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ORIGINAL

COMANCHE PEAK
TECHNICAL REVIEW TEAM

DISCUSSION

WITH

NEIL HARRIS

GODFREY & AMES COURT REPORTING
CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTERS
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3 TECHNICAL REVIEW TEAM DISCUSSION
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5 APPEARANCES:

6 TECHNICAL REVIEW TEAM:

7 Chet Poslusny

8 Cliff Hale

9 Charlie Richards
10 * * * * *

11 DISCUSSION WITH NEIL HARRIS called on behalf of
12 the Technical Review Team, taken before Jayne Ames, a
13 CSR, and Notary Public for the State of Texas, on the
14 9th day of May, 1985, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the
15 trailer of Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Comanche Peak
16 Power Plant, Glen Rose, Texas.
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PROCEEDINGS,

MR. POSLUSNY: My name is Chet Poslusny. We're having a discussion with Mr. Neil Harris. Present at the meeting are myself, Cliff Hale, and Charlie Richards. And if you would state your name for the record?

MR. HARRIS: Neil Harris.

MR. POSLUSNY: And what is your position?

MR. HARRIS: Quality assurance technician.

MR. POSLUSNY: Could you tell us what you do, generally, what kind of activities you're involved with?

MR. HARRIS: My interface with the plant is based on my responsibilities being in the environmental sections, chemistry and operations. I also am the coordinator for QA involvement with the initial startup program of unit 1.

MR. POSLUSNY: Have you had much interface with the surveillance team?

MR. HARRIS: Off site, or are you speaking of the surveillance group on this site of the plant?

MR. POSLUSNY: On site.

MR. HALE: On site.

MR. HARRIS: Yes, I have. In probably the last four years that I have been here, I have interfaced with them on several occasions.

1 MR. POSLUSNY: When they find problems that relate
2 to your area, how would have they transmitted this
3 information to you?

4 MR. HARRIS: In some cases, the technician that
5 finds the problem will come, usually over to my office,
6 or I'll go to theirs, and we'll discuss the problem and
7 possibly take it up from that angle.

8 Sometimes if the problem or potential problem looks
9 like it might need some higher, oh, authorization
10 associated with it, then what we do is we make sure that
11 the supervisors for both of us are informed, and then
12 the supervisors take care of the interface in getting me
13 involved with their findings.

14 MR. POSLUSNY: Okay. What about documentation?

15 MR. HARRIS: Documentation if there's a report that
16 comes out, if -- the report usually has the supervisor's
17 name, my supervisor's name, on the front sheet and a
18 copy of that report comes back over to the startup
19 surveillance group.

20 MR. POSLUSNY: Can you recall any instances where
21 items were identified by the surveillance group, you
22 have got written documentation following that, and your
23 group did not properly follow it up or were not given
24 the directions to follow it up?

25 MR. HARRIS: I can remember cases in which there

1 were potential problems that were addressed to us. And
2 at that time a study was made. Reports were written.

3 But at no time do I ever remember that we were not
4 totally in communication with these people and never
5 giving them a report. I believe we have a good
6 interface over here.

7 As a matter of fact, I brought one of the reports
8 with me, because I was sort of thinking on those lines
9 that that's what this would be about interface
10 mechanism. And it is documented, even though it's not
11 considered a surveillance, it was a report. And
12 therefore a document was generated to show what the
13 results were.

14 MR. HALE: Your inspections or surveillances,
15 whatever they call them, are they scheduled by your
16 supervision, or do you schedule your own?

17 MR. HARRIS: No, we operate to a station procedure
18 401, which is the surveillance program for our site.
19 And within it there are specified areas that we look at
20 each year. And our supervisor personnel set up these
21 schedules in which these surveillances will be performed
22 throughout the year.

23 At times, if we find a problem out in the field
24 that may warrant a surveillance, we can make an
25 unscheduled surveillance at that time. But in all

1 cases, we have to follow specific documentation
2 requirements, fill out checklists that we will be using
3 in the field to evaluate the problem at hand.

4 MR. HALE: How many auditors are there in your
5 group?

6 MR. HARRIS: There's approximately nine. We also
7 have a team of two or three QA engineers and, oh, I
8 don't know, probably about ten QC inspectors. About 27
9 personnel in all.

10 MR. HALE: Do you document your reports, your
11 audits, or surveillance? What do you call them?
12 Audits?

13 MR. HARRIS: We call them surveillances.

14 MR. HALE: Do you document those surveillance?

15 MR. HARRIS: Yes, we do. In accordance with the
16 FTA procedure that governs our work over there.

17 MR. HALE: How do you document any negative
18 findings?

19 MR. HARRIS: We can do it either using a deficiency
20 report. We can do it through a comment in the report
21 itself, a quality surveillance report.

22 If it's a nonconforming item or problem, we issue
23 NCR's. There's a multiple group of ways that we report
24 these deficiencies.

25 MR. HALE: That's the severity of the different

1 kinds you mentioned, two. Deficiency, NCR, and comment?

