnitude or the
11 amount of deviations that existed after the inspection
12 process is finished.

13 Now if indeed the process is to identify these
14 concerns on the basis of a walkdown and that is completed and
15 a subsequent inspection by myself or anybody else identifies
16 that the process was not adequate and there still exists some
17 deviations from the design, then I am concerned about that and
18 I am further concerned about anything that happens subsequent
19 to that to get it into the design concept.

20 So the answer to your question would be that I am
21 concerned about any or all of those walkdowns that were
22 completed and allowed things to continue to be outside of the

1 design envelope that had been specified by the engineer.

2 Q Given the CAT inspection results at Waterford, the
3 second walkdown was necessary, wasn't it?

4 A Absolutely.

5 Q So you are only concerned that it is effectively
6 implemented for that type of walkdown?

7 A Yes.

8 Q If I understand your point, you are concerned
9 philosophically if a walkdown is used to verify compliance
10 with design requirements as opposed to QC inspection at the
11 time of installation? Is that correct?

12 A That is the major portion of my concern, yes, sir.

13 Q Do you know at Braidwood in the mechanical area and
14 in particular, the three-inch separation, pipe-to-pipe and
15 pipe-to-structure criteria, do you know whether or not at
16 Braidwood they intended to substitute the walkdown and I mean
17 at the outset now for QC inspection at the time of
18 installation?

19 A I don't know it for a fact. I surmised that based
20 on the information that we had that said first of all there
21 was in the criteria that they were inspecting to, there was
22 some question about exactly what was intended and secondly,

1 the fact that they had done those inspections and when we
2 found some additional ones and asked questions, the response
3 was we will catch that during the walkdown.

4 I cannot say what their original intent was. I
5 don't know. All I can do is speak from the facts as I know
6 them.

7 Q In your experience is it common for piping systems
8 to be modified during the course of construction?

9 A Yes, to varying degrees. Generally, it is not
10 unless there is some major design change, there is generally
11 not any major modifications.

12 Q But re-routing occurs as a normal course of
13 construction activity, is that your experience?

14 A Not generally in the larger piping systems. In some
15 of the small bore piping, yes, that is not an uncommon thing.
16 But in some of the bigger piping systems, it is rather
17 uncommon for a routing to be changed significantly in my
18 experience.

19 Q Weren't the piping systems that were under
20 consideration in the CAT team inspection on page III-2 and
21 III-3 primarily small bore piping systems?

22 A I don't know. I see on page III-3, they talk about

1 a platform being supported off a one and a half inch diameter
2 pipe but then we are talking over here less than three-inch
3 pipe-to-pipe and pipe-to-structure clearances. So just on a
4 quick reading, it would indicate to me that there is some
5 three inches which is a pretty good sized piping system.

6 MR. TREBY: Excuse me, just to clarify the record.
7 When you said, "over here," you mean the bottom paragraph on
8 page III-2?

9 THE WITNESS: Correct. I am sorry.

10 BY MR. GALLO: (Resuming)

11 Q We were talking about whether or not during the
12 course of construction pipe re-routing occurs and I think you
13 agreed with me that it is not unusual to have it occur during
14 the course of construction at least for small bore piping.

15 A Correct.

16 Q If a small bore piping system is installed and QC
17 inspected at the time of installation and they look for the
18 three-inch separation criterion to see whether or not it has
19 been complied with, that is the way you like to see it done,
20 is that correct?

21 A That is correct.

22 Q Now let's assume that that same piping system is

1 re-routed in some fashion and it is re-routed and now again it
2 is QC inspected and again compliance with the three-inch
3 criterion is satisfied or at least verified by the QC
4 inspection, now would that happen or could that happen with
5 respect to every piping system and again, we are talking small
6 bore?

7 A Sure. It is possible.

8 Q I think my question was a little obtuse. Isn't what
9 I have described true only with respect to the installation of
10 safety-related small bore piping systems?

