

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
2 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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4 In the Matter of: :
5 Investigative Interview of :
6 CHARLES R. BALDWIN :
7 -----X

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9
10 Duke Power Company
11 422 South Church Street
12 Charlotte, North Carolina

13 Thursday, April 12, 1984

14 The Investigative Interview of CHARLES R. BALDWIN
15 commenced at 2:02 p.m., the witness having previously been
16 sworn by E. L. Williamson, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory
17 Commission.
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1 APPEARANCES:

2 On Behalf of the NRC:

3 E. L. Williamson
4 Investigator
5 Office of Investigations
6 Region II
7 101 Marietta Street, N.W.
8 Suite 2900
9 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

10 James Y. Vorse
11 Director
12 Office of Investigations
13 Region II
14 101 Marietta Street, N. W.
15 Atlanta, Georgia 30303

16 On Behalf of the Witness:

17 Albert V. Carr, Jr., Esq.
18 Assistant General Counsel
19 Duke Power Company
20 422 South Church Street
21 Charlotte, North Carolina

22 J. Michael McGarry, Esq.
23 Bishop, Liberman, Cook, Purcell & Reynolds
24 1200 17th Street, N. W.
25 Washington, D. C. 20036

P R O C E E D I N G

(2:02 p.m.)

MR. WILLIAMSON: For the record, it is now 2:02 p.m., and this is an interview of Charles R. Baldwin, who is employed by Duke Power Company. The location of this interview is Duke Power Company, 822 Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina. Present at this interview are E. L. Williamson, J. Y. Vorse, A. V. Carr, Jr., and J. Michael McGarry.

As agreed, this interview is being transcribed by court reporter Garrett J. Walsh, Jr. The subject matter of this interview concerns Catawba Nuclear Station. Mr Baldwin, I want you to understand that you are still under oath, and we have additional questions to ask you about the allegations that arose during the ASLB hearings last Fall, wherein a former welding inspector alleged that during a QC welding inspector class, that he and other members of the class were provided with answers to tests prior to being subjected to taking the tests.

Whereupon,

CHARLES R. BALDWIN,
was called as a witness, and having been previously duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WILLIAMSON:

Q First of all, I would like to know what, as you

1 recall your role in the training of the welding inspectors
2 at Catawa was during this particular time frame. I think
3 we are talking as far back as 1977.

4 A I did review my participation in this, after
5 the allegation came up as a result of the hearings. In
6 this particular training program, I was responsible for the
7 coordination and the scheduling, and also active as an
8 instructor for portions of this training program.

9 I revised the tests, made sure they were in
10 accordance with the current procedures. I graded the tests,
11 which were also reviewed by -- I wasn't certified as the
12 examiner, but that was reviewed, or the grades were reviewed
13 by the examiner. Ray Hollins was the examiner at that time.

14 Q Who was primarily responsible for the training
15 of the welding inspectors? As I understand, there were
16 four instructors --

17 A There were four instructors, yes. Ray Hollins
18 taught what we call the general portion of that, which dealt
19 with weld defects, basic metallurgy-type instructions. After
20 that it was the procedures and the practical portions of it,
21 and it was Ray Hollins, Beau Ross, Larry Davison and myself
22 that did the training on this. This was several weeks or
23 several days of training.

24 Q Do you recall how long the class lasted?

25 A The classes, as I recall, we taught half-days.

1 They were taught in the mornings or in the evenings, and
2 the applicants were given the rest of the day to go out in
3 the field with the other inspectors and actually observe and
4 implement, or see the procedures being implemented that they
5 had been trained on during their training program.

6 Q Lengthwise, the class lasted how many weeks?

7 A Probably, as I recall, around four or five weeks.

8 Q Do you recall who was in that particular class,
9 student wise. The welding inspectors in the class?

10 A Yes. There were eight people in that class. We
11 had four people in the class that were to be assigned to the
12 welding inspection crew. That was Harry Langley, Lamar
13 Sherrif -- I don't recall the other two guys names at this
14 time.

15 I think Truitt Murray --

16 Q Ronnie Kirby?

17 A Ronnie Kirby.

18 Q And Charlie Crisp.

19 A Charlie Crisp, yes. There were four other guys
20 that were in the mechanical inspection area that were being
21 trained to -- our program allowed people in other areas
22 to inspect fillet welds. And they were -- at that time we
23 were considering allowing the mechanical people to inspect
24 the fillet welds on five inch supports and that type of thing
25 that they were involved in, and the electrical inspectors

1 inspected the welds on electrical hangers. But we never did
2 implement that.

3 That is when those four people were in the class,
4 trying to become certified as fillet weld inspectors.

5 Q Through other interviews, I understand that the
6 welding inspectors, in particular, were given daily quizzes
7 on subject matter covered either that day, or the previous
8 day.

9 Were you involved in administering these daily
10 quizzes, or was this left up to the primary instructor for
11 that block of instruction?