2 MR. HARRIS: Comment, we'll start at the bottom. A
3 comment is usually something that we find that needs to
4 be looked at by the supervision, or the supervisor
5 personnel for that group that we're actually looking
6 at. It may not be something that's against the
7 requirements. In other words, they haven't violated
8 anything, but it may be a good practice that they need
9 to pick up in order to insure that they do not violate a
10 requirement later on.

11 Deficiency report is probably the next level. And
12 what that is, is a report that's put out to where they
13 actually do violate a requirement, either right.
14 They're usually initiated by results engineering based
15 on anyone having an input into a problem report. But
16 usually they come out of the results engineering group.
17 And then go around either to the NRC, for instance, or
18 to some other off site organization, or even on site
19 organization, to clarify a problem.

20 MR. HALE: This would be a kind of negative
21 finding in one of your surveillance reports?

22 MR. HARRIS: If we found that it was necessary to
23 write a problem report, we could. That's true.

24 But usually negative findings within the quality
25 surveillance report are identified either by a comment

1 which may or may not be negative. But the negative ones
2 are definitely put in there, using deficiency reports.

3 MR. HALE: Do you have pretty good guidance or
4 criteria for establishing an NCR, a DR, or a comment?

5 MR. HARRIS: I believe we do. Of course a lot of
6 it is based on, not only the given criteria that you
7 would look at, but also on the judgment of the
8 technician in the field.

9 A lot of times if we find a problem in the field
10 that may be borderline as to being either a comment or a
11 deficiency, what we will do at that time is we like to
12 go to the supervisory personnel or even, for instance,
13 if there's a problem in the control room, we may go to
14 the reactor operator or to the shift supervisor or
15 operations supervisor and say, "There is a problem. Can
16 we correct it prior to the end of the surveillance
17 report."

18 And what we do is, in the surveillance package we
19 develop -- we notate within that package that we did
20 find this problem, and that it was taken care of.

21 MR. POSLUSNY: So even though you informally try to
22 take care of it, it gets formally documented?

23 MR. HARRIS: Yes, that's true. And that would be
24 in the form of a complaint on the quality surveillance
25 report, the problem was found. The problem was

1 corrected, and never no implied problems involved there.

2 MR. HALE: Do comments get trended -- or a better
3 question. Do comments, deficiency reports and comments,
4 get trended that you identified?

5 MR. HARRIS: Right now deficiency reports that are
6 associated with the quality surveillance report are
7 trended. Other than that, we do not trend the other
8 comments or NCR's.

9 Right now I'm involved in developing a trending
10 program for Comanche Peak to where we will look at all
11 deficiencies that are generated on site.

12 Right now, like I said, we're only trending those
13 associated with the QSR, quality surveillance report.
14 The other ones, though generated, are not trended right
15 now.

16 And what we're trying to do is develop a trending
17 program to take care of NCR's, DR's possibly inspection
18 reports, and other type of documentation that we use.

19 MR. HALE: I thought NCR's got trended. They
20 don't?

21 MR. HARRIS: They may.

22 MR. HALE: Ops NCR's don't, then?

23 MR. HARRIS: They may or may not. I'll change
24 that, because I'm not all that familiar with the NCR
25 program. I don't usually have a chance very much to

1 initiate an NCR. But they may or may not be trended.
2 As to my knowledge right now, they are not.

3 MR. HALE: Okay. As you write your report, forward
4 it to your supervisor for issuance, do you get any
5 changes from your supervisor that you don't like?

6 MR. HARRIS: Oh --

7 MR. HALE: And if you do, and I can tell that you
8 do, are they resolved to your satisfaction?

9 MR. HARRIS: To answer from front to back. Yes,
10 there are changes made. And a lot of times they are
11 either -- trying to think of the word. It might not be
12 phrased correctly, or it might be -- we might skew the
13 word slightly to be more inflammatory than what they
14 really should be or something.

15 And it's basically no more than someone going in
16 and editing and saying, "This would be a better method
17 to put it down."

18 And we all have our own different writing styles,
19 and this is just a matter of bumping writing styles up
20 against with each other and coming out with something
21 that will be satisfactory to all people involved.

22 That's where usually most changes come about.
23 Sometimes there are changes that we maybe adamant about
24 doing, but based on maybe some information that we know
25 about that they do not and what usually happens there is

1 we have to go back in with our supervisor and say,
2 "Well, here's some more facts that will support my
3 finding within the report."

4 And at that time usually the supervisor will say,
5 "Yes, I think that's a valid point", or, "Let's go talk
6 it over with a person that it involves." And maybe we
7 can work something out in that angle.

8 So, you know, changes do -- the report is a dynamic
9 unit, it's not a static thing.

10 MR. HALE: Well, of course I'm not talking about
11 those kinds of changes. I'm talking about those kinds
12 of changes that might take an NCR or DR down to a
13 comment, or wash it out of the report all together?

14 MR. HARRIS: I don't believe so. There are times
15 when we may make a comment, or even times when we may
16 think it's a deficiency, but upon further investigation
17 of the problem, we find that it is not a deficiency, but
18 rather a comment, or maybe something that can be just
19 stricken all together.

20 I don't think that we have any subversive
21 activities associated with our reports. I think we're
22 pretty concise and forward with them.