11 A It goes a little bit beyond that in that not only
12 are we concerned about the separation of safety related piping
13 from other safety related piping but we are also concerned
14 about some things that are so-called not safety related but
15 important to safety or the two over one, so-called, criteria
16 that says things that have the potential for damaging a safety
17 system must also be such that it will not create or cause
18 problems with the safety systems.

19 So in general, you are correct. The only thing that
20 I want to qualify is that there are some other special
21 circumstances other than safety-related piping that are of
22 concern.

1 Q What is your understanding of the application of the
2 three-inch pipe-to-pipe or pipe-to-structure separation
3 criterion? Is it just between safety systems or is it also
4 between safety and non-safety systems?

5 A I don't know. I can't answer that question.

6 Q Except for purposes of my question that it applies
7 to both that a safety-related piping system, again small bore,
8 if the specifications require must maintain a three-inch
9 interval at least for hot pipes between any neighboring
10 structure or other pipe whether it is safety related or
11 non-safety related and with respect to the installation of a
12 safety-related piping system, it should be QC inspected at the
13 time of the installation.

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Now along comes six months later the installation of
16 a neighboring non-safety related piping system, will that be
17 QC inspected to determine whether or not it has been properly
18 installed?

19 A If the system is properly -- that is the inspection
20 program or system is properly established, then it will some
21 how be incorporated such that the requirements for these
22 piping systems that are safety will be inspected to make sure

1 that the design is complied with whether it has to do with
2 other structures, other piping systems, other things.

3 Now it can be done in many different ways. I have
4 seen it done in many different ways but in some manner, it
5 involves an inspection to make sure that when something is
6 installed in the neighborhood of a safety system, it cannot
7 infringe upon the design of that system.

8 Q Isn't it generally true at Braidwood that the
9 installation of non-safety related systems are not QC
10 inspected at point of installation?

11 A I don't know that as a point of fact but that is a
12 general statement that is true at most plants.

13 Q That is true generally?

14 A Yes.

15 Q All right. So if the non-safety related system is
16 installed after the safety-related piping system and the
17 non-safety related system as a result of that installation
18 impinges on the three-inch criterion, that won't be picked up
19 at the moment of installation of the non-safety related
20 system, will it?

21 A Not by the inspection process, no.

22 Q All right.

1 A But as I mentioned before there needs to be and
2 generally is such things like a specification to the craftsman
3 that installed it and the foreman and the other people that
4 says, "Hey, you can't do this." The verification of it, the
5 inspection portion of it is the part that doesn't always
6 occur.

7 Q But if the craft personnel inadvertently installed
8 this system too close to the safety-related system, it would
9 not be picked up as of that time?

10 A That is correct.

11 Q But you point out that nevertheless a licensee
12 should be aware of this circumstance and try to accommodate it
13 in some fashion in the inspection process.

14 A Yes.

15 Q How would you do that?

16 A They intend to do it through a walkdown at some time
17 subsequent to that and I think that is perhaps a proper use of
18 walkdown as opposed to the expressed concern that I had
19 earlier of not only picking up these things that don't get
20 inspected but also picking up those things that do get
21 inspected.

22 Q So to compensate for this hypothetical situation

1 that we have been discussing, you would agree that a walkdown
2 would be appropriate to check for the impingement on
3 separation criteria by non-safety related equipment and piping
4 systems?

5 A Yes, sir.

6 Q Mr. Keshishian told us about a meeting on March 10
7 and that you were in attendance at this meeting and it had to
8 do with a meeting between yourself and your CAT members and
9 the region to discuss the follow-through by the region on the
10 findings of the CAT inspectors. Is that correct?

