

Received 10/15/2015
Entered 10/22/2015
Days Open 14

OPEN CASE CHRONOLOGY

RII-2015-A-0193

Thursday, October 29, 2015

CONCERN NO.	ACTION NO.	PERSON ASSIGNED	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE DUE	DATE COMPLETE	DAYS TO COMPLETE
1	3	GIBSON	10/29/2015		10/29/2015	0
Related Allegations						
Related previous allegation number: (b)(7)(C)						
	2	MENDEZ-GONZAL	10/15/2015	11/14/2015		
Acknowledgement Letter						
NON-ALLEGATION ? VALIDITY OF ISSUE IS KNOWN AND ISSUE IS IN THE CAP (A LICENSEE NDE DOCUMENTS THIS CONDITION AND ISSUE HAS BEEN ADDRESSED). CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER.						
	1	MENDEZ-GONZAL	10/15/2015	11/14/2015	10/27/2015	12
Initial ARB Meeting						

INDEX OF CONCERNS*Thursday, October 29, 2015***RII-2015-A-0193**

CONCERN: 1 Construction Power Reactor (b)(7)(C) Non-allegation

ONE OF THE CA05 EMBED PLATES (NORTHWEST CORNER) MAY HAVE EXCEEDED THE PREHEAT TEMPERATURE WHILE USING THE PROHEAT EQUIPMENT IN PREPARATION FOR WELDING TO CA05.

SUBSTANTIATED: **ENF:** No**EA NO:****DT CLSD:**

REGION II ALLEGATION RECEIPT FORM

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0193			
Received By: Sandra Mendez		Date Received: 10/15/2015	
Allegation Received Via:		Facility: Vogtle 3&4	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone	<input type="checkbox"/> In person	<input type="checkbox"/> Fax	Docket No: 05200025 & 26
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Letter	<input type="checkbox"/> DOL Complaint	
<input type="checkbox"/> Of Transcript #			
Prepared By: G. Khouri		Date Prepared: 10/15/2015	

Is there a potential overriding safety issue that requires an Emergency ARB? Y ☐ N ☒

Concern #: 1

Concern Description:

One of the CA05 embed plates (northwest corner) may have exceeded the preheat temperature while using the Proheat equipment in preparation for welding to CA05.

Concern Background Information:

The CI sent an email on 10/5/15 (see below (b)(7)(C)) The CI was called back on 10/15/15 and identified a new allegation during the call. The CI stated that he was not an eye witness to this event, but indicated that this was discussed, by the project, during the day as a precaution (construction lessons learned) to people using the Miller Proheat equipment. The CI believed that it was most likely the embed plate at the northwest corner of CA05. The CI's concern is that this was not properly addressed or fixed.

The CI also believes that more than 50 percent of the CA20 welds passed inspection and signed off then they were cut out and repaired (as part of the phone call, we informed the CI that the NRC has been inspecting the module fabrication very closely and we have seen no evidence that indicates that this is true, and lacking specifics, we will not be able to pursue this issue)

10/5/15 Email from CI

The concerns and issues I raised were pertaining to Embedded plates on CA05 and preheat went over temperature as well as out of compliance issue on CA01. As we discussed during our telephone interview, this is in the Containment Vessel and I stated that it had not been properly addressed. I could not find the information in CARS to prove this, that is why I raised the issue's to you. I provided you the Names of individuals on site including their telephone numbers upon the request of one of the NRC's team members during our call as he was very concerned and wanted to follow up to see the results. CA20 Module was signed off and put in the HOLE (NI3) over a year and a half ago supposedly complete and was a PAYMENT milestone to CB&I managers get their bonuses. Well, CA20 had more than 50 Percent of PASSED signed off Welds that had to be cut out. This is after initial acceptance and after other issues lead to further scrutiny of the Automatic Welded Seams originally passed. The CA20 Module is part of the CONTAINMENT spent fuel pool.

Pertaining to OPEN discussions being made should by no means conclude that all items were properly resolved. CA20 as well as CA01 were openly discussed and the welds were cut out later on CA20. Not JUST 1 or 2 bad welds were found but MORE than 50 Percent failed inspections that had been accepted. I truly believe there are issue's that have been covered up.

Did the allegor raise the concern to management? No

If so, what actions have been taken, and when? If no, why not?:

Comments:

Allegor's Information			
Allegation Source (b)(7)(C)			
Allegor's Name (b)(7)(C)			
Allegor's Employer (b)(7)(C)	Allegor's Position/Title (b)(7)(C)		
Allegor's Home Address (b)(7)(C)			
(b)(7)(C)			
Home Phone Number (b)(7)(C)	Work Phone Number:	Cell Phone Number (b)(7)(C)	

Email Address:

(b)(7)(C)

Preferences for method and time of contact:

Method: ☐ Letter
☒ Email
☒ Telephone - Which number? cell

Time: ☐ AM
☐ PM

Identity Protection Policy/Confidentiality

Was the alleged informed of ID Protection Policy? Yes Comments:

Was Confidentiality Requested? Yes Comments:

RFI Considerations

Allegor Objects to RFI? No Comments:

Is the alleged concerned about being identified to the licensee? Yes If so, why?

Does the alleged object to having his/her identity released? No If so, why?

Discrimination/ Harassment & Intimidation (H&I) – to be discussed only if the alleged brings it up

Is the alleged asserting discrimination (i.e. alleged retaliation for raising a safety concern)? No

Was alleged informed of DOL rights? Yes

No further contact requests – to be discussed only if the alleged brings it up

Did the alleged request no further contact with the NRC? No (If no, skip this section)

Were the benefits of continued process involvement discussed? Select

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, October 27, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0193	
ARB Type: Initial ARB Date: 10/27/2015 ARB Purpose: Determine course of action	Facility: Vogtle 3&4 Responsible Branch: DCP/CPB4
Received Date: 10/15/2015 30-Days = 11/14/2015 150-Days = 3/13/2016 180-Days = 4/12/2016	Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C) Total # Concerns:

Concern #: 1	
Concern Type: Non-Allegation	
Discipline: Construction Select (Select Only One)	

Concern Description:

ONE OF THE CA05 EMBED PLATES (NORTHWEST CORNER) MAY HAVE EXCEEDED THE PREHEAT TEMPERATURE WHILE USING THE PROHEAT EQUIPMENT IN PREPARATION FOR WELDING TO CA05.

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: are not constructed per their design code, they may not be able to perform their intended safety functions

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☒

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select:**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:**
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allder for details, etc.)
- ☒ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
- ☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
- ☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: No

Related previous allegation number: (b)(7)(C)

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: Yes

ARB Assigned Actions:

NON-ALLEGATION – VALIDITY OF ISSUE IS KNOWN AND ISSUE IS IN THE CAP (A LICENSEE NDE DOCUMENTS THIS CONDITION AND ISSUE HAS BEEN ADDRESSED). CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER.

Assigned Branch/Individual: EICS

Estimated Completion Time: 11/14/15

ARB Attendees

Chairs: **B. JONES**

EICS: **M. CHECKLE**, **S. MENDEZ**, **D. GAMBERONI**, **L. GIBSON**

OI: (b)(7)(C) (VIA PHONE)

OGC/Counsel: **S. PRICE**

Branch Chiefs: **M. ERNSTES**

Other Attendees: **A. NIELSEN**, **B. PURCELL**, **G. KHOURI**

15-193

Checkle, Melanie

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 2:53 PM
To: R2Allegations Resource; Checkle, Melanie
Cc: Ernstes, Michael; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Subject: Alleg 15-0193 related **Sensitive Alleg Info** and Westinghouse Proprietary Info - OUO
Attachments: SV3-CC01-GNR-000143.pdf; QAQC hold tag for N&D 143.PDF

Melanie,

Attached are:

1. Copy of the nonconformance and disposition report that addresses the overheat condition when welding CA05 to the embed plate
2. QA/QC hold tag

Note that the N&D is WEC Proprietary info.

