

From: [REDACTED] 7C
To: <DJV@nrc.gov>, <EXN1@nrc.gov>
Date: 1/27/04 1:08PM
Subject: Rad Monitoring System at HC

Dave and Eileen,

I ask that you forward this to the appropriate technical person(s) working with you.

A Hope Creek Operations Superintendent reports that 8 notifications have been written since 1/1/04 against the Radiation Monitoring System at Hope Creek. This includes the failure of the input into the primary containment isolation which was the [reported] cause of the latest forced outage at Hope Creek. He said this signals the continuing degraded health of the RMS system. Notification number 20175619, written by John Jackson, has details.

This coupled with the recent 9 green findings at Salem and the 5 green findings at Hope Creek (nearly all repeat issues that have not been corrected) gives further credence to not only SCWE problems but continuing technical ones as well. It does beg the question: Must we wait for a RED finding to not allow the plant to operate with these and numerous other compelling problems?

Different subject:

I have received word that Salem/Hope Creek has hired Synergy Consulting Services to assess its SCWE. Examples of work at some other sites suggest that Synergy's work was used as a "whitewash" to confirm what the company wanted, and other cases have been cited where Synergy's work was used to affect change. It seems that these consultants deliver on whatever "charter" they have been given by senior management. I am sure we can expect PSEG Nuclear's response to the NRC to include these activities. Close monitoring will be required to insure real change vs. a "whitewash." Some people asked to participate have already expressed concern that this is not "for real." Time will tell.

As I understand it, Synergy has reportedly worked at 42 nuclear sites. If you know of any where their work has made a significant difference (and this information is public), please let me know.

Thank you.

Kymn

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