11 A Yes, sir.

12 Q You attended that meeting?

13 A Yes, sir.

14 MR. TREBY: Could we just be clear as to what year,
15 March 10 of what year?

16 MR. GALLO: Eight-six.

17 BY MR. GALLO: (Resuming)

18 Q Do you recall this particular item that you were
19 concerned about the walkdowns being discussed at that meeting?

20 A No, sir.

21 Q You do not?

22 A I do not.

1 Q Did you inquire of the region as to whether or not
2 they had taken any action to determine that Edison was
3 properly sensitive to the concern indicated in the Taylor
4 letter on walkdowns?

5 A I don't recall during that meeting that we discussed
6 that. I did not ask the question to specifically respond to
7 your question. Whether or not that discussion or any
8 discussions talked about that subject or not, it is not
9 clear. It seems to me that something was discussed about that
10 particular area and I believe earlier in my testimony I
11 mentioned the fact that they were indeed doing some hot
12 functional testing or some testing of some of the systems and
13 that the region had informed me that indeed some of these
14 inspections had been done.

15 I believe that is the source of that information but
16 I am sorry, that is a little hazy.

17 Q Do you recall whether or not you got into any kind
18 of discussion as to whether the walkdowns that were conducted
19 were being conducted in a manner so that the QC inspectors or
20 whatever personnel that were being used were being diligent to
21 conduct their inspections in a manner so that they could
22 overcome any clearance problems?

1 A I specifically remember some discussions that had to
2 do with the BCAP that discussed those kinds of issues and the
3 answer was that the regional inspection of systems that had
4 gone through that really had verified that indeed the
5 inspections had been satisfactory.

6 Q Do you remember what the subject of the inspections
7 were that you just referred to?

8 A We were talking about hangers for both piping
9 systems and HVAC systems as I recall. I believe we also were
10 talking about some BCAP inspections in the electrical area.

11 Q Did the matter identified at the top of page III-3
12 of the CAT inspection come up specifically?

13 A (Perusing document.)

14 Not to my knowledge, no, sir.

15 Q Was either Mr. Compton or Mr. Serb at this meeting?

16 A No, sir.

17 Q Or Mr. McLellan?

18 A Mr. McLellan was at the meeting.

19 Q Do you recall him raising that question with respect
20 to III-3?

21 A I don't recall.

22 Q If he had raised it, would you have recalled it, do

1 you think?

2 A I must admit the specifics that were being discussed
3 there, I was more concerned about the overall and where we
4 were and where were we going rather than the specifics so I
5 hesitate to say that I would or would not have, counsellor.

6 Q All right. What is your concern with respect to the
7 second point on the Taylor letter? You will have to bear with
8 me, my copy has a marker through it.

9 A Would you like to use my copy.

10 Q Yes, thank you.

11 (Document proffered to counsel.)

12 MR. TREBY: May we go off the record for a second?

13 MR. GALLO: Sure.

14 [Discussion off the record.]

15 MR. GALLO: Back on the record.

16 BY MR. GALLO: (Resuming)

17 Q The witness has allowed me to use his copy of the
18 CAT inspection which is more legible than mine and I
19 appreciate it. What is your concern with respect to the
20 ability to manage the large number, over 20, I believe, of the
21 ongoing major corrective action programs as noted on the
22 Taylor letter?

1 A Mr. Gallo, my concern there has to do with -- my
2 experience is that the construction of an nuclear power plant
3 under so-called normal circumstances is a very difficult
4 tedious management chore.

5 So when I became aware of the fact that there were a
6 large number of ongoing corrective action programs during the
7 preparation for this inspection, I suggested to my team
8 members that it would be good to look at -- try to get a
9 sample during their inspection of things that had gone through
10 some of these programs and perhaps some that had not.

11 Then in discussions during the course of the
12 inspection and at the end, I found that indeed there were a
13 large number of these programs going on plus the continuation
14 of construction on those systems which was not involved in
15 these corrective action programs.

16 My concern centered about whether or not the
17 management would be able to continue to manage these ongoing
18 construction projects and still try to go back and if I can
19 use the phrase play "catch up" in terms of trying to correct
20 those problems that had previously been identified.