Site process and procedures were followed to properly document and repair this issue.

Thanks,
George



George Khouri, Senior Project Inspector
Division of Construction Projects
USNRC Region II
O: 404.997.4457
C: (b)(7)(C)
E-Mail: george.khouri@nrc.gov

UNITED STATES POSTAGE



02 114 \$ 06.77
000 4230911
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 00011



CERTIFIED MAIL™

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT OF THE RETURN ADDRESS. FOLD AT DOTTED LINE



RETURNED TO SENDER

ADDRESSEE

ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN

Ank

11-16-2015 c Lm

12/16/15
5/16/15
15



(b)(7)(C)

ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN



SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

R11-2015-A-0193

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

- A. Signature ☒ Agent ☐ Addressee
- B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery
- D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below: ☐ No

3. Service Type
- ☒ Certified Mail ☐ Express Mail
- ☐ Registered ☒ Return Receipt for Merchandise
- ☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

2. Article Number
(Transfer from service label)

(b)(7)(C)

PS Form 3811, February 2004

Domestic Return Receipt

102595-02-M-1540



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

November 9, 2015

(b)(7)(C)

SUBJECT: Concerns You Raised to the NRC Regarding Vogtle Nuclear Plant, Unit 3 & 4 -
Allegation Reports RII-2015-A-0193 (Enclosure 1) (b)(7)(A)
(Enclosure 2)

Dear (b)(7)(C)

This letter refers to your emails and telephone conversations with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff over the past month. In your October 5, 2015, electronic message to Ms. Sandra Mendez, you expressed concerns regarding the staff's response to Allegation Report (b)(7)(A) dated September 18, 2015. Specifically (b)(7)(A)

(b)(7)(A)

(b)(7)(A) That email was subsequently discussed with you in a telephone conversation on October 10, 2015. In reviewing your e-mails and our phone conversation, we have identified additional information pertaining to (b)(7)(A) of Allegation Report (b)(7)(A). We also identified a new concern related to overheat conditions at Southern Nuclear Operating Company's (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 3 & 4, identified as Concern 1 of Allegation Report RII-2015-A-0193.

Enclosure 1 to this letter documents your new concern as we understand it and provides or review of the concern. If the description of your concern as noted in Enclosure 1 is not accurate, please contact me. Enclosure 2 addresses your comments and additional information on (b)(7)(A) of allegation report (b)(7)(A)

(b)(7)(A)

If a request is filed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) related to your areas of concern, the information provided will, to the extent consistent with that act, be purged of names and other potential identifiers. Further, you should be aware you are not considered a confidential source unless confidentiality has been formally granted in writing.

The NRC brochure "Reporting Safety Concerns to the NRC" contains information that you may find helpful in understanding our process for review of safety concerns. It includes an important discussion of our identity protection procedures and limitations. The brochure can be found on the NRC public web site at the following link:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/brochures/br0240/>

Allegations are an important source of information in support of the NRC's safety mission. We take our safety responsibility to the public seriously and will continue to do so within the bounds of our lawful authority. We believe that our actions have been responsive to your concerns

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

(b)(7)(C)

If, however, new information is provided that suggests that our conclusions should be altered, we will reevaluate that information to determine if additional evaluation is indicated. Should you have any additional questions or if the NRC can be of further assistance, please call our Allegation Coordinator, Ms. Sandra Mendez, at the regional office toll-free number 1-800-577-8510 extension 4707 or you may provide information to me in writing at P. O. Box 56274, Atlanta, GA 30343. You may also communicate with Ms. Mendez by electronic mail, if you so choose. Also, please be advised that the NRC cannot protect the information during transmission on the Internet and there is a possibility that someone could read your response while it is in transit. Her e-mail address is Sandra.Mendez-Gonzalez@nrc.gov. Should you prefer to communicate by email, please also respond to the following email address: R2Allegations@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Michael Ernstes, Chief
Construction Projects Branch 4

Enclosure(s): As stated

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR COMPANY

VOGTLE UNITS 3 & 4

RII-2015-A-0193

STATEMENT OF CONCERNS

Concern 1

One of the CA05 embed plates (northwest corner) may have exceeded the preheat temperature while using the Proheat equipment in preparation for welding to CA05.

Response to Concern 1:

The NRC has reviewed your concern that CA05 embed plates (northwest corner) may have exceeded the preheat temperature. Specifically, the overheating occurred during the welding of CA05 to this embed plate. Based on our review of the issue we determined that a Quality Control (QC) hold tag was placed on the embed plate. Also, Nonconformance & Disposition Report (N&D) SV3-CC01-GNR-000143 was written to document and evaluate the heat associated with this event (CA05 mounting and welding to the embed plate), and the localized damage to the nuclear island (NI) concrete. The nonconforming condition has since been addressed by engineering and has been repaired to full compliance with the applicable codes and standards. NRC inspectors reviewed the N&D and found no issues.

Based on the information provided and our understanding of the concern we determined that your concern was captured in the licensee's corrective action program. Since this condition was properly documented, evaluated and repaired per the site's process and procedures, further NRC intervention is not warranted at this time.

(b)(7)(A)

(b)(7)(A)

AP1000™

AP1000 Nonconformance & Disposition Report

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(b)(4)

AP1000™ AP1000 Nonconformance & Disposition Report

(b)(4)

After verification of revision in ShawDoc, this document may be used for the effectiveness of work through 10/22/2015

AP1000™ AP1000 Nonconformance & Disposition Report

(b)(4)

After verification of revision in Shaw Does, this document may be used for the performance of work through 10/22/2015

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AP1000 Nonconformance & Disposition Report

(b)(4)

After verification of revision in Shaw Does, this document may be used for the performance of work through 10/22/2015

AP1000™ AP1000 Nonconformance & Disposition Report

(b)(4)

After verification of revision in Shaw Does, this document may be used for the performance of work through 10/22/2015

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

(b)(4), (b)(7)(C)

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of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

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(b)(4),(b)(7)(C)

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of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Received 03/01/2015

Entered 03/04/2015

Closed 04/21/2015

CLOSED CASE CHRONOLOGY

Total Days Open 51

RII-2015-A-0046

CONCERN NO.	ACTION NO.	PERSON ASSIGNED	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE DUE	DATE COMPLETE	DAYS TO COMPLETE
1	9	CHECKLE	04/21/2015	05/21/2015	03/30/2016	344
		Final QA Review See checklist in file.				
	8	ERNSTES	04/07/2015	04/21/2015	04/21/2015	14
		Closure Letter CLOSE WITH CI IN A STATUS LETTER BASED ON INSPECTION RESULTS (REFERENCE INSPECTION REPORT). GIVE CI 10 DAYS TO PROVIDE ADD'L INFORMATION PROMISED, OTHERWISE CLOSE.				
	7	MENDEZ-GONZAL	04/01/2015	04/07/2015	04/07/2015	6
		Followup ARB Meeting CI provided additional information on 3/30/15 phone calls				
	6	MENDEZ-GONZAL	03/30/2015	03/30/2015	03/30/2015	0
		Phone Call w/Alleger CI called to ask about the status and requested to talk with the inspector. They met on site. The information was provided to the inspector and he will be calling the CI. CI provided additional information - ReARB Cn1, 2 and 4				
	5	ERNSTES	03/19/2015	03/26/2015	03/30/2015	11
		Other DCP/CPB4 PROVIDE INPUT TO ACK LETTER				
	4	CHECKLE	03/10/2015	03/17/2015	03/19/2015	9
		Followup ARB Meeting To discuss inspection results.				
	3	ERNSTES	03/03/2015	03/17/2015	03/09/2015	6
		Inspection See email in file.				
	2	MENDEZ-GONZAL	03/01/2015	03/31/2015	03/31/2015	30
		Acknowledgement Letter				
	1	MENDEZ-GONZAL	03/01/2015	03/31/2015	03/03/2015	2
		Initial ARB Meeting				

