

**From:** David Vito *1 RT*  
**To:** David Nelson (HQ-OE); Dennis Dambly; Hubert J. Miller; Jim Dyer; Lawrence Chandler; OEMAIL; Rani Franovich  
**Date:** 2/6/04 10:54AM  
**Subject:** 3-week e-mail for OI case 1-2003-012 (Hope Creek Allegation RI-2002-A-0160)  
**Place:** OEMAIL

OI Region I initiated case no. 1-2003-012 on January 24, 2003, to determine if commercial-grade chemistry monitoring equipment at Hope Creek was installed in-plant by chemistry personnel without approval for installation by the existing work control process. The equipment was purportedly installed in parallel with existing chemistry monitoring equipment and may have involved making additional penetrations through existing fire barriers. A second issue regarding the apparent failure of licensee management to document the equipment issue in the corrective action system was also to be addressed during this investigation.

Based on evidence developed during this investigation and after review of this issue by the technical staff, it was determined that installation of the cables for the chemistry monitoring equipment did not penetrate NRC-regulated fire walls and that the issue was not a violation of NRC requirements. As such, OI concluded that this allegation was not substantiated. Although the investigation did not address the work control process aspects regarding configuration control, discussion with the Senior Resident Inspector who received and inspected this allegation revealed that there was no adverse impact on safety-related plant components and that licensee management did capture this issue in the corrective action program for review and resolution.

The OI report was distributed to the staff on January 2, 2004. An Allegation Review Board (ARB) was held on January 29, 2004, to discuss the matter. The ARB agreed with the conclusions of the OI case and directed that a closeout memo to file and a letter to the licensee be sent, pending any further comments. If no other views are received within 3 weeks of the date of this e-mail, a closeout memo to file and letter to the licensee will be sent.

**CC:** Daniel Holody; Ernest Wilson; Glenn Meyer; Leanne Harrison; Scott Barber; Sharon Johnson

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