

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the matter of:

INTERVIEW OF WILLIAM R. BURDICK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Interview of William R. Burdick

July 1, 1982
Palo Verde Nuclear Station

Investigators: E. J. Power
 Owen Shackleton

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P R O C E E D I N G S

INVESTIGATOR: This is an interview of
Mr. William R. Burdick. The last name is spelled B as
in Baker U R D I C K.

Mr. Burdick is a Level 2 QC Engineer in the
Quality Control Program for the Bechtel Power Corporation
at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Arizona.

This interview is taking place on July 1, 1982,
and our interview of Mr. Burdick began at 7:55 a.m.

Mr. Burdick was advised by me, Owen C. Shakleton,
Investigator for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
from Region 5, of the statutes that apply to giving testimony
under oath. He agreed to talk to the two investigators
that are present under oath, and the oath was administered
by myself.

Present to assist me in conducting this interview
of Mr. Burdick is Mr. E.J. Power, an Investigator also
assigned to Region 5 of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
Commission.

Mr. Burdick, do we have permission to tape record
your interview?

MR. BURDICK: Yes.

INVESTIGATOR: Thank you.

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1 are the two foremen who work with them. They all sign
2 the cards.

7(A)

12-1

1 INVESTIGATOR: We are not too sure, according
2 to his testimony, of what to do. Do you feel that the
3 present staff of QC inspectors out there are trained enough
4 to know how to respond to that particular situation?

5 MR. BURDICK: Well, speaking for myself, I
6 believe I am, and I do believe the rest I work with are.

7 INVESTIGATOR: Are there situations where
8 certain QC inspectors, either because they have not been
9 trained in certain procedures, just would not make that
10 decision, and therefore they would refer them to someone
11 else.

12 How many QC inspectors do you have personally
13 to take care of water coolant, as an example.

14 INVESTIGATOR: We are talking about Unit 1.

15 INVESTIGATOR: Yes, we are talking about
16 basically Unit 1.

17 MR. BURDICK: There are three of us up there.

18 INVESTIGATOR: And basically you would be the
19 individual much more knowledgeable, even though another
20 QC inspector is qualified to perform the same function,
21 you would be more aware of the current procedures, require-
22 ments, and so forth and so on. And if somebody asked you
23 a question relative to -- even though you are generally
24 knowledgeable for another procedure -- would you normally
25 refer them to somebody who does that daily?

MR. BURDICK: Well, you might. Or we might

12-2 1 say lets get the spec out and check it, and let's see how
2 it reads word for word, and just take it from there.

3 INVESTIGATOR: Going along with that line
4 of questioning, and your own luck to have been around
5 the world a few times, what do you feel -- how would you
6 describe the training you have given to the QC inspectors
7 that you work with and yourself. Do you feel it is
8 adequate, inadequate, or what is your appraisal?

9 MR. BURDICK: I think it is adequate.

10 INVESTIGATOR: Can you give us, as best that
11 you can recall, the training you had since you have come
12 on board? What happened when you initially came on board?

13 MR. BURDICK: When I initially came on, I was
14 kind of given a briefing on what they had here, and I
15 was taken to the unit and just showed through. Then I was
16 given all the specs and procedures, and that is what I did
17 for the first month.

18 I sat down here and read everything that was
19 going to pertain to what I had to do. And periodically,
20 the gentleman who was training me would ask me questions.
21 What covers different things. He wanted to know what
22 spec, or what it was under. I think I got good training
23 when I first came here.

24 INVESTIGATOR: How about your on the job training
25 when you went out into the field. Did you work with an

12-3 1 experienced QC inspector for any time?

2 MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir; I did. For a week or
3 two.

4 INVESTIGATOR: And then was there any follow-up
5 on your work after that by your supervisor?

6 MR. BURDICK: Oh, yes. My supervisor would
7 check with us off and on, and ask you if you have any
8 problems. If everything is going okay.

9 INVESTIGATOR: You have been here a year now,
10 Bill, and you are an older and more experienced man than
11 some of the younger people. How do you feel your work
12 environment has been with the craft. And by this, I mean
13 do you feel that you have had a free hand to work as a QC
14 inspector without being intimidated?

15 MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir, I have. I have had no
16 problems with any of the electricians.

17 INVESTIGATOR: How about their supervision, Bill.
18 The foreman, the GF, and the superintendent.

19 MR. BURDICK: I get along with them all. Seventy-
20 five to ninety percent of getting the job done right is
21 getting along with the people you work with.

22 INVESTIGATOR: Would it be safe to say then you
23 have no problems when you have tried to enforce your QC
24 regulations on wiremen?

25 MR. BURDICK: I have never run into any problems.

12-4 1 INVESTIGATOR: Gene, do you have any questions
2 in that line?

3 INVESTIGATOR: Yeah. Do you -- have you
4 experienced any problems in performing or executing a
5 non-performance report for something that you feel was
6 improper, or contrary to procedures?