Received 03/01/2015

Entered 03/04/2015

Closed 04/21/2015

CLOSED CASE CHRONOLOGY

Total Days Open 51

RII-2015-A-0046

CONCERN NO.	ACTION NO.	PERSON ASSIGNED	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE DUE	DATE COMPLETE	DAYS TO COMPLETE
2	3	ERNSTES	04/07/2015	04/21/2015	04/21/2015	14
Status Letter CLOSE WITH CI IN A STATUS LETTER BASED ON INSPECTION RESULTS (REFERENCE INSPECTION REPORT). GIVE CI 10 DAYS TO PROVIDE ADD'L INFORMATION PROMISED, OTHERWISE CLOSE.						
	2	MENDEZ-GONZAL	03/31/2015		04/07/2015	7
Followup ARB Meeting CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER. DCP/CPB4 PROVIDE INPUT. CI provided additional information on 3/30/15 phone calls						
	1	ERNSTES	03/03/2015	03/17/2015	03/19/2015	16
Followup ARB Meeting REARB AFTER INSPECTION OF CN1 FOR OI CONSIDERATION IF ISSUE IS NOT IN THE CAP. OTHERWISE CLOSE.						
3	3	ERNSTES	03/31/2015	04/21/2015	04/21/2015	21
Status Letter CLOSE WITH CI IN STATUS LETTER ? ISSUE IS CAPTURED IN THE LICENSEE'S CAP.						
	2	ERNSTES	03/19/2015	04/02/2015	03/31/2015	12
Followup ARB Meeting LICENSEE IS AWARE OF OSHA ISSUE BUT IT IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME IF THE LICENSEE PLANS ON TAKING ANY ACTIONS. OBTAIN ADD'L SPECIFICS REGARDING LICENSEE'S PLANS AND RE-ARB.						
	1	ERNSTES	03/03/2015	03/17/2015	03/19/2015	16
Followup ARB Meeting NON-ALLEGATION ? INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONCERN. VERIFY IF ISSUE IS IN THE CAP AND HAS BEEN CAPTURED CORRECTLY. IF YES, CLOSE. IF NOT, RE-ARB TO DISCUSS OSHA REFERRAL.						
4	5	ERNSTES	04/07/2015	04/21/2015	04/21/2015	14
Status Letter CLOSE WITH CI IN A STATUS LETTER ? MENTION THAT CONCERN WAS PROVIDE TO THE LICENSEE FOR INFO ONLY.						
	4	ERNSTES	03/10/2015	03/17/2015	03/12/2015	2
RFI To Licensee PROVIDE TO LICENSEE FOR INFORMATION ONLY.						

Received 03/01/2015

Entered 03/04/2015

Closed 04/21/2015

CLOSED CASE CHRONOLOGY

Total Days Open 51

RII-2015-A-0046

CONCERN NO.	ACTION NO.	PERSON ASSIGNED	DATE ASSIGNED	DATE DUE	DATE COMPLETE	DAYS TO COMPLETE
4	3	MENDEZ-GONZAL	03/10/2015	03/31/2015	04/07/2015	28
Followup ARB Meeting						
CLOSE IN ACK LETTER ? CI DID NOT CLAIM OTHERS ARE CHILLED AND HE HAS NOT BEEN RETALIATED AGAINST.						
CI provided additional information on 3/30/15 phone calls						
	2	CHECKLE	03/05/2015	03/10/2015	03/10/2015	5
Followup ARB Meeting						
To discuss call on 3/5/15.						
	1	MENDEZ-GONZAL	03/03/2015	03/31/2015	03/05/2015	2
Phone Call w/Alleger						
CONTACT CI FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SPECIFICS ON ANY ADVERSE ACTION OR CHILLING EFFECT). IF NO SPECIFICS PROVIDED, CLOSE. OTHERWISE, RE-ARB. CI PROVIDED MORE INFO - RE-ARB 3/10/15						

The CI is uncomfortable overall. The CI is worried he will be fired because he has raised these safety concerns. The CI felt uncomfortable coming to the NRC office or discussing these concerns onsite. This is why the CI called in the concerns.

Did the allegor raise the concern to management? Yes

If so, what actions have been taken, and when? If no, why not?:

Comments: This issue has been reported to the CI's management specifically (b)(7)(C) (over welding in the MAB). It has also been (b)(7)(C)

Concern #: 3

Concern Description:

Personnel Safety/OSHA concern: The automated welding machine in the MAB, the RMTS, is broken and operates unsafely.

Concern Background Information:

The primary equipment used for all automated seam welding in the MAB, the RMTS (Remote Modular Tool System) Unit, has a "glitch" issue. When it is operating normally, it operates safely. However, when a "glitch" occurs, the machine operates erratically and uncontrollably. It "spits welds" all over the modules. This is a safety concern.

Thursday of last week (2/26/15), there was a safety stand-down for the MAB welders associated with an incident with this machine. Specifically, the machine began operating out of control. It nearly injured a worker. It damaged scaffolding. CB&I filed an Incident Report.

However, the CI feels that this "glitch" is not being fixed by CB&I. The issue has been going on for months. The CI feels that this issue is being covered up by CB&I.

Did the allegor raise the concern to management? Yes

If so, what actions have been taken, and when? If no, why not?:

Comments: This issue has been reported to the CI's management specifically (b)(7)(C) (over welding in the MAB). It has also been (b)(7)(C)

Concern #: 4

Concern Description:

The CI feels intimidated. The CI feels that CB&I MAB welding management lacks integrity.

Concern Background Information:

The CI received "minor threats" from (b)(7)(C) related to (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

Did the allegor raise the concern to management? Unknown

If so, what actions have been taken, and when? If no, why not?:

Comments:

Allegor's Information

Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C)

Allegor's Name: (b)(7)(C)

Allegor's Employer: (b)(7)(C) **Allegor's Position/Title:** (b)(7)(C)

Allegor's Home Address: (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

Home Phone Number: (b)(7)(C) **Work Phone Number:**

Cell Phone Number: (b)(7)(C)

Email Address: (b)(7)(C)

Preferences for method and time of contact:

Method: ☐ Letter

Time: ☐ AM

☒ Email

☐ PM

☒ Telephone - Which number? Cell

Identity Protection Policy/Confidentiality**Was the alleged Informed of ID Protection Policy?:** Yes

Comments: He is not worried about his identity being protected because everyone in his group and management chain already know that he is the one raising these safety concerns.

Was Confidentiality Requested?: No

Comments:

RFI Considerations**Allegor Objects to RFI?:** No

Comments:

Is the alleged concerned about being identified to the licensee?: No

If so, why?

Does the alleged object to having his/her identity released?: No

If so, why?

