

From: Eugene Cobey *RC*
To: A. Randolph Blough; Branch 3 (Region); David Vito; Hope Creek RIs; Salem RIs
Date: 9/8/04 2:24PM
Subject: Re: Cobey at PSEG *AVC*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I spoke to *X* Dr. Harvin *†* briefly (about 10 minutes) this afternoon in response to her e-mail to Randy last week. I introduced myself and answered several of her questions.

She was interested in my site visit last week. I explained that my site visit was primarily for the purpose of interfacing with the RIs which are stationed remotely. I also explained that I interviewed selected senior managers, which were selected by me, while I was onsite to solicit feedback on PSEG's interface with NRC staff onsite, etc.

She asked me if I think that the Salem and Hope Creek facilities are operated safely. I stated that I did and I provided the basis for why I feel that they are. I also told her that we believe that the nature of the identified issues at the facilities require a level of oversight beyond what would normally be required for the level of performance (in terms of PIs and inspection findings) that has been demonstrated by these facilities. I was left with the impression that she was searching for a dissenting opinion on this issue.

She also asked me if I felt that Chris Bakken was being unduly influenced by corporate senior management. I indicated that I was not in a position to make conclusions on this question. I did state that, although my interaction with Chris Bakken has been limited, he has behaved as if he was in charge, as one would expect from a man in his position.

She asked about the Hope Creek operators that had stood watch after their licenses has become inactive. I told her that was an issue that we were made aware of by PSEG prior to our arrival onsite. The inspection team was reviewing the issue as part of the ongoing LORT inspection.

If you have any questions, I can elaborate further.

Eugene W. Cobey, Chief
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>>> A. Randolph Blough 09/02/04 12:26PM >>>

Gene is the Branch chief who reports to me and supervises the resident staff at Salem, Hope Creek, and Fitzpatrick. he took over in early July from Dan Holody who had filled in temporarily after Glenn Meyer. His visit to the site is for routine oversight of the inspection program; we allow some of the supervisory visits to be as brief as one-day but expect some to be in-depth. You should meet Gene sometime, but he was not here the day you visited.

'selected' means 'selected by Gene', I would think.

Someone, perhaps Gene next week, will get back to you on your HC questions.

regards,

Randy

>>> [REDACTED] 09/02/04 09:46AM >>>

Randy,

Two questions:

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I understand that Gene Cobey is at PSEG Nuclear this week, "interviewing selected numbers of senior management."

Can you share what this is regarding? And what is meant by "selected numbers of senior management?"

Also, I understand the HC Licensed Operator Requal Inspection is going on and supposedly there are no "findings." Yet, I was told that 5 operators standing watch had been found to be not fully qualified to stand watch. I've not been successful getting any follow-up information and realize this could be erroneous.

Do you know anything about this?

Thank you.

X [Kymn] X