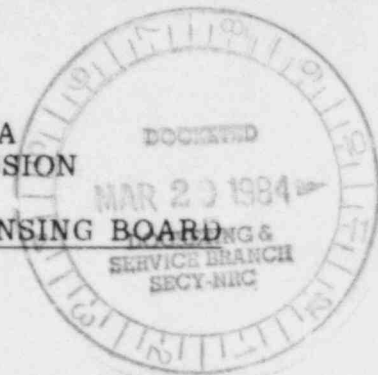


A-70
12/1/83

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

BEFORE THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND LICENSING BOARD



In the Matter of)
DUKE POWER COMPANY, et al.)
(Catawba Nuclear Station,)
Units 1 and 2))

Docket Nos. 50-413
50-414

TESTIMONY OF DEAN BENTLEY

- 1 Q. STATE YOUR NAME AND YOUR WORK ADDRESS.
2 A. Dean Bentley, Catawba Nuclear Project, P.O. Box 223, Clover, SC
3 29710.
4 Q. WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT JOB WITH DUKE POWER COMPANY?
5 A. Visual Welding Inspector A, Reactor No. 2
6 Q. SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS, INCLUDING
7 OTHER DUKE AND NON-DUKE JOBS, EDUCATION,
8 CERTIFICATIONS, AND COMPANY SPONSORED COURSES AND
9 TRAINING.
10 A. Inspector - Duke Power - 5 years, 1978 to present.
11 Welder - Duke Power - Approximately 1½ years, 1976 - 1977.
12 Previously I worked for Daniel Construction Company for
13 approximately 6 years, including 1 year as General Foreman,
14 approximately 1 year as foreman, 6 months as a welder.
15 I have 4 years of high school, and 360 hours Spartanburg Tech in
16 welding.

1 Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH WHAT IS COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS
2 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS WHICH WERE EXPRESSED IN
3 LATE 1981/EARLY 1982?
4 A. Yes.
5 Q. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THESE CONCERNS
6 WERE?
7 A. Lack of support from supervision and upper management in the QA
8 organization.
9 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ANY CONCERNS AS A WELDING INSPECTOR TO
10 ANY OF THE TASK FORCES OR TO DUKE POWER MANAGEMENT?
11 A. Yes.
12 Q. TO WHOM DID YOU EXPRESS YOUR CONCERNS?
13 A. I expressed concerns to Mr. Wells and management.
14 Q. WERE YOUR CONCERNS WRITTEN?
15 A. Yes.
16 Q. DESCRIBE EACH DOCUMENT WHICH CONTAINS YOUR EXPRESSION
17 OF CONCERNS, AND INDICATE WHO IT WAS SUBMITTED TO.
18 A. I submitted a Technical Recourse to Bill Lee through my
19 supervisor.
20 Q. DID YOU FEEL FREE TO EXPRESS ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. DID YOU EXPRESS ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS?
23 A. Yes.
24 Q. DO THE DOCUMENTS ATTACHED TO YOUR TESTIMONY AS
25 ATTACHMENT A REFLECT YOUR WRITTEN CONCERNS?
26 A. Yes, the Technical Recourse attached here (Attachment A) sets
27 forth all of my concerns.

1 Q. ARE ALL OF YOUR CONCERNS INCLUDED IN THESE DOCUMENTS?
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE AND EXPLAIN WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO
4 COMMUNICATE BY YOUR CONCERNS.
5 A. That there was a greater need of support and understanding from
6 technical support and our upper management than was being shown
7 at that time.
8 Q. WERE YOUR CONCERNS INVESTIGATED BY THE TASK FORCES?
9 A. Yes.
10 Q. DID YOU ATTEND ANY MEETINGS WITH TASK FORCE AND/OR QA
11 MANAGEMENT MEMBERS WHERE THE TASK FORCE FINDINGS,
12 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE DISCUSSED?
13 A. Yes. I met with Mr. Coggins' group.
14 Q. WERE THERE ANY CHANGES MADE IN THE QA PROGRAM AFTER
15 THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS AND THE TASK FORCE
16 INVESTIGATION OF THESE CONCERNS?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. DESCRIBE THE CHANGES OF WHICH YOU ARE AWARE IN THE QA
19 PROGRAM.
20 A. There were avenues opened up, through procedure changes, that
21 provided more communication through technical support and
22 management on problems that occurred in the field.
23 Q. TO WHAT EXTENT HAVE THESE CHANGES ADDRESSED ISSUES
24 RAISED BY THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS AND TO WHAT
25 EXTENT HAVE THESE CHANGES ADDRESSED YOUR PARTICULAR
26 CONCERNS?