21 Q Had your experience at other plants provided a basis
22 for your concern?

1 A Yes, some of which were CAT programs and some of
2 which were in other parts of my experience. So the answer is
3 yes.

4 Q Can you identify for me where based on your CAT
5 experience this concern had evinced itself?

6 A Yes. When we went to the WNP-2, the Washington
7 Nuclear Plant Number Two, to do the CAT there, they had been
8 involved in a number of corrective action programs to correct
9 previously identified deficiencies that they were working on
10 at the time we got there. They were very late in the
11 construction process. The plant was almost completed.

12 I found that with all of the ongoing things, it was
13 very difficult and indeed some of the findings that we came up
14 with in my judgment were based on the fact that the managers
15 had been so involved in correcting previously identified
16 problems that some things just happened that they may have
17 caught had they not had the involvement with all the other
18 areas.

19 Q Did WNP-2 receive an operating license, do you know?

20 A Yes, sir. They did.

21 Q So apparently they were able to overcome whatever
22 management problems they had in terms of your concern in this

1 area, is that correct?

2 A Yes, sir, they did.

3 Q I notice that Mr. Keshishian had found that at least
4 in his judgment that Edison was entitled to a satisfactory
5 management rating based on his review of the project
6 management team at Braidwood. Is that your recollection?

7 A Yes, sir. In fact, he was rather complimentary to
8 the management team that had been established.

9 Q Despite that rating and his complimentary attitude,
10 you still had this concern with respect to the management of
11 these programs?

12 A Yes, sir. With due respect to the best possible
13 management, it is a very, very difficult task in my judgment
14 to try to correct or catch up on things that have gone wrong
15 and at the same time make sure that new things are going
16 correct.

17 So it is a very difficult task and even though we
18 found that they had established the best possible team by
19 their description and we thought the team was very strong, I
20 still felt that this was an area that they really were going
21 to have to work very hard at.

22 Q Do you know whether or not the problem that you have

1 identified as a concern came true at Braidwood, were they not
2 able to continue ongoing work and also do the corrective
3 actions?

4 A The information that I have indicates that they were
5 indeed able to continue work on the corrective action programs
6 and new work and do them satisfactorily.

7 Q Where did you receive that information?

8 A The basis of that information is the recent SALP
9 report that was issued and the discussions that we had with
10 the regional people in the meeting that you quoted earlier in
11 the testimony.

12 Q On March 10.

13 A Yes, sir.

14 Q Let's talk first about the SALP report. What was
15 there in the SALP report that led you to conclude that the
16 Braidwood activity was being conducted satisfactorily with
17 respect to continuing on-going work and also proper corrective
18 action activity?

19 A My recollection of the SALP report was that they had
20 improved in a number of areas and that their SALP ratings were
21 all two's except for two areas, one was a three which had to
22 do with housekeeping and one was a one that escapes me now,

1 exactly what area that was in.

2 Basically that showed a much improved trend from the
3 previous SALP ratings.

4 Q Let's return to the March 10 meeting. Was this
5 matter discussed specifically by you with the region during
6 that meeting?

7 A Not specifically with this title but the information
8 that the regional folks were exchanging with us indicated that
9 what they were doing now, in other words, the new work that
10 was going on, their inspection program indicated that it was
11 being done satisfactorily plus we discussed things like the
12 BCAP and a couple of these other programs that indicated that
13 they had been satisfactorily completed.

14 So that is the basis of them.

15 Q Are you aware that the majority of the major
16 corrective action plans are completed?

17 A I have not asked that question and I don't have a
18 basis for stating that that is true. I would assume with the
19 status of the plant that that is the case, but I have not
20 physically verified that.

21 Q All right. I don't want to put words in your mouth
22 here so I want to be careful, would it be fair to characterize

1 the concerns that are indicated at the bottom of the first
2 page of the Taylor letter as kind of a caution or a warning,
3 "Look out for these sort of things"?

