ALLEGER IDENTIFICATION SHEET

AMS NO: RIII-86-A-0052

FACILITY: Fermi

ALLEGER: Anonymous

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Scene 1

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ALLEGATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

ALLEGATION NUMBER - RIII-86-A-0053

RUN DATE: BOO401

DOCKET/FACILITY/UNIT: 05000016 / FERMI 1 DOCKET/FACILITY/UNIT: 05000341 / FERMI 2

12

DOCKET/FACILITY/UNIT: / DOCKET/FACILITY/UNIT:

ACTIVITY TYPES - REACTOR

MATERIAL LICENCES -

UNSITE HEALTH AND SAFETY FUNCTIONAL AREAS - OPERATIONS OFFSITE HEALTH AND SAFETY

DESCRIPTION - 1. EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION. 2. SODIUM DRUMMING OPERATIONS. 3. RADIATION AREA POSTING. 4. FERMI 1 HOUSEKEEPING. 5. BREATH ING AIR VALVES. MONITORS & PIPING. 6. MISSING SOURCES. 7. PING CONCERNS - SPING PIPING & CALIBRATION. A. NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS 17

NOT USED. 9. REACTOR FUEL FLOOR HVAC. 10. UNQUALIFIED RADIAT ION PROTECTION SUPERINTENDENT, 11, CIRCULATING WATER PUMP LEAK. 12. DRESSING AREA NOT MONITORED. CONT. IN REMARKS.

SOURCE - ANDNYMOUS

CONFIDENT - NO

RECEIVED - 860328 BY - CH WEIL

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ACTION OFFICE CONTACT - LR GREGER

- (FTS) 388-5644

SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE - UNKNOWN BOARD NOTIFICATION - NO

STATUS - OPEN SCHED COMPLETION - 860627 DATE CLOSED -

ALLEGATION SUBSTANTIATED - ALLEGER NOTIFIED -

DI ACTION - NO OI REPORT NUMBER -REMARKS - DESCRIPTION CONTINUED: 13. LACK OF PROCEDURES FOR AIR MUNITORING. NASAL SMEARS. WHOLE BODY COUNTING. TREND ANALYS. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. 14. CONDENSER WELL ENTRY. 15. INEXPER-IENCED HP TECHS. 16. INADEQUATE TRAINING. 17. FSAR VIOLATED. say. 64 veck o

MATERIAL LICENCES -

FUNCTIONAL AREAS - OPERATIONS OFFSITE HEALTH AND SAFETY

ONSITE HEALTH AND SAFETY

DESCRIPTION - 1. EMPLOYMENT DISCPIMINATION. 2. SODIUM DRUMMING OPERATIONS. 3. RADIATION AREA POSTING. 4. FERMI 1 HOUSEKEEPING. 5. BREATH ING AIR VALVES, MONITORS & PIPING. 6. MISSING SOURCES. 7. PING

CONCERNS - SPING PIPING & CALIBRATION. P. NATIONAL RUREAU OF STANDARDS NOT USED. 9. REACTOR FUEL FLOOR HVAC. 10. UNGUALIFIED RADIAT 17 ION PROTECTION SUPERINTENDENT, 11. CIRCULATING WATER PUMP LEAK. 12. DRESSING AREA NOT MONITORED. CONT. IN REMARKS.

SOURCE - ANONYMOUS

CONFIDENT - NO

RECEIVED - 860328 BY - CH WEIL

1 23

ACTION OFFICE CONTACT - LR GREGER

- (FTS) 388-5644

SAFETY SIGNIFICANCE - UNKNOWN BOARD NOTIFICATION - NO

STATUS - OPEN SCHED COMPLETION - 860627 DATE CLOSED -

ALLEGATION SUBSTANTIATED - ALLEGER NOTIFIED -

OI ACTION - NO OI REPORT NUMBER -REMARKS - DESCRIPTION CONTINUED: 13. LACK OF PROCEDURES FOR AIR MONITORING. NASAL SMEARS, WHOLE HODY COUNTING TREND ANALYS. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. 14. CONDENSER WELL ENTRY. 15. INEXPER-IENCED HP TECHS. 16. INADEQUATE TRAINING. 17. FSAR VIOLATED.

THE REGION 3 ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD MET ON:

RECOORDINATE WITH OI.



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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REGION III 799 ROOSEVELT ROAD GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

April 3, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR:

J. A. Hind, Director, Division of Radiation Safety and

Safeguards

FROM:

C. H. Weil, Investigation and Compliance Specialist

SUBJECT:

ALLEGATIONS RE: RADIATION PROTECTION AT FERMI 1 AND 2

(50-16; 50-341) (AMS NO: RIII-86-A-0053)

On March 28, 1986, an anonymous male telephoned Region III and provided the following information concerning radiation protection at the Fermi Plant Units 1 and 2:

Employment Discrimination

He indicated he had been working in the radiation protection field for more than twenty-one years, including naval service in that field. He was employed in the Fermi Radiation Protection Department for eleven months. He was terminated in May 1985, for having identified radiation protection concerns to the Fermi Health Physics Supervisor, William Lipton (phonetic spelling) and to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Loren Hueter and two other inspectors. The caller could not identify the other two NRC inspectors, other than they performed a weekend inspection in approximately May 1985.) The caller claimed he complained to Heuter about the Breathing Air System. The caller claimed he had two witnesses to support his claim of employment discrimination, but he declined to identify them. The caller indicated that he had retained an attorney to sue Detroit Edison for his firing and he wanted "to file whistleblower charges under 10 CFR 19." The caller was informed that the thirty day filing period with the Department of Labor had lapsed, (he was terminated in May 1985), and he should consult his attorney on that issue. Additionally, he indicated other employees had been terminated for the same reason and he would attempt to have those people contact Region III. He would not furnish their names.