Discrimination/ Harassment & Intimidation (H&I) – to be discussed only if the alleged brings it up**Is the alleged asserting discrimination (i.e. alleged retaliation for raising a safety concern)?** No**Was alleged informed of DOL rights?:** No**No further contact requests – to be discussed only if the alleged brings it up****Did the alleged request no further contact with the NRC?:** No (If no, skip this section)

Were the benefits of continued process involvement discussed?: Select

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, April 7, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046	
ARB Type: Follow Up ARB Date: 4/7/2015 ARB Purpose: Re-ARB for CNs 1-3	Facility: Vogtle 3 & 4 Responsible Branch: DCP/CPB4
Received Date: 3/1/2015 30-Days = 3/31/2015 150-Days = 7/29/2015 180-Days = 08/28/2015	Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C) Total # Concerns: 4

Concern #: 1
Concern Type: Allegation
Discipline: Select Maintenance (Select Only One)
Concern Description: THERE IS A "GLITCH" WITH THE AUTOMATED WELDING EQUIPMENT USED IN THE MAB THAT MAY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF THE WELDS FOR SAFETY-RELATED MODULES AND IS CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE MODULES.

Follow-Up ARB Input:

4/7/15 UPDATE

CI contacted EICS (S. Mendez) on 3/30/15 stating the CI wanted to talk to inspector that reviewed his concerns. CI stated he had additional information that was unable to provide the inspector on site. The inspector (A. Artayot) called the CI who shared more details about a copper nozzle of the weld head making contact with the molten puddle (but that was hearsay because the CI did not see this with his own eyes). The CI continued by sharing that it was believed to be the field weld joining panels (b)(7)(C) in the reactor cavity area on the west weld which is the duplex stainless steel side (WP (b)(7)) and (b)(7)(C) sketch at a height of 4 scaffold bucks (24-28 feet at 6-7' per buck) from the floor. The CI also informed me that they've had issues with the automatic welding machines approximately 15 times in the past several months. CI asked for the inspector work address (which he provided) so that he could send us documents supporting the aforementioned. (We have not received documents through the mail). CI sent more emails in addition to the phone conversations. Re-ARB before closure.

3/17/15 ARB ASSIGNED ACTIONS: CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER. DCP/CPB4 PROVIDE INPUT.

3/17/15 ARB UPDATE:

CIB3 inspected this allegation as part of the VOG MAB inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power union craft foreman, XXXX. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting :

The inspectors asked many questions of XXXX, including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. XXXX openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, XXXX added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals XXXX and XXXX (who both oversee the MAB) about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines.

Although the equipment has a "glitch", the welds are not damaged. Therefore, the concern was not substantiated. Since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. Recommend closure.

INDEX OF CONCERNS

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

RII-2015-A-0046

CONCERN: 1 **Maintenance** **Power Reactor** (b)(7)(C) **NRO**
THERE IS A ?GLITCH? WITH THE AUTOMATED WELDING EQUIPMENT USED IN THE MAB THAT MAY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF THE WELDS FOR SAFETY-RELATED MODULES AND IS CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE MODULES.

SUBSTANTIATED: N **ENF:** No **EA NO:** **DT CLSD:** 04/21/2015

Response to Concern 1:

The NRC performed an independent inspection for this concern as part of the Vogtle site inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the Module Assembly Building (MAB) CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The weld machine issues were openly discussed with the NRC inspectors by both Chicago Bridge and Iron (CB&I) and Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) individuals that have oversight responsibility. Although the automated seam welding machine exhibited erratic behavior, the welding was monitored and the final condition of the weld met the American Welding Society (AWS) Code requirements.

Based on the NRC's inspection of the automated welding equipment and interviews with individuals responsible for this equipment, this concern could not be substantiated in that the automated welding equipment was not negatively impacting welds or damaging the modules due to the described ?glitch? in the equipment.

CONCERN: 2 **Wrongdoing** **Power Reactor** (b)(7)(C) **NRO**
CB&I IS COVERING UP ISSUES IN THE MAB ASSOCIATED WITH WELDING ACTIVITIES AND (b)(7)(C) IS ATTEMPTING TO COVER UP CONCERNS.

SUBSTANTIATED: N **ENF:** No **EA NO:** **DT CLSD:** 04/21/2015

Response to Concern 2:

As discussed under Concern 1, since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met the AWS Code, the issue was not required to be entered into the Corrective Action Program (CAP). Based on the description above, this concern could not be substantiated in that there was no cover up of welding issues determined to exist in the MAB.

CONCERN: 3 **Industrial Safety** **Power Reactor** (b)(7)(C) **OSHA**
THE AUTOMATED WELDING MACHINE IN THE MAB, THE RMTS, IS BROKEN AND OPERATES UNSAFELY.

SUBSTANTIATED: N/A **ENF:** No **EA NO:** **DT CLSD:** 04/21/2015

Response to Concern 3:

Please be advised that we determined that this issue involving automated welding equipment operating unsafely, which relates to industrial safety, does not fall under NRC jurisdiction.

The agency having jurisdiction is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Although this industrial safety concern is not within the purview of the NRC, we have provided it to the licensee, SNC, with your identity and position withheld. For their information and any other actions they deem appropriate. On the basis of the foregoing, further NRC intervention on this issue is not warranted at this time. However, please note that CB&I documented this personnel safety concern in a Preliminary Incident Report and in the Daily Report. SNC provided a copy of these documents to the NRC for review.

INDEX OF CONCERNS

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

RII-2015-A-0046

CONCERN: 4 **Chilling Effect** **Power Reactor** (b)(7)(C) **NRO**
THE CI FEELS INTIMIDATED. THE CI FEELS THAT CB&I MAN (b)(7)(C) MANAGEMENT LACKS INTEGRITY.
SUBSTANTIATED: N **ENF:** No **EA NO:** **DT CLSD:** 04/21/2015
Response to Concern 4:

With regard to your concern pertaining to pushback from the CB&I's (b)(7)(C) and the chilling effect this had on you, please be advised that we have determined that this is not an issue we can pursue on the basis of the information provided. Based on the information you provided, we could not conclude that a widespread chilled work environment currently exists in the (b)(7)(C) group. During our phone call on March 5, 2015, you indicated that you could not state whether other people are chilled or would not raise nuclear safety concerns. In addition, you indicated that although you were hesitant to raise certain issues due to the pushback, you would still raise major issues, such as those which represented violations.

While we understand that you felt chilled by the pushback when raising issues to your management, the issue, as described by you, does not warrant further NRC intervention at this time. Given the potential willingness and ability of individuals to raise safety concerns, as described by you, we have no basis for intervention at this time. However, we have provided the name of the (b)(7)(C) in question to the licensee, SNC, with your identity and position withheld, for their information and any other actions they deem appropriate.

Please note that the NRC reviews the area of Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) routinely during our baseline inspection program using the following inspection procedures: IP 35007, Quality Assurance Program Implementation during Construction and Pre-Construction Activities for Unit 3 & 4. The inspection procedures can be located at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/insp-manual/inspection-procedure/>.

REGION II ALLEGATION RECEIPT FORM

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046	
Received By: Sarah Temple & HOO	Date Received: 3/1/2015
Allegation Received Via: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone <input type="checkbox"/> In person <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Letter <input type="checkbox"/> DOL Complaint <input type="checkbox"/> OI Transcript #	Facility: Vogtle 3 & 4 Docket No: 05200025/05200026
Prepared By: Sarah Temple	Date Prepared: 3/2/2015

Is there a potential overriding safety issue that requires an Emergency ARB? Y ☐ N ☒

Concern #: 1

Concern Description:

There is a "glitch" with the automated welding equipment used in the MAB that may affect the quality of the welds for safety-related modules and is causing damage to the modules.

Concern Background Information:

The CI works with the automated welding activities in the Modular Assembly Building (MAB). The primary equipment used for all automated seam welding, the RMTS (Remote Modular Tool System) Unit, has a "glitch" issue. When it is operating normally, the CI is not concerned with the quality of work it performs. However, when a "glitch" occurs, the machine operates erratically and uncontrollably. It "spits welds" all over the modules causing damage to them. This damage is always repaired. However, the CI feels that this "glitch" needs to be fixed. CB&I is aware of the glitch; the manufacturer has been contacted by CB&I, but they cannot fix the glitch. The CI also feels that this glitch (which has been going for several months) needs to be fixed before it becomes a bigger issue.