4 A I think I characterized them in the exit interview
5 as being things that were concerns to me based on my
6 experience at other plants and things that I thought deserved
7 or required the most management attention on specific areas
8 and I think that is what was intended in the writing and in
9 the report was to tell Mr. Reed and anyone else who read the
10 report that these were areas where we thought the owner of
11 that plant really had to concentrate because they had the
12 potential of creating the most problems.

13 Whether that fits the characterization that you had
14 or not, I guess I don't know, Mr. Gallo.

15 Q That is fair enough. Returning to walkdowns, do you
16 know whether or not your concern on walkdowns has in fact been
17 realized with respect to the activities at Braidwood?

18 A I don't have a basis for responding one way or
19 another to that question. I am sorry.

20 Q Do you know whether or not the problems and concerns
21 that you saw with the walkdowns at Waterford were successfully
22 overcome by that applicant?

1 A The only way I can address that is that I am not
2 aware of based on the discussions that I have had with people
3 any specific hardware changes that have been necessitated as a
4 result of walkdowns?

5 Q At Waterford?

6 A At Braidwood. I know there was at Waterford.

7 Q My question was whether or not the utility at
8 Waterford was able to overcome your concerns with respect to
9 the walkdowns at that facility.

10 A I am sure they were.

11 MR. TREBY: Objection, relevance.

12 THE WITNESS: I am sure they were because they got
13 an operating license.

14 MR. GALLO: Your Witness, Mr. Wright.

15 MR. WRIGHT: Can we take about a two minute break
16 before we start.

17 MR. TREBY: Why don't I give you five.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. WRIGHT: All right, five minutes.

20 MR. TREBY: I think we need to get up and stretch.

21 [Whereupon, a short recess was taken.]

22 MR. WRIGHT: On the record.

1 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE INTERVENOR

2 BY MR. WRIGHT:

3 Q Mr. Heishman, my name is Timothy Wright and I am an
4 attorney for the intervenors in this case, BPI. Well, I am an
5 attorney from BPI for the intervenors in this case, Ms. Rorem,
6 et al.

7 I have a couple of questions to ask you concerning
8 the general discussion that you had with Mr. Gallo and the
9 walkdown issue and the other question of the number of
10 corrective action programs that are taking place at Braidwood.

11 With respect to the walkdown, I want to for my own
12 understanding, understand what you mean or what your basis for
13 your concern. I take it one of them was the fact that the
14 equipment would be inaccessible, is that correct?

15 A Yes, sir. Inaccessible may be a little bit strong
16 in that the degree of difficulty of looking at things or
17 getting to things, I don't believe that it would be correct to
18 say that things are completely inaccessible because you can
19 always get to something by taking something out of the way or
20 doing these things.

21 So my concern in responding to your question is to
22 make sure that I characterize it properly. I think the

1 characterization is the degree of difficulty of doing things
2 that would be easier at some previous time if I can state it
3 that way.

4 Q All right. When you have a walkdown, a final
5 walkdown such as that, is there also a problem with schedule
6 pressure?

7 A Could be although again schedule pressures can be
8 also just as available during the time that the initial work
9 is being done. Let me give you an example. If you are
10 talking about an inspection of a weld and we are going to
11 inspect the root pass, the welder wants to go ahead and work
12 on the rest of the thing so he is giving you pressures to
13 inspect this weld and get out of the way so he can get on with
14 his work.

15 Now we might say that that pressure from the welder
16 is not as great as the plant manager wanting to get his
17 systems tested and so forth, but pressure itself is there for
18 the inspector during the process.

19 That particular portion of it does not concern me as
20 much as some of the others. It is a factor, however, I
21 agree.

22 Q Do you think it is more of a factor at the point in

1 time in which the final walkdown is done than it would be in a
2 normal, let's say if the inspection had taken place a year or
3 as soon as the equipment was actually fabricated?

4 A I am not sure if I would characterize it as being a
5 great deal more. It probably would be slightly more but I
6 don't think of any major significance.