Fermi 1 Issues

- Sodium drumming was done without regard for radiation protection. The 1. operations people wanted the drumming completed as soon as possible and the drumming operation "did not conform to good health physics principals."
 - The caller stated that too many sodium filled drums were stacked in a. the area and that respiratory protection was not provided.
 - According to the caller, the only personal protection equipment b. furnished were gloves and welders' eye shields. No respirators were provided.

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A-4 score

- The Fermi 1 facility was improperly posted. According to the caller, a
 person can enter the contaminated drumming area from the turbine hallway
 and not know that he had entered a radiation area because the area was
 not posted at that hallway.
- The caller contended that the Fermi 1 facility was "a mess" and no one cared about cleanliness.

Fermi 2 Issues

- 1. The caller's primary concern was with the breathing air system.
 - a. The caller stated that the breathing air system shares much of the same piping with the system used to "backflush spent resins" and no check valves were installed to prevent contamination of the breathing air.
 - The breathing air system did not have any inline radiation monitors installed.
 - c. The breathing air system was almost non-existent in many places and contained only a minimal amount of piping and "a few CARDOX bottles."

The caller contended that the breathing air system was inadequate.

- The caller stated that 500 radiation sources had been received at Fermi over the years. He was assigned to inventory those sources and "many" were missing. He could not specify how many sources were actually missing. (The caller was asked if the sources were specifically licensed or generally licensed by the NRC. His answer was that some were "controlled by 10 CFR Part 19 and Part 20." He indicated that many of the missing sources were from "SPINGS and PINGS."
- The caller had several concerns with SPINGS/PINGS.
 - a. The caller contended that the Fermi 2 SPINGS and PINGS were improperly piped (e.g., pipe runs too long, pipe too narrow) to be able to obtain "a true reading." He stated that 3/4" diameter pipe was used in 300' to 400' runs between the SPING/PING and the collection point and that was too long to obtain accurate readings.
 - b. Some of the calibration technicians (not named) were unqualified.
 - c. Many of the devices were not properly calibrated because the calibration devices were not calibrated.
 - d. The SPING/PING calibration procedures did not adequately incorporate NUREG guidance.

J. A. Hind
April 3, 1986

He stated he had identified the above concerns (numbers 1, 2 and 3) to his supervisor, Lipton and nothing had been done to correct his concerns.

- 4. According to the caller, the calibration devices had never been calibrated to a National Bureau of Standards standard; therefore, none of the plant's radiation protection instrumentation was properly calibrated.
- 5. The air condition system for the "Reactor Fuel Floor, the fifth floor" has never worked properly, and 48" diameter "portable" fans were installed to circulate the air on a permanent basis.
- 6. Harold Higgins, the Radiation Protection Superintendent for Operations, was not qualified for his position. According to the caller, Higgins has six years of experience in the U.S. Navy and did not have any experience at a commercial power plant. The caller stated that Higgins was required to have two years of commercial power plant experience to hold his position.
- 7. "Nothing has ever been done to fix a leak in the drywell area." According to the caller, the "circulating" water pumps leak and have never been repaired. The only thing that has been done is to rope off the area and post it as a radiation area.
- 8. Radiation protection personnel do not routinely monitor the dressing area. Therefore, many employees ignore requirements to "double bootee" or "double glove." "A bad attitude" exists on the part of the employees when dressing.
- Fermi 2 does not have procedures or has inadequate procedures in the following areas:
 - a. No procedure to compare air monitoring results to MPC hours/minutes.
 - b. No procedure to specify when masal smears are to be taken.
 - c. Inadequate procedure to specify when whole body counting should be done.
 - d. No trend analysis program for air sampling.
 - e. No procedure to specify when to use protective clothing and equipment under the ALARA Program.
- 10. Operations personnel expect the radiation protection personnel to enter the Condenser Well to take radiation readings. The caller noted that based on his experience at other nuclear power plants, the Condenser Well will be an extremely high radiation area during operations and should not be entered.
- 11. Many health physics technicians were hired without any prior experience. Their inexperience was demonstrated in the low scores they achieved in their qualification examinations. Also, Hydro Nuclear identified this problem during an audit and Detroit Edison did not take any corrective action.

- 12. "The only real training at Fermi is in reactor operations. All other training is done by computer."
 - a. The computer method has built in problems, including the "wrong answers in the programs for breathing air and MPC hours."
 - b. The computer programs do not use the latest reference materials, including "Reg Guides and 10 CFR 20." "The whole emphasis is on self teaching and it's not effective."
- 13. "Fermi does not comply with the FSAR in HP and operations." The caller could not give specific examples, but agreed to call back with the information.

On April 1, 1986, the matter was discussed with Eugene T. Pawlik, Director, Office of Investigations Region III Field Office. It was concluded that an investigation into the alleged employment discrimination could not be initiated without the alleger's identity. Further, the remaining issues did not suggest wrongdoing. Accordingly, this matter was assigned within the Allegation Management System to the Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards for resolution.

Charles H. Weil

Investigation and Compliance Specialist

Enclosure: AMS Form

cc w/enclosure:

RIII:RAO

RIII:DRP

OI:RIII

E. G. Greenman

W. D. Shafer

L. R. Greger

G. C. Wright