The CI does not know the full extent of the "glitch", but the CI does know that it affects the integrity of the welds (the CI does not know by how much).

The extent of damage caused by the "glitch" affects sub-modules from CA [redacted] and CA [redacted] along with all other automated seam welding in the MAB. It affects both carbon steel and duplex steel. CB&I has known about this issue for months, but they are not fixing it. (b)(7)(E)

EICS NOTE: The CI called the HOO on 3/1/15.

Did the allegor raise the concern to management? Yes

If so, what actions have been taken, and when? If no, why not?

Comments: This issue has been reported to the CI's management, specifically (b)(7)(C) (over welding in the MAB). It has also been (b)(7)(C)

Concern #: 2

Concern Description:

CB&I is covering up issues in the MAB associated with welding activities and (b)(7)(C) is attempting to cover up concerns.

Concern Background Information:

This concern is associated with the technical issues identified in Concern 1.

The CI is concerned that CB&I is covering up welding issues in the MAB, specifically issues associated with automated welding; CB&I may be covering up this "glitch" and the damage it has caused (and is causing).

The CI is "scared" the CB&I is covering up more welding issues. The CI stated that management knows about welding issues, and they are not addressing them.

The CI has sent e-mails to CB&I management (b)(7)(C) related to welding issues in the MAB. The CI received "minor threats" from (b)(7)(C) related to (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

FINAL QA REVIEW

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046
Completion Date: 3/30/2016
By: DAVE GAMBERONI

1. TIMELINESS

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Timeliness requirements for case closure were met (150, 180, 360). (51)

Acknowledgement letter issued within 30 days. (30)

Allegations were reviewed by an ARB within 30 days after the allegation was received by the NRC. (2)

Status letters were issued in writing every 6 months for cases open greater than 180 days.

Follow-up ARBs conducted at 6-month, 10-month, 14-month, etc., intervals.

2. RECEIVING ALLEGATIONS

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The Allegation Report was complete and clearly explained the allegation and the circumstances surrounding it (all items in standard report addressed).

3. ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The ARB consisted of the responsible Division Director (Chairman), OAC, OI and the Regional Counsel (RC) for matters of suspected wrongdoing. If RC was not present for wrongdoing case, RC was briefed and concurred with the decision.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Initial and follow-up (as appropriate) ARB meeting minutes were included in the allegation case file for each individual concern.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

ARB minutes were complete and clearly captured required actions and assessments.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Final ARB minutes appropriately revised/separated specific concerns contained in the allegation.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

If RFI was done, verify RFI considerations table was filled out. If not, a narrative documenting the considerations that went into the ARB's decision should be included in the file.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

OI Priority established by the ARB was IAW MD 8.8. Deviations from OI priorities in MD 8.8 are approved by the RA or OI, Director.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Basis for OI priority is documented in ARB minutes.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Basis for safety significance is indicated.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Allegation category (i.e. allegation, non-allegation, OSHA, etc.) is accurate.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Additional information/concerns were brought to the ARB.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Response after closures and/or inadequate RFIs were ARBed as appropriate.

4. ACKNOWLEDGING ALLEGATIONS

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Clearly and appropriately document concerns identified by ARB.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A
☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A
☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A
☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Advised of DOL rights.

Advised of Identity Protection Policy.

Sent certified mail.

If closing a concern in the letter, ensure the responsible branch chief concurred on the letter.

If security concern included, ensure acknowledgment letter includes paragraph.

Supplemental acknowledgement letters were issued as appropriate for added concerns.

5. STATUS LETTERS

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A
☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Status letters indicate what continues under review.

Status letters are clear, concise, and free of errors.

6. ALLEGATION RESOLUTION DOCUMENTATION

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

A copy of the pertinent inspection documentation, AER, memo to file, and/or closure letter is included in the file.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Closure documentation to the allegor clearly & concisely documents each concern, what was done, and whether substantiated, & free of errors.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The specific examples provided by the allegor are addressed in the closure of the concern.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

EICS concurred on the closure documentation.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The allegation number is typed on the front page of the letter and on the upper right corner of each subsequent page. Correspondence is sent certified mail.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Non-allegations are clearly explained as to why we are not following-up. (USHA)

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The allegation closure letter or AER did not contain pre-decisional information or commit agency resources.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

If a violation, NCV or an IFI was identified, a signed out IR was attached.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

If an OI investigation was performed, the OI synopsis is released to the allegor and the licensee.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Closure documentation doesn't duplicate IR discussion.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

If closure letter identifies a violation/finding, verify there's evidence that the licensee was informed.

7. LICENSEE REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The allegor agrees to the RFI prior to any action, unless the concern is already a public matter (e.g. DOL complaint).

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

If CI objects to referral, but NRC decides to refer, verify CI was informed.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

RFI was signed by the responsible branch and concurred on by EICS.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

RFI was issued consistent with ARB direction.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

RFI does not compromise allegor's identity, unless the allegor first agreed to the identity release.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

No names were included in the enclosure to the RFI.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The cover letter and enclosures are marked "Contains Information Not For Public Disclosure".

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

RFIs are sent to single licensee point of contact and not the volume distribution of PDR.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A
☐ Y ☒ N ☐ N/A

Licensee RFI callback is documented in the file.

Licensee response review checklist is included in the file.

8. REFERRALS TO OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Allegers are notified and agree to an allegation referral to another government agency.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

OSHA allegations were handled in accordance with Manual Chapter 1007. The ARB considered referring occupational health and safety issues to the licensee.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Referral letters signed by the responsible branch and concurred on by EICS.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

A POC for the referral agency was provided to the allexer.

9. DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

DOL DD, ALJ and ARB decisions are included in the allegation file as appropriate.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

OI provided transcripts of interview with the allexer to EICS for review and coordination with the technical staff.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

If multiple discriminatory actions are being handled under one OI case or ADR effort, then there should only be one concern entered.

10. OI

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

OI Reports, and staff reviews are included in the file as applicable.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

If substantiated, verify enforcement actions taken as appropriate.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

If unsubstantiated, verify synopses are transmitted to licensee and CI (if one).

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

If unsubstantiated, verify 3 week memo is in file.

☐ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

If an OI assist, and the concern was not substantiated, verify memo to file was provided.

11. ALLEGATION FILE

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The allegation case file is complete with all supporting documentation, chronology, index of concerns, Allegation Identification Sheet, etc.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

The Chronology appropriately reflects action in the case.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

All conversations with the allexer are documented in the file via memo or AMS notes.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

Certified mail receipts are included in case file.

12. AMS

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

AMS is accurate and correctly indicates concerns, follow-up and disposition.

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

AMS contains no names and minimizes fingerprinting information.

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

Discrimination concerns are appropriately checked for 211 (including 3rd party assertions of discrimination, as long as they related to an apparent

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

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☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☒ Y ☐ N ☐ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

☐ Y ☐ N ☒ N/A

protected activity). Discrimination concerns that are ultimately determined to be non-prima facie, are still 211 concerns in AMS.

If 211 was marked at the concern level, then the 211 field at the allegation tab should be marked.

In general, try not to use the 'discrimination' discipline for a discrimination concern. You should use the discipline section to indicate the department where the alleged discriminatory action took place.

Any concern documented in AMS that gives indication that it was transferred to OIG should be categorized as "non-allegation" and not much detail should be included in AMS (e.g. NRC performance concern).