1 A. Management should now be more aware of conditions that arise in
2 the field. Management now has ready access, in most cases, same
3 day access to problems as they occur in the field.

4 Q. HAVE THESE CHANGES LED TO GREATER SUPPORT FOR QA FROM
5 SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. DO YOU CURRENTLY HAVE ANY CONCERNS RELATING TO THE
8 QA PROGRAM WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED?

9 A. No.

10 Q. THE WELDING INSPECTOR CONCERNS HAVE BEEN
11 CHARACTERIZED AS CONCERNS ABOUT THE QUALITY AND
12 SAFETY OF CONSTRUCTION AT CATAWBA. DO YOU AGREE OR
13 DISAGREE WITH THAT CHARACTERIZATION?

14 A. There was a concern that existed among the inspectors as to the
15 ability of certain people in the technical support group to interpret
16 procedures and resolve problems that they were required to handle.
17 To the best of my knowledge, these concerns did not adversely
18 affect the safety of the plant.

19 Q. DID THE EXPRESSION OF YOUR CONCERNS INDICATE YOUR
20 BELIEF THAT THERE WAS A BREAKDOWN IN THE QA PROGRAM
21 OR INDICATE THAT THE QA PROGRAM WAS NO LONGER
22 WORKING?

23 A. No. My concern was that there was a lack of understanding by
24 upper management of the duties that inspectors were being asked to
25 perform at that point in time.

26 Q. DID YOUR CONCERNS REFLECT A BELIEF ON YOUR PART THAT
27 THE CATAWBA PROJECT IS NOT BEING CONSTRUCTED SAFELY?

1 A. No.

2 Q. IN YOUR VIEW, HAS THE QA PROGRAM BEEN EFFECTIVE WHILE
3 YOU HAVE WORKED AS AN INSPECTOR AT CATAWBA?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY DEFICIENCIES IN CONSTRUCTION OR IN
6 THE QA PROGRAM WHICH WOULD CAUSE YOU TO QUESTION
7 WHETHER CATAWBA IS SAFELY BUILT? IF SO, PLEASE EXPLAIN.

8 A. None.

9 Q. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO YOUR
10 TESTIMONY?

11 A. No.

12

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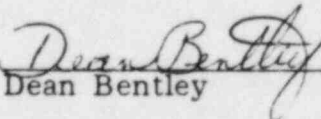
15 I hereby certify that I have read and understand this document, and
16 believe it to be my true, accurate and complete testimony.

17

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Dean Bentley

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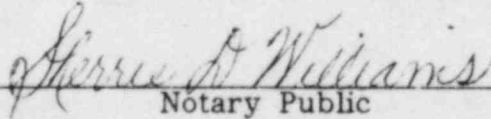
23 Sworn to and subscribed before me
24 this 23rd day of September, 1983.

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Notary Public

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Commission Expires March 7, 1993

Things that concern me most about the present Constitution of the QA, QC Programs

- (A) ① I feel that this program cannot function with lesser qualified people performing the same duties as the welding inspectors now have to perform, due to the ever growing complexity of the program.
- (B) ② As indicated on the resolution of Certain Non-Conforming items, there is a certain and absolute need for more highly qualified people in the welding Tec. Support Groups.
- (C) ③ There is absolutely too much input from Craft supervision at all levels in the resolving of technical matters found by the QC Department.
- (D) ④ In most cases concerning the above item (3) the welding inspector is made to appear that he does not know how to perform his duties by Craft supervision and is neither defended against such remarks, nor supported in the fact that he is discharging his duties with a high degree of accuracy.
- (E) ⑤ There is a general feeling of insecurity among the welding inspectors, extending from the fact that there is very little, if any, in some cases, support or backing from the QC Supervision extending through management.
- (F) ⑥ There is always the fact that everything we say or do is questioned by both our supervision and/or management and also Craft supervision and/or management.

(G) It is we continually ask to perform duties that
is not our responsibility and in some cases
not in procedures.

(H) There are always the questions coming from Craft
concerning what they should or should not do
in certain cases that they do not know how to
handle. Although according to Mr. Wells they
should be as providentially prepared as we are.

1) We have now reached the point where we
operate to a large degree on memory or
in cases word of mouth.

2) There are cases where we have been ~~literally~~ literally
forced by OC Management to accept certain
conditions that clearly do not meet Code requirements.

This is but a few of the problems that
concern me as a welding inspector in the
OC program at Catawba Nuclear Power Plant

Thank you,
Dean Blatney

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Docket No. 50-413 70
 In the matter of Catawba
 Staff IDENTIFIED ☒
 Applicant ☒
 Intervenor DEFERRED ☒
 Conf'g Off'r SELECTED
 Contractor DATE 12/1/83
 Other W. 285
 Reporter Mary Sumner