12 A I was involved in giving the quizzes. Usually it
13 happened I gave the quizzes on the classes I had taught.
14 Sometimes, maybe the instructor that had the class the
15 following day would give the quiz for the instructor on the
16 previous day.

17 Q Were these quizzes returned to the students, or
18 were they retained by the training staff?

19 A I don't recall specifically how that happened. I
20 think what happened was that the tests were graded, and after
21 the tests were graded, they would be returned to the individual
22 just for review, and then were taken up again. I do know they
23 weren't given back to be kept. Only for review. Usually
24 on the following day after the test. They were taken up
25 during the -- shortly after or during the class after the

1 review.

2 Q What was the major testing procedure for the
3 class? You had a class on general subjects, specific
4 subjects, and I guess practical areas. Were the inspectors
5 subjected to testing at the end of each one of these
6 particular phases?

7 A Well, the general portion that was taught by
8 Ray Hollins was, like I said, was the basic metallurgy
9 portion of the training program. Ray did have about three
10 quizzes, with four or five questions, as I recall on those
11 that he gave to help him evaluate the job that he was doing.
12 Were the people or the students comprehending what he was
13 teaching? That wasn't used for grade. That was only an
14 aid for him.

15 Then, after his class, which usually lasted for
16 about a week -- I think 40 hours -- they were given a general
17 examination. That was used for a grade. After that, we
18 trained on the procedures, with daily tests given on that.
19 Those daily tests were given, and they counted -- I forgot
20 what the weighted value of those were -- toward the final
21 grade. And then there was an overall procedural test that
22 was given after that training program, and that had a certain
23 weighted value.

24 Then there was a practical test that was given.
25 Usually we used ten or twelve specimens for the welding

1 inspector. These specimens had welds on them at different
2 stages. Maybe a fit-up inspection. Maybe a root pass
3 inspection, a final weld condition. Those types of things.
4 Inspectors were given those things, and they had to go through
5 there and determine if that was acceptable for the inspection
6 that they were performing, and then do all the steps; verify
7 the materials when it was appropriate, verify that the welder
8 was qualified, verify that the dimensions were met, and so
9 forth and so on.

10 Q Did you, at any time, provide any assistance in
11 terms of providing questions and answers to anyone in the
12 class. Questions and answers for final examination to anyone
13 in the class?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Were you aware of anyone that might have provided
16 the answers to test questions. Final examinations to anyone
17 in the class?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q Have you discussed this alleged cheating incident
20 with anyone within Duke Power?

21 A Only after it came up, yes.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION

23 BY MR. VORSE:

24 Q What do you think prompted Mr. Langley to make
25 that allegation? I know that is highly speculative, but

1 what do you think might have happened to cause him to think
2 that that happened?

3 A I really -- I know that Mr. Langley was terminated
4 because of gambling on the job, and I feel that he might have
5 had -- saw that as a means to fight back at Duke Power
6 Company. I don't know why he thought of that, because he
7 wasn't in the welding inspection program that long compared
8 to what some of the other people -- I don't know.

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10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. WILLIAMSON:

12 Q Do you feel there is any substance to the allegation
13 made by Mr. Langley?

14 A No, sir.

15 Q Mr. Baldwin, have I or any other NRC representative
16 here threatened you in any manner, or offered you any reward
17 in return for this statement?

18 A No, sir.

19 Q Have you given this statement freely and
20 voluntarily?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Is there any additional information you would
23 like to add for the record regarding this statement?

24 A No, sir.

25 MR. WILLIAMSON: This interview is concluded at 2:10 p.m.,

1 on April 12, 1984.

2 (Whereupon, the interview concluded at 2:10 p.m.,
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CERTIFICATE OF PROCEEDINGS

This is to certify that the attached proceedings before the
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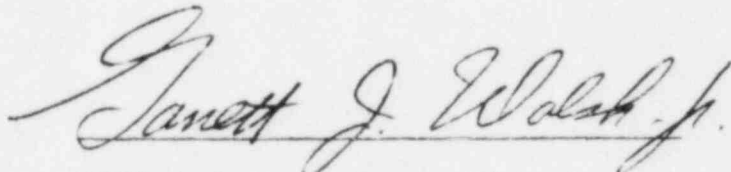
In the matter of: Investigative Interview of
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Date of Proceeding: April 12, 1984

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GARRETT J. WALSH, JR.
Official Reporter - Typed


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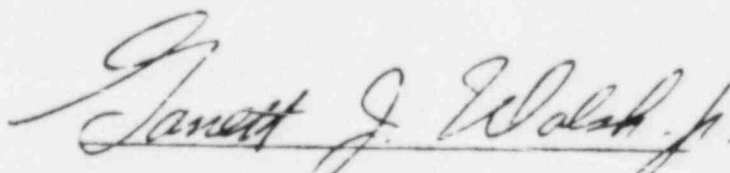
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11 Official Reporter - Typed

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