Verify actions recommended by ARB were tracked and completed.

Verify AMS entries are correct & bases for closure is included, make sense, and address concern.

AMS actions should have assigned and completed date.

Only one acknowledgement letter and closure letter action in AMS.

Verify each concern has a closed date.

Non-allegations that do not meet the definition of an allegation should include some additional discussion as to what part of the allegation definition has not been met by the concern.

Verify the substantiated field is entered (i.e. 'Y, N, N/A')

Verify 'Inadequate RFI' action is entered in AMS, if appropriate.

Concerns that refer to "an alleged/someone the alleged knows/group/department being afraid/hesitant/didn't raise a safety concerns because management discourages it/there is a history of retaliation for doing it/afraid will be retaliated against" should be categorized as chilling effect

Concerns that refer to a management production over safety attitude/approach/policy, non conservative decision making, cutting corners to make things look better, "living with" ineffective processes or chronic technical problems, etc. should be categorized as safety culture

OSHA issues should be categorized as industrial safety

In general, try not to use the 'other' discipline

NRC staff identified suspected wrongdoing concerns for which an OI case was not opened should be categorized as non allegation.

All licensee identified potential wrongdoing concerns are to remain categorized as allegation, regardless of whether OI opened a case.

Reactor Department – should be entered for power reactor allegations, example: if nuclear equipment Operator is raising an HP concern, the discipline is HP and the Reactor Department code is Operations.

Technical concerns derived from NRC staff review of an OI transcript are generally not considered to be NRC staff identified. The interviewee should be considered the source.

If all concerns within an allegation are characterized as non-allegations or OSHA, then the allegation should be categorized as non-allegation or OSHA at the Allegation tab.

If wrongdoing was alleged, verify the violation date was tracked in AMS.

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, April 7, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

3/3/15 ARB Assigned Action: INSPECTION

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: Prior to installation in the plant, the welds and structural modules, must be in compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:**
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allegor for details, etc.)
- ☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
- ☒ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
- ☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☐

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

**CLOSE WITH CI IN A STATUS LETTER BASED ON INSPECTION RESULTS (REFERENCE INSPECTION REPORT).
GIVE CI 10 DAYS TO PROVIDE ADD'L INFORMATION PROMISED, OTHERWISE CLOSE.**

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

Concern #: 2 Concern Type: Allegation Discipline: Select Wrongdoing (Select Only One) Concern Description: CB&I IS COVERING UP ISSUES IN THE MAB ASSOCIATED WITH WELDING ACTIVITIES AND (b)(7)(C) IS ATTEMPTING TO COVER UP CONCERNS.
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Follow-Up ARB Input:

4/7/15 UPDATE

CI contacted EICS (S. Mendez) on 3/30/15 stating the CI wanted to talk to inspector that reviewed his concerns. CI stated he had additional information that was unable to provide the inspector on site. The inspector (A. Arayet) called the CI who shared more details about a copper nozzle of the weld head making contact with the molten puddle (but that was hearsay because the CI did not see this with his own eyes). The CI continued by sharing that it was believed to be the field weld joining panels (b)(7)(C) in the reactor cavity area on the west weld which is the duplex stainless steel side (WP (b)(7)(C) and sketch (b)(7)(C) at a height of 4 scaffold bucks (24-28 feet at 6-7' per buck) from the floor. The CI also informed me that they've had issues with the automatic welding machines approximately 15 times in the past several months. CI asked for the inspector work address (which he provided) so that he could send us documents supporting the aforementioned. (We have not received documents through the mail). CI sent more emails in addition to the phone conversations. Re-ARB before closure.

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, April 7, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

3/17/15 ARB ASSIGNED ACTIONS: CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER. DCP/CPB4 PROVIDE INPUT.

3/17/15 ARB UPDATE:

CIB3 inspected this allegation as part of the VOG MAB inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power union craft foreman, XXXX. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The inspectors asked many questions of XXXX, including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. XXXX openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, XXXX added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals XXXX and XXXX (who both oversee the MAB) about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines.

Concern 1 was not substantiated and since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. No wrongdoing identified. Recommend closure.

3/3/15 ARB Assigned Action: REARB AFTER INSPECTION OF CN1 FOR OI CONSIDERATION IF ISSUE IS NOT IN THE CAP. OTHERWISE CLOSE.

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: Prior to installation in the plant, the welds and structural modules, must be in compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** see Other below (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allegor for details, etc.)
- ☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
- ☒ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
- ☐ **Other:**
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

**CLOSE WITH CI IN A STATUS LETTER BASED ON INSPECTION RESULTS (REFERENCE INSPECTION REPORT).
GIVE CI 10 DAYS TO PROVIDE ADD'L INFORMATION PROMISED, OTHERWISE CLOSE.**

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, April 7, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allegor for details, etc.)
☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
☒ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

CLOSE WITH CI IN A STATUS LETTER – MENTION THAT CONCERN WAS PROVIDE TO THE LICENSEE FOR INFO ONLY.

NOTE- CI CLAIMED THAT ONE OTHER PERSON WAS CHILLED BUT INDICATED THAT HE WOULD PROVIDE THEIR NAME. TO DATE, NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED. CI HAS NOT SUFFERED ANY ADVERSE ACTION TO DATE. ACKNOWLEDGE THAT CI FEELS CHILLED, BUT EXPLAIN THAT WE CANNOT PROCEED WITHOUT MORE INFORMATION. PROVIDE EEOC CONTACT INFORMATION TO ADDRESS (b)(7)(C) COMMENTS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY (b)(7)(C)

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

ARB Attendees

Chairs: **B. JONES**

EICS: **S. MENDEZ**, M. CHECKLE, L. GIBSON

OI: (b)(7)(C)

OGC/Counsel: **S. PRICE**

Branch Chiefs:

Other Attendees: **E. MICHEL, G. KHOURI, J. KENT, A. ARTAYET, D. PICCIRILLO, D. WILLIS (PHONE)**

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 31, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046	
ARB Type: Follow Up ARB Date: 3/31/2015 ARB Purpose: Re-ARB for CN 3	Facility: Vogtle 3 & 4 Responsible Branch: DCP/CPB4
Received Date: 3/1/2015 30-Days = 3/31/2015 150-Days = 7/29/2015 180-Days = 08/28/2015	Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C) Total # Concerns: 4

Concern #: 3
Concern Type: OSHA
Discipline: Industrial Safety **Select (Select Only One)**

Concern Description:

THE AUTOMATED WELDING MACHINE IN THE MAB, THE RMTS, IS BROKEN AND OPERATES UNSAFELY.

Follow-Up ARB Input:
3/31/15 ARB UPDATE

The licensee provided the documents (attached) that detail the corrective actions for the concern. The inspectors reviewed the corrective actions and determined they were appropriate for this concern. Close with CI.

3/17/15 ARB assigned actions - licensee is aware of OSHA issue but it is unknown at this time if the licensee plans on taking any actions. Obtain add'l specifics regarding licensee's plans and re-ARB.

3/17/15 ARB update:

CIB3 inspected this allegation as part of the VOG MAB inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power union craft foreman, XXXX. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint. The inspectors asked many questions of XXXX, including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. XXXX openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, XXXX added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals XXXX and XXXX (who both oversee the MAB) about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines. **Concern 1 was not substantiated and since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. In that the issue is not in the CAP, recommend OSHA referral.**

3/31/15 ARB Assigned Action: NON-ALLEGATION – INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONCERN. VERIFY IF ISSUE IS IN THE CAP AND HAS BEEN CAPTURED CORRECTLY. IF YES, CLOSE. IF NOT, RE-ARB TO DISCUSS OSHA REFERRAL.

