

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

In the matter of:

Interview of Robert C. Ruff, Sr.

Docket No.

Location:

Date: July 15, 1982

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Interview of Robert C. Ruff, Sr.

July 15, 1982
Palo Verde Nuclear Station

Investigators: John Burdoin
Owen C. Shackleton

MILLERS FALLS

P R O C E E D I N G S

VOICE: This is an interview of Mr. Robert C. Ruff, Sr. The last name is spelled R-u-f-f.

This interview is taking place at three minutes after 1:00 p.m. on July 15, 1982 in the NRC office of the construction building at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

Mr. Ruff is the assistant lead QC, electrical instrumentation, for Bechtel Power Corporation.

Present from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to conduct this interview is Mr. John Burdoin, reactor inspector, and myself, Owen C. Shackleton, Jr., investigator from Region V, the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission at Walnut Creek, California.

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

MR. RUFF: Yes, you do.

INTERVIEWER: Thank you.

Bob, let me get to one point specifically where your name was involved. Out of all the allegations made by this one individual, who was formerly an electrician on the site, was his concern about a one bolt lug being connect to a two bolt lug on a cable and I have written here, and this is part of a sworn, signed statement that he signed, in some instances Bechtel directed the installation of a one bolt lug,

1 which has a 45 to a 65 amp rating on motors that run at 120
2 amps and they run up to a 480 amp surge.

3 Do you follow me on that all right?

4 MR. RUFF: I follow you okay.

5 INTERVIEWER: This occurred when motors were re-
6 ceived from the manufacturer without any lugs attached.
7 Bechtel engineers Andy Anderson and Bob Ruff directed that
8 one bolt lugs be installed on those motors. This took place
9 at about the last part of November or early part of December,
10 1981.

11 One of the motors that was set up with a one bolt
12 lug coming off to the motor and connecting it to a field
13 cable that had a two bolt lug, was a sprayed pond pump on the
14 north side of the pond at the west end of Unit 1.

15 Two bolts were put into the two bolt lug to make
16 it look like there were two individual two lug bolts properly
17 connected, but the sprayed pond pump on the south side of the
18 spray pond had a two bolt lug coming off of the motor.

19 This use of a one bolt lug was done in all the
20 motors mentioned in Item 4 above except for the circulating
21 water pump.

22 MR. RUFF: Now, may I make a statement?

23 INTERVIEWER: Now you can come in. Anything you
24 can recall to help us on --

25 MR. RUFF: You are referring and he refers to

1 Andy Anderson and Robert Ruff, I have a son that's Robert
2 Ruff in terminations in Unit 1. I believe that's who that
3 is referring to.

4 INTERVIEWER: That's probably who it is, okay.

5 MR. RUFF: Because I have given no one directions
6 to use any type lugs. That's typical QC. We only do what is
7 on paper and is approved by FCRD.

8 INTERVIEWER: So I have got to find your son, that
9 is who I am really looking for.

10 MR. RUFF: My son is no longer in terminations.
11 He is in Unit 1 but I believe that is the gentleman you wish
12 to --

13 INTERVIEWER: How about Andy Anderson? Do you
14 know him?

15 MR. RUFF: Anderson is also, at that point in
16 time, was termination engineer in Unit 1.

17 INTERVIEWER: Do you know if he is still on board?

18 MR. RUFF: As far as I know, he is. I don't know
19 whether he is that department or not but he is still on
20 board.

21 INTERVIEWER: Good. That clears that up. I didn't
22 realize that --

23 INTERVIEWER: Does he work for Bechtel?

24 MR. RUFF: Yes.

25 INTERVIEWER: When I saw Bob Ruff, I just thought

1 of you because I'd heard your name so often that --

2 INTERVIEWER: Because termination, now we do, of
3 course, QC inspection on termination.

4 MR. RUFF: Umm-hmm. (Inaudible)

5 In that case there, and as I say when it comes
6 to, as soon as you mention the word directions, that had to
7 by my son because it definitely was not me.

8 INTERVIEWER: Okay, did you -- have you talked
9 to Bob anything about the training program for QC people?

10 MR. RUFF: I went over with Sid Ballen this
11 morning --

12 INTERVIEWER: Okay, as long as we have Bob here,
13 Bob, one of the allegations that would be directly involving
14 you was that there was an allegation made that the QC engi-
15 neers or QC inspectors were not properly trained.

16 Now you have had 17 years of construction back-
17 ground and you worked in the QC field before you came
18 here .

19 What is your opinion of the training that your
20 people are given?

21 MR. RUFF: I think their training here is satis-
22 factory to meet our requirements. We think and I suppose this
23 is, tells you a new man, no matter whether he is from another
24 job or is totally a new man, went through qualifications.

25 We take him out on the field and go through

1 everything at that point with him and the gentleman who takes
2 him tells us that he qualified after a certain period of time,
3 which varies from another man to another job, maybe two weeks
4 is fine. Another guy may take two months. But once you are
5 qualified in the field, they come in, of course they have
6 read all of our procedures, all our specifications prior to
7 that time.

8 Then we bring them in. They are questioned by
9 Vince or they are usually questioned by me and we -- we voice
10 our opinion as to their qualifications at that point.

11 They are given a written test, which I have told
12 you and rates what instrumentation, cables, et cetera, and
13 this is what we base our qualifications.

14 At that point we give him a Level 1 normally,
15 depending, you know, if they came from another job and were
16 Level 2 at that one.

17 I honestly think our training program is good.
18 Any training program could be better.

19 INTERVIEWER: But the question is, is it adequate
20 for the work they have to perform?

21 MR. RUFF: Oh, I happen to think so. I feel that
22 we have no personnel that are not qualified to do the job.

23 INTERVIEWER: Okay, very fine.

24 John, do you have any additional questions?

25 INTERVIEWER: No.

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1 INTERVIEWER: Well, Bob, I'm sorry I called you
2 over here and got the wrong Ruff.

3 MR. RUFF: No problem.

4 INTERVIEWER: So we'll bring this interview to
5 a close and the time is now 1:08 p.m.

End
Interview.

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