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November 30, 1983

Peter B. Bloch, Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

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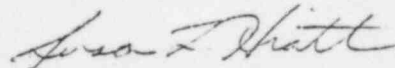
Mr. Glenn O. Bright
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Re: Cleveland Electric Illum.
Co., et al. (Perry Nuclear
Power Plant, Units 1 and
2) Docket Nos. 50-440/441

Dear Administrative Judges:

Ohio Citizens for Responsible Energy ("OCRE") hereby submits the attached news article in support of its "Motion to Reopen the Record on Comstock Issues" filed November 25. OCRE would note that the allegations raised by yet another former Comstock QC inspector are similar to the allegations which prompted the 81-19 Investigation and contrast markedly with the testimony of Staff and Applicant presented at the May hearing. OCRE feels that the issues raised by this and the other two inspectors who have made public their concerns are of sufficient gravity as to demand the reopening of the Comstock issue.

Sincerely,



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Encl: Plain Dealer article

cc: Service List

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Electrical job faulted at Perry

By James Lawless

A former electrical quality control inspector at the \$5.2 billion Perry nuclear power plant will tell federal officials this morning that electrical parts of the plant are not safe.

Steve E. Balazs, 34, of Madison, said he quit his job Sept. 28 after two years because serious electrical problems have not been repaired and because he was prevented from writing reports on the deficiencies.

Balazs said quality control workers at Perry have been complaining to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for more than 17 months. He said only after other inspectors complained in The Plain Dealer did the NRC arrange to meet with him today.

Balazs said he found exposed wires in the motor control cabinets, plus a maze of unidentified wiring from the reactor to the control room and hundreds of improperly installed lugs in electrical panels in the diesel generator rooms.

In addition, Balazs said he was prevented from writing non-conformance reports on problems by his bosses at the L.K. Comstock Co., the primary electrical contractor at Perry. The reports would have to be sent to the NRC.

Two other Comstock inspectors, fired from the site, complained of low morale and interference from supervisors. Balazs estimated 16 inspectors have been fired, quit or transferred in the last two months.

The twin-nuclear-unit plant is being built by the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. and is jointly owned by four other utilities. A CEI spokesman said the company would investigate the Balazs charges.

—THE PLAIN DEALER, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1983

Comstock officials, contacted about previous firings, either have failed to return telephone calls or refused to answer questions by phone, saying they must be submitted in writing.

Balazs said politics or money interfere with quality control

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Ex-inspector is critical of Perry electrical work

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work and cause inspectors to be intimidated or confused.

As an example, Balazs said early this year he discovered hundreds of lugs were installed improperly in the diesel generator areas. He said they all should be replaced because they could cause a fire or cause equipment to malfunction.

Balazs said it was five months before this was written as a non-conformance report and then only after the problem was found by an official working for CEI.

In another, Balazs said he approved a motor control cabinet and later discovered bare wires and other wires cut. He wanted to write a report about the problem and was told to leave it

alone.

NRC inspectors found the problem three months ago and Balazs was blamed for having approved it in the first place.

"I told my boss and he said, 'That's the way it goes.' This is a shameful situation," Balazs said.

Balazs said he is worried NRC will get these mechanical problems fixed but not deal with the broader issue. "If CEI is as concerned about quality control as they say, I wonder if they would hire me and others who got pushed out because we tried to do their jobs right," he asked.

"We need nuclear power," Balazs said. "It can't be built cheaply but it can be built safely."