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: N/A (For Non-Allegations)

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true:

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 31, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
☐ **Referral to Select :**
☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)
☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact alieger for details, etc.)
☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
☒ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

CLOSE WITH CI IN STATUS LETTER – ISSUE IS CAPTURED IN THE LICENSEE'S CAP.

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 30 DAYS

ARB Attendees

Chairs: **B. JONES**

EICS: **S. MENDEZ**, M. CHECKLE, L. GIBSON

O (b)(7)(C)

OGC/Counsel: **S. PRICE**

Branch Chiefs:

Other Attendees: J. KENT, D. PICCARILLO, J. PELCHAT, D. WILLIS (PHONE)

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 19, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046	
ARB Type: Follow Up ARB Date: 3/17/2015 ARB Purpose: Re-ARB for CNs 1-3 Received Date: 3/1/2015 30-Days = 3/31/2015 150-Days = 7/29/2015 180-Days = 08/28/2015	Facility: Vogtle 3 & 4 Responsible Branch: DCP/CPB4 Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C) Total # Concerns: 4

Concern #: 1	
Concern Type: Allegation	
Discipline: Select Maintenance (Select Only One)	

Concern Description:

THERE IS A "GLITCH" WITH THE AUTOMATED WELDING EQUIPMENT USED IN THE MAB THAT MAY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF THE WELDS FOR SAFETY-RELATED MODULES AND IS CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE MODULES.

Follow-Up ARB Input:

3/17/15 ARB UPDATE:

CIB3 inspected this allegation as part of the VOG MAB inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power union craft foreman, XXXX. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The inspectors asked many questions of XXXX, including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. XXXX openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, XXXX added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals XXXX and XXXX (who both oversee the MAB) about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines.

Although the equipment has a "glitch", the welds are not damaged. Therefore, the concern was not substantiated. Since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. Recommend closure.

3/3/15 ARB Assigned Action: INSPECTION

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: Prior to installation in the plant, the welds and structural modules, must be in compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI.
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:**

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 19, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact alleged for details, etc.)
☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
☒ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☐

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER. DCP/CPB4 PROVIDE INPUT.

Assigned Branch/Individual: EICS

Estimated Completion Time: 3/31/15

Concern #: 2

Concern Type: Allegation

Discipline: Select Wrongdoing (Select Only One)

Concern Description:

CB&I IS COVERING UP ISSUES IN THE MAB ASSOCIATED WITH WELDING ACTIVITIES AND IS ATTEMPTING TO COVER UP CONCERNS. (b)(7)(C)

Follow-Up ARB Input:

3/17/15 ARB UPDATE:

CIB3 inspected this allegation as part of the VOG MAB inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power union craft foreman, XXXX. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The inspectors asked many questions of XXXX, including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. XXXX openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, XXXX added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals XXXX and XXXX (who both oversee the MAB) about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines.

Concern 1 was not substantiated and since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. No wrongdoing identified. Recommend closure.

3/3/15 ARB Assigned Action: REARB AFTER INSPECTION OF CN1 FOR OI CONSIDERATION IF ISSUE IS NOT IN THE CAP. OTHERWISE CLOSE.

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: Prior to installation in the plant, the welds and structural modules, must be in compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 19, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
☐ **Referral to Select:**
☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)
☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** see Other below (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allegor for details, etc.)
☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
☒ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
☐ **Other:**
☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified
Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒
Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒
Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

CLOSE IN THE ACK LETTER. DCP/CPB4 PROVIDE INPUT.

Assigned Branch/Individual: EICS
Estimated Completion Time: 3/31/15

Concern #: 3

Concern Type: OSHA

Discipline: Industrial Safety Select (Select Only One)

Concern Description:

THE AUTOMATED WELDING MACHINE IN THE MAB, THE RMTS, IS BROKEN AND OPERATES UNSAFELY.

Follow-Up ARB Input:

3/17/15 ARB UPDATE:

CIB3 inspected this allegation as part of the VOG MAB inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power union craft foreman, XXXX. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The inspectors asked many questions of XXXX, including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. XXXX openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, XXXX added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals XXXX and XXXX (who both oversee the MAB) about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines.

Concern 1 was not substantiated and since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. In that the issue is not in the CAP, recommend OSHA referral.

3/3/15 ARB Assigned Action: NON-ALLEGATION – INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONCERN. VERIFY IF ISSUE IS IN THE CAP AND HAS BEEN CAPTURED CORRECTLY. IF YES, CLOSE. IF NOT, RE-ARB TO DISCUSS OSHA REFERRAL.

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: N/A (For Non-Allegations)

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true:

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allegor for details, etc.)
- ☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
- ☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
- ☒ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

LICENSEE IS AWARE OF OSHA ISSUE BUT IT IS UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME IF THE LICENSEE PLANS ON TAKING ANY ACTIONS. OBTAIN ADD'L SPECIFICS REGARDING LICENSEE'S PLANS AND RE-ARB.

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

ARB Attendees

Chairs: J. YEROKUN, M. FRANKE

EICS: M. CHECKLE, S. MENDEZ, L. GIBSON

OI: (b)(7)(C)

OGC/Counsel: S. PRICE

Branch Chiefs:

Other Attendees: D. MAS, J. AUSTIN, M. RICHES, S. SANDAL, R. PATTERSON, I. HALL, G. CRESPO, J. KENT, G. KHOURI, D. JACKSON, J. PELCHAT, J. TORNOW, D. PICCORILLO, S. ROBERTS, A. BUFORD

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 10, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046	
ARB Type: Initial ARB Date: 3/3/2015 ARB Purpose: Discuss concerns and determine course of action	Facility: Vogtle 3 & 4 Responsible Branch: DCP/CPB4
Received Date: 3/1/2015 30-Days = 3/31/2015 150-Days = 7/29/2015 180-Days = 08/28/2015	Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C) Total # Concerns: 4

Concern #: 4 Concern Type: Allegation Discipline: Chilling Effect Select (Select Only One)
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Concern Description:
 xxxxx CB&I'S SITE (b)(7)(C) HAS CREATED A CHILLED WORK ENVIRONMENT.

Follow-Up ARB Input:

3/10/15

EICS (S. Mendez) and CPB4 (G. Khouri) called the CI on the 3/5/15. The CI stated that he feels intimidated and that his (b)(7)(C) CB&I MAB (b)(7)(C) lacks integrity. The CI believes that (b)(7)(C) (xxxx CB&I's (b)(7)(C) has created a chilled work environment. The CI received "minor threats" from (b)(7)(C) and was (b)(7)(C). The minor threats were (b)(7)(C).

(b)(7)(C). The CI indicated that (b)(7)(C) and that he reports to the (b)(7)(C). He did indicate that he's afraid of raising any other concerns to the (b)(7)(C) after this incident. He is also reluctant to raise concerns to anyone above the (b)(7)(C) as he does not think they'll take any action.

3/3/15 - ARB Assigned Actions: CONTACT CI FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SPECIFICS ON ANY ADVERSE ACTION OR CHILLING EFFECT). IF NO SPECIFICS PROVIDED, CLOSE. OTHERWISE, RE-ARB.