7 MR. BURDICK: No, sir. The ones I have written
8 all went through the channel they were to go through,
9 and --

10 INVESTIGATOR: Getting the dispositions.

11 MR. BURDICK: Getting the dispositions.

12 INVESTIGATOR: How about other QC inspectors?
13 Are you aware of any situations where they appeared to
14 experience a problem with, say, production personnel,
15 or harrassment by personnel because they (inaudible.)

16 MR. BURDICK: No, no, I don't believe so.
17 Maybe somebody has made the statement why are you doing
18 this, but --

19 INVESTIGATOR: I wasn't questioning you
20 -- you know, your opinion is one, and the electrician, he
21 is going to have a different opinion.

22 MR. BURDICK: I don't believe we have.

23 INVESTIGATOR: Then you basically feel that you
24 have the necessity opportunity and freedom to question or
25 red tag any situation.

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MR. BURDICK: I always have since I have been here.

INVESTIGATOR: Bill, have you had any experience where there has been hapotic (phonetic) testing?

MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir.

INVESTIGATOR: Have you observed or heard of excessive hapotic (phonetic) of a cable?

MR. BURDICK: No, sir; I haven't.

INVESTIGATOR: What do you understand is an acceptable number of times a cable can be hapotic?

MR. BURDICK: I guess one time, and start checking it out. We hapotic up there, and everything was all right.

INVESTIGATOR: You are not aware of any procedures or manufacturers suggested number of times hapotic (inaudible).

MR. BURDICK: No, sir.

INVESTIGATOR: Bill, have you had any work that you had to inspect that involved the use of O-Rings where they use -- the cable is run through a conduit, and the conduit is fastened to a junction box or terminal box, where it comes into a metal box, and they use an O-Ring to seal it up, to give it water integrity. Have you had any inspections of that type of connection?

MR. BURDICK: I just make sure all the bushings

12-6 1 and everything is in the boxes before they pull the cable
2 in.

3 INVESTIGATOR: In the year since you have been
4 on the site, do you know of any period of time in that
5 year that there were not O-Rings available for the craftsmen
6 to use?

7 MR. BURDICK: No, sir; I don't. I kind of
8 helped them the other day pulling cable, and I just ask
9 the lead to stop the pull, to put the bushings in, and
10 they went and got it.

11 INVESTIGATOR: Bill, have you ever witnessed or
12 heard of any problems where they are doing core drilling
13 into the walls, where they have to make a new penetration
14 for a cable, and they have accidentally drilled into an
15 existing conduit?

16 MR. BURDICK: I believe in the main steam room.

17 INVESTIGATOR: This is something you heard of
18 and did not witness?

19 MR. BURDICK; I did not witness, but I know
20 where it was at when it happened.

21 INVESTIGATOR: Can you tell us where that was?

22 MR. BURDICK: It was done on the 74 level, main
23 steam.

24 INVESTIGATOR: And this is at Unit 1, and what
25 building would that be?

12-7 1 MR. BURDICK: In the main steam, between the
2 containment and the turbine building.

3 INVESTIGATOR: And they were drilling a large
4 penetration?

5 MR. BURDICK: No, sir. I think -- it looked
6 like about a two inch core boring, and that was taken care
7 of and it was all right when the cable was put in.

8 INVESTIGATOR: Can you tell me, to the best
9 of your recollection, when that occurred?

10 MR. BURDICK: No, sir; I don't remember. I
11 couldn't give you an exact date.

12 INVESTIGATOR: Was it last year, or 1982.--

13 MR. BURDICK: It was six or seven months ago,
14 as best as I can remember.

15 INVESTIGATOR: Do you remember the foreman,
16 the craft foreman, or the craftsmen that were involved?

17 MR. BURDICK: No, sir; I do not.

18 INVESTIGATOR: It was your recollection it was
19 appropriately taken care of, and the damaged conduit
20 replaced?

21 MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir. It was taken care of --
22 there was no way to damage the cable once it was put back
23 -- you know, but into the pipe.

24 INVESTIGATOR: Was it quality (inaudible) cable,
25 or --

12-8 1 MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir, it was.

2 INVESTIGATOR: Do you know anybody that worked
3 on the situation. Either (inaudible), or the craftsmen
4 that were doing the core drilling, or the electrician who
5 repaired the area?

6 MR. BURDICK: No, sir, I don't, because I did
7 not get involved in that cable pull.

8 INVESTIGATOR: Do you think Mike (inaudible)
9 might recall. Was he involved, or was he the foreman?

10 MR. BURDICK: Mike, I believe, was the GF at
11 that time.

12 INVESTIGATOR: The reason we are so interested
13 is we have one and we can't find him. We have an allegation,
14 Bill, that there was -- well, I will read it to you: In
15 the auxiliary building, on the southeast corner, by the
16 one hundred foot elevation, and about fifteen feet above
17 the floor, they drilled cores into the wall, and in doing
18 so drilled into some conduit. Some of the damaged (inaudible)
19 was located approximately eighteen inches into the contain-
20 ment wall.

