

TESTIMONY OF THOMAS DEAN MARTIN

CONCERNING CONTENTIONS 15 AND 16

1. Q State your name and address for the record.

A My name is Thomas Dean Martin and I live at 8 Montgomery Way, Apt. #6, Amelia, Ohio.

2. Q How old are you?

A I am 28 years of age.

3. Q What is present occupation?

A Millwright.

4. Q How long have you been employed as a millwright?

A I have been a journeyman millwright since 1972.

5. Q In what manner were you connected with the construction of the Zimmer nuclear plant?

A I was employed by Reactor Control, Inc. at the Zimmer construction site from May, 1978 to september, 1978.

6. Q For what purpose were you employed by Reactor Control, Inc?

A To perform the various function of a millwright in regard to the control rods and control blades.

7. Q Describe the general procedure involved with the inspection of the control rods.

A Four control rods were examined at a time. An inspection consisted of the following: measurement of the blades, inspection of the seals at the end of the rods for degree of roughness, and wiping and vacuuming the blades. After this was completed, the four rods were placed into the control rod tubes.

8. Q Were you instructed to inspect the thickness of the control rod blades?

A Yes.

9. Q Did you, in fact, inspect the blades?

A Yes.

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10. Q How were you able to accomplish the inspection?

A With a gauge supplied by Reactor Control, Inc.

11. Q What did your measurement reveal?

A I found that approximately 75% of the reactor control rod blades exceeded the .280 thousandths of an inch gauge specification.

12. Q What did you do, if anything, with regard to reporting this information?

A I reported it to my supervisor.

13. Q Who is your supervisor?

A Mr. William Fowee.

14. Q What, if anything, did your supervisor instruct you to do?

A Mr. William Fowee instructed us to recrate the rods for the purpose of sending them back to the manufacturer.

15. Q Did you at any time place these rods in crates?

A Yes, we re-crated these defective rods.

16. Q What occurred after they were re-crated?

A Mr. William Fowee, instructed us to take them out of the crates and to place a clamp on them.

17. Q What occurred once you placed the clamp on the control rods?

A I measured them once again, and the blades appeared to be within specifications.

18. Q Were the rods then accepted as being the proper size?

A Yes. However after taking the clamp off, the rods returned to the original size, which did not meet the .280" specification.

19. Q Were the rods ready to be installed as they were?

A No, they were not.

20. Q Why not?

A Because there were foreign materials on the rods.

21. Q Were you instructed to do any thing with regard to these foreign objects?

A I was instructed to remove them.

22. Q How were you instructed to remove them?

A First, by wiping them with a cloth and acetone.

23. Q Did that result in the foreign objects being removed?

A Not completely.

24. Q What else were you requested to do?

A We then were requested to run a magnet along the length of the control rods; then we followed this by using a machine shop vacuum cleaner to absorb the foreign materials; and then we wiped them down with an acetone solution.

25. Q Did this procedure successfully result in the removal of the metal shavings?

A No.

26. Q How did you become aware of the continued presence of the metal shavings in the control rods?

A During the insertion of the control rods into the control rod tubes, friction between the control rods and the control rod tubes caused these metal shavings to fall out of the control rod holes.

27. Q How did you know that these particles were foreign material?

A Because of the color of the particles.

28. Q Did you report the sighting of the shavings to any supervisor?

A Yes, I reported it to Bill Mays and Bud Crane.

29. Q Were you or anyone else given any special instructions with regard to the removal of these metal particles from the rods at this point?

A No, I am not aware of any further cleaning.

30. Q Did you come across any other problems with the control rods?

A Yes.

31. Q What were these?

A The roughness of the control rod seals did not meet the specifications.

32. Q What was the problem with the roughness of the control rod seals?

A I had inspected approximately half of the reactor control rods for Reactor Control, Inc. Before they provided us with a rough surface gauge for inspecting the seals on the ends of the control rods. Consequently, half of the control rod seals were not inspected at all for roughness. I compared the roughness of the gauge with the roughness of the seal surfaces. Of the seals we inspected, I did not find any as smooth as the specifications called for.

33. Q Did you bring this matter to the attention of a supervisor?

A Yes, I did.

34. Q What were you told?

A The next day, my general foreman, Mr. William Fowee, got our crew together and told us, "Be quiet about the problems at the plant." Within a week, my entire crew, with the exception of the general foreman, was laid off, although our work was not complete, and there had been no complaints as to the quality of the crew's work. Afterwards, a new crew was hired to complete our job.