

SSER

Task: Allegation A-117, A-120

Reference No.: 4-84-A-06-12, 4-84-A-06-15

Characterization: The allegations are that Mercury and Tompkins-Beckwith (T-B) records were falsified "to whitewash what may be serious construction defects" and "doctored to give them the appearance of compliance with federal safety regulations."

Assessment of Allegation: The implied significance of the allegations is that if records of safety-related systems have been falsified the quality of those systems are indeterminate.

This issue was addressed by an NRC staff review of the T-B and Mercury document review system and the qualification of record reviewers. The staff also reviewed a sample of documents specifically for unauthorized changes, dates out of sequence, incorrect data, or the appearance of falsification.

The NRC staff found that T-B and Mercury procedures provide guidelines for changes or corrections to documents. Documents were reviewed by subcontractors including T-B and Mercury quality assurance (QA), turned over to EBASCO for an additional review by QAIRG, and then submitted to EBASCO for records storage.

The NRC staff did an extensive review of documents submitted by T-B and Mercury as well as other subcontractors. One possible falsification of a Mercury employee's signature on a nonconformance report (NCR) was observed and was referred to the NRC Office of Investigation (OI) for follow up. No other apparent falsification of records was noted.

The T-B and Mercury record review systems were considered adequate. Personnel performing record reviews are considered qualified. Previous instances of falsified documents were properly corrected by EBASCO (See Allegation A-07). The one possible falsified signature discussed above appeared to be an isolated case. In conclusion, this allegation has neither safety significance nor generic implications.

[ Potential Violations: Pending staff review of NRC OI "Report of Investigation." ]

Actions Required: None.

References:

1. EBASCO Procedure QAI-9, "Review and Handling of Construction-Installation Records".
2. Confidential Interoffice Correspondence to File from H. J. Kunis, dated April 14, 1983. Subject: ALLEGATIONS OF DOCUMENT FALSIFICATION BY MERCURY EMPLOYEES.
3. Allegations: Falsification: A-07, A-29, A-286, A-289a  
Inspector Certification: A-304, A-285b  
Indoctrination and Training: A-06, A-09, A-92, A-294  
Documentation : A-35, A-197 thru A-206, A-213, A-216, A-183, A-184, A-223, A-230, A-308  
Procedure Review: A-143, A-150, A-162, A-163, A-188, A-190, A-191, A-193, A-279, A-280, A-282, A-284, A-288, A-27

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