21 Is this the same area, or a different area?

22 MR. BURDICK: I don't remember anything happening
23 on that hundred level. I wrote an NCR on cables that
24 got damaged in that area, and I stopped the crew and hung
25 a reg tag on it.

12-9 1 INVESTIGATOR: Let me ask you if you might know
2 these people by name. Because we don't know whether they
3 are electricians, or what their craft is, but they were
4 supposed to be the ones assigned the task of patching.
5 One of them is named Jerry Stuart, and the other was a Bill
6 Williams, and there is another electrician that we believed
7 to have been involved, and we haven't been able to locate,
8 by the name of Bob Lunk. That is the name we have.

9 Are any of these names familiar to you?

10 MR. BURDICK: No, sir; they sure aren't.

11 INVESTIGATOR: Frank Ostadt.

12 INVESTIGATOR: Or Oswald. We are not sure. It
13 could be Ostadt or Oswald.

14 INVESTIGATOR: We understand there has been a
15 tremendous turnover.

16 MR. BURDICK: There has been quite a turnover.
17 None of them names sound familiar.

18 INVESTIGATOR: Back to the one situation, how
19 did you become aware?

20 MR. BURDICK: In the main steam because of a
21 cable pull that was going to be coming in there, so I
22 was just told about it.

23 INVESTIGATOR: Who told you?

24 MR. BURDICK: One of the other QC's.

25 INVESTIGATOR: Do you recall who told you about it

12-10 1

MR. BURDICK: Jack Hansley.

2

INVESTIGATOR: Is he still around?

3

MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir. I think it is Ajnze.

4

INVESTIGATOR: Okay. First name Jack. Is working

5

terminations, cable pulling, or --

6

MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir. He is (inaudible).

7

INVESTIGATOR: You didn't go down and look at

8

did you?

9

MR. BURDICK: I went down with Jack. I mean,

10

we looked at it. There was an NCR written against it, I am

11

pretty sure, at that time.

12

INVESTIGATOR: Possibly Jack could have written

13

it?

14

MR. BURDICK: I don't believe he did, no. I

15

think it had already been done.

16

INVESTIGATOR: We will probably talk to Jack,

17

but if he doesn't recall, can you take us to that

18

specific location?

19

MR. BURDICK: Yes, I think I could.

20

INVESTIGATOR: It was in the main steam line?

21

MR. BURDICK: Yes.

22

INVESTIGATOR: In the turbine building?

23

MR. BURDICK: The main -- not in the turbine.

24

The main steam is inbetween the turbine building and

25

the containment. Down in the basement there.

12-11 1

INVESTIGATOR: Okay. We are not looking -- we
2 are not inferring that somebody didn't do what they were
3 supposed to do.

4

INVESTIGATOR: Have you worked in Unit 2 at all,
5 Bill?

6

MR. BURDICK: Very little. Very little.

7

INVESTIGATOR: Have you ever heard of any
8 problems that are going around in Unit 2, between the QC
9 inspectors and the crafts, and the craft and their foreman,
10 in that area. I am talking about anomosity, hard feelings?

11

MR. BURDICK: No, sir. If there are, I have never
12 heard anybody talk about it.

13

INVESTIGATOR: I don't have any further questions,
14 Gene.

15

INVESTIGATOR: I don't either.

16

INVESTIGATOR: Only one thing I want to hit on --

17

MR. BURDICK: It is roughly somewhere in this
18 area.

19

INVESTIGATOR: We will go off the tape right now,
20 while Bill shows the power locations on the map.

21

We are on tape now, and Mr. Burdick showed us
22 a diagram that Gene has, a location where the damaged
23 conduit was located.

24

The last area I wanted to cover with you Bill
25 is your experience, or observations, of the use of controlled

12-12 1 drugs on site.

2 We have an allegation that there are drugs being
3 used here on the site. Marijuana, cocaine, and some of the
4 amphetamines, like black beauty, and hashish.

5 Have you observed people working on site using
6 these drugs?

7 MR. BURDICK: No, sir. I have never seen anybody
8 use them.

9 MR. BURDICK: Have you smelled Marijuana smoke
10 when you have been working in Unit 1.

11 MR. BURDICK: Not to my knowledge I haven't.
12 I maybe wouldn't know what it smelled like.

13 INVESTIGATOR: I have no additional questions.
14 The only thing I would like to ask of you, Bill, do you
15 have any concerns here on the Palo Verde site in the
16 construction of safety-related equipment that you feel
17 should be given closer surveillance than it presently is?

18 MR. BURDICK: No, sir, I don't. I think the
19 plant is being built in a proper way.

20 INVESTIGATOR: I take it then from what you
21 said that you are satisfied with the work you have observed
22 as being of good quality?

23 MR. BURDICK: Yes, sir, I do.

24 INVESTIGATOR: Gene, do you have any further
25 questions?

12-13 1

INVESTIGATOR: No.

2

INVESTIGATOR: Bill, we appreciate very much the

3

time you have given us this morning, and the help you have

4

given the Commission in trying to resolve these problems.

5

And we will close this interview now, and the time is

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approximately 8:37 a.m., on July 1, 1982.

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