



OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS FIELD OFFICE, REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

1 - MAR 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: William F. Kane, Director
Division of Reactor Projects

FROM: Chester W. White, Director *CW White*
Office of Investigations Field Office, Region I

SUBJECT: SEABROOK NUCLEAR POWER STATION - ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING

The attached letter, dated January 11, 1988, from Stephen B. Comley to Lawrence Lippe, Chief, General Litigation and Legal Advice Section, Department of Justice, was forwarded to OI for action as appropriate. A review of Mr. Comley's letter discloses two allegations: (1) inspections being conducted by an unqualified inspector; and, (2) an attempt to conceal the discovery of the fact that the inspections were conducted by an unqualified inspector.

The letter and correspondence from the Department of Justice is forwarded to you for your review and action.

Attachments:
As stated

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PDR ADOCK 05000443
Q FDC

of the United States
Stop Chernobyl Here

January 11, 1988

Mr. Lawrence Lippe
Chief of General Litigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20000

Dear Mr. Lippe,

Some very serious information has come to me from a source which is reliable but whose identity I have promised not to divulge. The facts, explained below, can be substantiated. Since this matter calls into question the validity of some safety inspections at Seabrook Station, I urge you to investigate this matter as soon as possible.

From about February, 1984, to April, 1985, construction at Seabrook Station had slowed substantially. Because of the slowdown, the insurance company providing inspection services, Lumberman's Mutual Casualty Company, transferred its Authorized Nuclear Inspectors (ANIs) to other sites. When construction resumed in about May, 1985, Lumberman's was unable to provide a qualified ANI for Seabrook Station. Instead, the company hired Scott Edwards as an inspection trainee. Site supervisors at Seabrook Station were given a letter of instruction by Lumberman's stating Edwards could perform only limited inspections under the supervision of a qualified ANI.

Sometime in March, 1986, Edwards took an examination to qualify as an ANI, but failed every section of the test. In April, 1986, Edwards was found to be in possession of marijuana while driving a company car, and was fired.

Apparently because Edwards was found in possession of Marijuana, questions were raised about his work at Seabrook Station. An informal inquiry determined Edwards had performed independent inspections of pipe welds. I understand these inspections were in violation of both the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Code, and also in violation of the letter of instruction from Lumberman's to Seabrook Station site supervisors.

A person or persons in Lumberman's, in Long Grove, Illinois, office was informed of the possibility that Edwards had conducted these inspections. The insurance company received a recommendation that a full investigation be conducted. However, a person or persons at Lumberman's refused to do so because Seabrook Station was in the process of compiling Data Certification Reports, and an investigation would have interfered with that process. They ordered the matter be dropped.

These are the facts as I received them. The problem seems two-fold. One, that Edwards was conducting inspections he was not qualified to do, calling into question the validity of those inspections. And two, there appears to have been a deliberate attempt to conceal discovery of the fact that inspections were conducted by an unqualified inspector.

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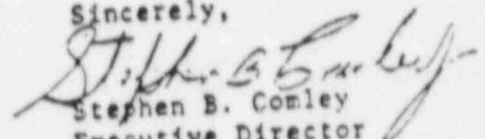
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I do not know whether or not any of the utilities with an ownership in Seabrook Station are aware of this problem.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience if you plan to investigate this situation. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


Stephen B. Comley
Executive Director

P.S.: Mr. Richard Shine, on January 4, 1988, informed me that Mr. Shamwell is no longer in your office. I have taken the liberty of including copies of previous correspondence.

MR EDWARDS' NAME HAS BEEN
DISCLOSED TO YOU ONLY.

Washington, D.C. 20530

JAN 14 1988

Mr. Stephen B. Comley
P. O. Box 277
Rowley, Massachusetts 01969

Dear Mr. Comley:

This is in response to your letter of January 11, 1988 relating to allegations of wrongdoing at the Seabrook Station. We have referred the matter to the Office of Investigations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for any action it deems appropriate. Thank you for bringing the matter to our attention.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM F. WELD
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

By:

LAWRENCE LIPPE, Chief
General Litigation and
Legal Advice Section

cc: Mr. Hutchinson