23 MR. POSLUSNY: So you don't feel that your findings
24 have ever been tampered with or that your activities
25 have been stifled by management?

1 MR. HARRIS: Oh, we all feel that way sometimes. I
2 think you have the supervisory personnel, and then you
3 have, you know, the technicians out there doing the
4 work. And you have to interface. And whether you want
5 to call it intimidation, I don't think that that might
6 be the right word. But you always have to interface
7 with these people. And someone might think that you're
8 off base and you may think you're on base, so it takes
9 some interaction.

10 MR. POSLUSNY: Give and take.

11 MR. HALE: As far as your experience, your reports
12 haven't been changed or any findings haven't been
13 suppressed that were not justified?

14 MR. HARRIS: That were not justified, that is
15 true. I keep all revisions of, you know, I get a draft,
16 we write the draft. It goes to the supervisor. He
17 makes the changes, and my files are complete where I
18 keep all of this.

19 And that way I can go back and evaluate the system
20 later on. I might get around to making another report
21 on the same -- in the same area, and therefore I can go
22 back and see possible problems that may be reoccurring
23 or areas that I might want to check. But I don't feel
24 that I have been stymied in any way.

25 MR. HALE: Do you feel like you have adequate

1 guidance and directions in procedures and feedback from
2 other groups to do your job effectively?

3 MR. HARRIS: Some groups are more difficult to
4 work with than others. But I believe we have good
5 guidance. I think the guidance will improve as the
6 plant matures. But I believe right now that we have.

7 MR. HALE: Procedurally, you're all right.

8 MR. HARRIS: Procedurely I think we're sitting
9 where we can do our job accurately right now.

10 MR. HALE: I don't think I have any more questions,
11 unless you have got something you would like to share
12 with us that you think might be of interest to us in
13 the -- in the accomplishment of the task that we have
14 got before us.

15 MR. HARRIS: I'm familiar with your reports. We
16 get copies of your reports as they come out, and we
17 evaluate -- we do our own evaluation based on the
18 knowledge of, you know, what we know of the plant.

19 And at times we think that we see things that may
20 or may not be completely accurate within the reports.

21 But again, this is -- you people have been here for
22 some time, in a shorter period of time than what we
23 have. And we may have more knowledge of what's going
24 on. And I think that what you're doing right here is
25 good, where you bring someone in and be able to use

1 their knowledge to help you do this.

2 But I don't think I really have anything other to
3 add to it. Again, going back to the original question,
4 the interface between the startup surveillance group
5 and operations surveillance group, I think is good.
6 It's adequate.

7 There have been some problems in the past, and I
8 have had people argue with me over points between the
9 two groups. But I think that everything's panning out
10 okay.

11 MR. POSLUSNY: Okay. Do you have anything else
12 Charlie?

13 MR. RICHARDS: Have you ever been involved in any
14 of the ops testing?

15 MR. HARRIS: Oh, yes. I said earlier I was the
16 coordinator for the QA involvement in the initial
17 startup.

18 MR. RICHARDS: Oh, okay.

19 MR. HARRIS: And over the last prefuel, initial
20 startup program that we had starting last October, I was
21 the person who coordinated the QA man effort from the
22 operations QA department. And we had 24 hour coverage
23 out here on most cases. Logged approximately 2,000
24 hours of on-time. We had people looking at technical
25 specifics, even though they were not applicable, we were

1 seeing whether or not they could follow them.

2 We interfaced directly into the initial startup
3 test procedures. There are certain QA signoffs that we
4 have to perform.

5 I have also looked at operations. Operations being
6 anywhere from the actual operating group, i.e. the
7 operators, to each one of the individual departments,
8 maintenance, chemistry, environmental groups, the whole
9 bit. And that's how we probably have most of our
10 interface right now.

11 MR. RICHARDS: I have a particular question that's
12 relating to hydrotesting, and if you were aware of any
13 weld repairs to a pressure boundary after hydrottest?

14 MR. HARRIS: No, I'm not.

15 MR. RICHARDS: Thank you.

16 MR. POSLUSNY: Thank you for your time.

17 -----
18 (END OF DISCUSSION)

1 STATE OF TEXAS (

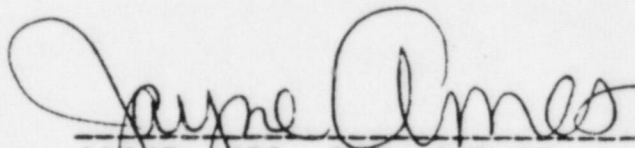
2 COUNTY OF TARRANT (

3 I, Jayne Ames, a Certified Shorthand Reporter for
4 the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the above and
5 foregoing contains a true and correct transcription of
6 the answers in response to the interrogatories as
7 indicated, and were made before me by NEIL HARRIS,
8 hereinbefore named, and were thereafter reduced to
9 typewriting under my supervision.

10 I further certify that the above and foregoing as
11 set forth in typewriting is a full, true, correct, and
12 complete transcript of the proceedings had at the time
13 of taking.

14 Certified to on this the 24th day of

15 May, 1985.

16
17
18 

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