7 Q Is it a possibility that when the inspection is done
8 in a final walkdown that due to the potential of increased
9 costs that they are more likely to take shortcuts?

10 A I don't believe so. I think that is possible. Let
11 me qualify it. My experience, however, is that generally
12 inspectors are more concerned about what it is they are
13 inspecting and what the acceptance criteria is and whether or
14 not they meet it as opposed to how much does it cost, how much
15 time and how many dollars does it take to correct something if
16 I find it wrong.

17 One of the ways that the regulations tries to
18 protect against that, of course, is to not allow inspection
19 people to be involved with or responsible for the schedule and
20 these kinds of things. So I don't believe that would be a
21 significant factor.

22 However, it is true that as you get the plant built

1 and get closer to the testing program then, of course, the
2 normal tendency would be to get on with it and do whatever it
3 is that you have to do to get it licensed.

4 So from that standpoint, it could be slightly more
5 pressure although I think the pressures on inspectors are more
6 continual if I might put it that way.

7 Q I think in response to a question from Mr. Gallo and
8 I don't think I exactly have your quote down here but let me
9 see if I can get close, you stated that you noted the two
10 concerns in the letter because of your experience at other
11 plants, is that correct?

12 A Yes, sir. That is one basis.

13 Q That was one of the bases?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Could you tell me what the other bases were?

16 A Primarily because we had made some findings at this
17 facility that indicated that there were going to be these
18 walkdowns and it is just common sense and good judgment that
19 says when you are building something that if you find that you
20 are not doing it correctly if you identify it at that point in
21 time and fix it or at least put it into a system to get it
22 fixed, that it is more efficient, that you are going to have a

1 better product.

2 I qualified that, however, in my answer to Mr. Gallo
3 and I repeat it, that that is not to say that a walkdown type
4 of inspection is not a method of doing it. It is just I don't
5 think it is the most efficient or the best way to do it and my
6 experience as we previously noted says that you can get
7 yourself in trouble by doing this.

8 So that is the basis of that concern.

9 Q Is a basis for your concern also the number of
10 walkdowns that are being carried out at the facility?

11 A I don't believe that I could sanction that now and
12 the basis of that is that I was hard-pressed when Mr. Gallo
13 asked me the various areas that I was concerned about in the
14 report and I just don't recall the number of cases or where
15 they found that.

16 The real concern has to do with if you are going to
17 perform an inspection process using a walkdown after you have
18 completed your basic inspection process, it is a system that
19 is questionable in my mind in terms of its effectiveness.

20 Q All right. I don't know that I understood that. If
21 you use the walkdown as what?

22 A As the prime inspection.

1 Q All right.

2 A In other words, instead of identifying or doing it
3 at the time you make the initial inspection and you say, "No,
4 I am not going to take care of it there, I am going to catch
5 it during the final walkdown," I am saying that that is not
6 the best practice.

7 Q If the walkdown issues at the prime inspection and
8 the walkdown takes place at the end of the job, would it be
9 fair to say that in your opinion it would be more of an
10 increase in cost and schedule pressure at that time than if
11 it would have taken place let's say a year before?

12 A Again, going back to my previous answer on cost and
13 schedule and pressures, I don't know that I agree that there
14 is that great of an increase in pressures on the inspector at
15 that point in time than what he has originally. There may be
16 some but that is not a major concern of mine.

17 Q All right. With respect to the ability of the
18 applicant to manage a large number of ongoing major corrective
19 programs, I take it that it is your concern that they have the
20 ability to manage that number of corrective actions while
21 insuring that the current work is being done in a proper
22 manner, is that correct?

1 A I think that is my answer, yes, sir.

2 Q Is there a problem with their being able to manage
3 that number of ongoing corrective action programs?

4 A I don't believe so from the standpoint of -- I think
5 with the corrective action programs going on, they have
6 structured their organization such that they have concentrated
7 management attention on those areas. So I think that was not
8 my concern.

9 My concern was that if that was all they had to do,
10 they probably were structured and could do that with a problem
11 but then if you superimpose on top of that continued
12 construction and making sure that that all happened, that was
13 almost a full time job in itself and so you ended up with two
14 full time jobs if I might characterize it that way as opposed
15 to what you would normally expect.

16 I would point out to you, however, that based on
17 some other answers to Mr. Gallo's questions it appears what I
18 have now is that they have been able to do that and if that is
19 the case, I congratulate them.

20 Q What did you see at Braidwood other than the fact
21 that these 20 corrective programs ongoing and that they were
22 still doing the current work? What else did you see that made

1 the instant deposition ceased.]

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1 you have this concern?

2 A That was it. That is the guts of the whole thing if
3 you will is the fact that they had this number of corrective
4 action programs ongoing to try to fix things that they had
5 identified that were some problems associated with and at the
6 same time they were continuing with the construction in new
7 areas.

8 That is the whole thing.

9 Q Other than the representations that Mr. Gallo has
10 made to you earlier, do you have any other evidence that in
11 fact they are handling the 20 corrective action programs as
12 well as doing the ongoing work in a proper fashion?

13 A No, sir. The basis of that statement is as I
14 previously testified to Mr. Gallo's question.

15 MR. WRIGHT: I have no further questions. Thank you
16 very much, Mr. Heishman.

17 MR. TREBY: I have no questions.

18 MR. GALLO: That is the last word.

19 MR. TREBY: Thank you, Mr. Heishman, for attending
20 and we will waive signature.

21 [Whereupon, at 11:05 o'clock a.m., the signature of
22 the witness having been waived with the consent of counsel,

CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC

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2
3 I, MARILYNN M. NATIONS, the officer before whom the
4 foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby certify that the
5 witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing deposition
6 was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was
7 taken by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or
8 under my direction; that said deposition is a true record of
9 the testimony given by the witness; that I am neither counsel
10 for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the
11 action in which this deposition was taken; and further, that I
12 am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel
13 employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise
14 interested in the outcome of the action.

15
16 Marilynn M. Nations

17 MARILYNN M. NATIONS

18 Notary Public in and for the
19 Commonwealth of Virginia
20

21 My Commission expires January 15, 1989.
22

R. F. HEISHMAN

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS
CHIEF, REACTOR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS BRANCH
DIVISION OF INSPECTION PROGRAMS
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION



I am Chief of the Reactor Construction Programs Branch in the Office of Inspection and Enforcement, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Bethesda, MD. In this position, I am responsible for the development and maintenance of inspection programs for reactors under construction, evaluating the implementation of these programs by the Regional offices and assessing the effectiveness of these programs including the conducting of Construction Appraisal Team inspections at selected facilities. I have been assigned to this position since early 1982.

During the period September 1981 - January 1982, I was the supervisor of the Performance Appraisal Team which conducted indepth team inspections of selected reactors in operation from the Bethesda, MD office.

From February 1979 - August 1981, I was assigned as Branch Chief of the Reactor Operations and Nuclear Support Branch in the NRC Regional Office in Chicago, IL. In this position, I managed the inspection program for the reactors in operation in the midwestern U.S.

I was assigned as Branch Chief of the Reactor Construction and Engineering Support Branch from October 1976 - February 1979. This assignment included the responsibility for the management of the inspection program for reactors under construction in the midwestern U.S.

From October 1969 - October 1976, I served in the NRC Regional office located near Philadelphia, PA. During this time, I served as a reactor inspector for operating, research and construction reactors and as a first-line supervisor for these programs.

During the period 1959 - 1969, I was a member of the U.S. Army Engineer Reactors Group serving on numerous military reactor systems as operator, supervisor and plant manager.

I am a graduate of the Army Nuclear Power Program and have attended Upper Iowa University.