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: It could prevent individuals from raising nuclear safety concerns

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
- ☒ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact allegor for details, etc.)
- ☒ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:** CI did not claim others are chilled and has not been retaliated against for raising nuclear safety concerns.
- ☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File: R**
- ☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 10, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

**PROVIDE TO LICENSEE FOR INFORMATION ONLY. CLOSE IN ACK LETTER – CI DID NOT CLAIM OTHERS
ARE CHILLED AND HE HAS NOT BEEN RETALIATED AGAINST.**

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB3

Estimated Completion Time: 7 DAYS

ARB Attendees

Chairs: B. JONES

EICS: M. CHECKLE, D. GAMBERONI, L. GIBSON

Of (b)(7)(C)

OGC/Counsel: S. PRICE

Branch Chiefs: M. ERNSTES

Other Attendees: J. KENT, A. WILSON

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 3, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Allegation Number: RII-2015-A-0046	
ARB Type: Initial ARB Date: 3/3/2015 ARB Purpose: Discuss concerns and determine course of action	Facility: Vogtle 3 & 4 Responsible Branch: DCP/CPB4
Received Date: 3/1/2015 30-Days = 3/31/2015 150-Days = 7/29/2015 180-Days = 08/28/2015	Allegation Source: (b)(7)(C) Total # Concerns: 4

Concern #: 1 Concern Type: Allegation Discipline: Select Maintenance (Select Only One)	
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Concern Description:

THERE IS A "GLITCH" WITH THE AUTOMATED WELDING EQUIPMENT USED IN THE MAB THAT MAY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF THE WELDS FOR SAFETY-RELATED MODULES AND IS CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE MODULES.

Follow-Up ARB Input: (if applicable)

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: Prior to installation in the plant, the welds and structural modules, must be in compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns)

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☒ **Inspection Follow-Up:** Refer to on site inspector (CIB3 welding engineer), for inspection. As part of this inspection, request that the welding engineer review CAP entries addressing this issue. If this concern is substantiated and no CAP entries are found, then proceed with Concern 2 as "potential wrongdoing"
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact alleged for details, etc.)
- ☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
- ☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
- ☐ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☐

Is this a response after closure?: No

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 3, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

ARB Assigned Actions:

INSPECTION

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

Concern #: 2

Concern Type: Allegation

Discipline: Select Wrongdoing (Select Only One)

Concern Description:

CB&I IS COVERING UP ISSUES IN THE MAB ASSOCIATED WITH WELDING ACTIVITIES AND (b)(7)(C) IS ATTEMPTING TO COVER UP CONCERNS.

Follow-Up ARB Input: (if applicable)

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: Low

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true: Prior to installation in the plant, the welds and structural modules, must be in compliance with applicable codes and standards.

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)

☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI.

☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**

☐ **Referral to Select :**

☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)

☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)

☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** see Other below (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)

☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact alleged for details, etc.)

☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**

☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**

☒ **Other:** Need to re-ARB Concern 2 after inspection results for Concern 1 (projected completion by 3/6). If Concern 1 is substantiated, this could involve wrongdoing and potentially be a Critereon XVI violation.

☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

REARB AFTER INSPECTION OF CN1 FOR OI CONSIDERATION IF ISSUE IS NOT IN THE CAP. OTHERWISE CLOSE.

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 3, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

OI Investigations:

OI Priority: Select

Rationale for OI priority:

If potential discrimination or wrongdoing and OI is not opening a case, document rationale for not initiating OI investigation:

Concern #: 3
Concern Type: OSHA
Discipline: Industrial Safety Select (Select Only One)

Concern Description:

THE AUTOMATED WELDING MACHINE IN THE MAB, THE RMTS, IS BROKEN AND OPERATES UNSAFELY.

Follow-Up ARB Input: (if applicable)

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: N/A (For Non-Allegations)

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true:

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

- ☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)
- ☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:
- ☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**
- ☐ **Referral to Select :**
- ☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)
- ☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)
- ☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)
- ☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact alleged for details, etc.)
- ☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**
- ☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**
- ☒ **Other:** Specify recommendation (e.g. Contact licensee, chilling effect letter etc.)
- ☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

NON-ALLEGATION – INDUSTRIAL SAFETY CONCERN. VERIFY IF ISSUE IS IN THE CAP AND HAS BEEN CAPTURED CORRECTLY. IF YES, CLOSE. IF NOT, RE-ARB TO DISCUSS OSHA REFERRAL.

Assigned Branch/Individual: DCP/CPB4

Estimated Completion Time: 14 DAYS

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY
Tuesday, March 3, 2015
ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

Concern #: 4

Concern Type: Non-Allegation

Discipline: Chilling Effect Select (Select Only One)

Concern Description:

THE CI FEELS INTIMIDATED. THE CI FEELS THAT OR&I MAB (b)(7)(C) MANAGEMENT LACKS INTEGRITY.

Follow-Up ARB Input: (if applicable)

Safety Impact and Applicable Regulation:

Safety Significance: N/A (For Non-Allegations)

Describe potential safety impact, assuming concern is true:

Applicable Regulation (required for wrongdoing and discrimination concerns):

When did potential violation occur (date)? Unknown ☐

Concern Disposition Method/Branch Input and Comments:

☐ **Transfer to:** (NRC Internal Exchange to another region/NRR/NMSS, etc.)

☐ **Request for Additional Information (RFI):** Branch to review the licensee response to the RFI:

☐ **Provide to Licensee for Information Only:**

☐ **Referral to Select :**

☐ **Inspection Follow-Up:** (Provide information on what is to be inspected, inspection schedule, etc.)

☐ **ADR:** (For discrimination cases, after prima facie has been established)

☐ **Office of Investigations (OI):** (Provide draft NOV to Allegations Office)

☐ **Too General/Need More Details:** (Provide recommendation, e.g. Inspector contact alieger for details, etc.)

☐ **Closure in acknowledgment letter:**

☐ **Closure Letter or Memo to File:**

☒ **Other:** CI did not provide specifics; he has not been retaliated against for raising nuclear safety concerns. Contact CI and ask for additional information/specifics. If no specifics are provided close in ack letter.

☐ **EICS Close File Administratively:**

Prompt notification of SRI/RI or region-based inspector required: Already Notified

Related previous allegation number: N/A ☒

Related OI Case Number: N/A ☒

Is this a response after closure?: No

ARB Assigned Actions:

CONTACT CI FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SPECIFICS ON ANY ADVERSE ACTION OR CHILLING EFFECT). IF NO SPECIFICS PROVIDED, CLOSE. OTHERWISE, RE-ARB.

Assigned Branch/Individual: EICS

Estimated Completion Time: 3/31/15

RFI Considerations

Applicable Concern(s): 3

Does the concern(s) present an Overriding Safety Issue? Y ☐ N ☒

If yes, an RFI will normally be issued to the licensee (verbally first, then in writing)

Notes/Comments:

Conditions Inhibiting RFI:

☐ Will compromise alieger identity protection

ALLEGATION REVIEW BOARD SUMMARY

Tuesday, March 3, 2015

ARB MINUTES ARE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE ARB CHAIR

- ☐ Will compromise investigation or inspection
- ☐ Against management that would review RFI
- ☐ Fed or State agency disapproves of RFI

Other RFI Considerations if Inhibiting Conditions Do Not Apply

- ☐ Release could bring harm to alleged. Describe:
- ☐ Allegor Objects to RFI. Describe:
- ☐ Allegor objects to releasing their identity in RFI, when necessary for adequate follow-up. Describe:
- ☐ Allegor is concerned about being identified to the licensee. Describe:
- ☐ Allegor has raised concern to licensee w/ unsatisfactory results. Describe:
- ☐ Recent NRC concerns w/ licensee RFI responses. Describe:

Other Items Potentially Affecting RFI Response Quality:

- ☐ Recent Inspection findings? Last PI&R? Describe:
- ☐ Substantive Cross-Cutting Issue? Describe:
- ☐ Allegation history issues? Describe:
- ☐ Licensee policy/process issues? Describe:
- ☐ Resource issues? Describe:
- ☐ Other? Describe:

Is RFI an Acceptable Option? Y ☐ N ☐ Summarize reason: CI did not object, licensee should be informed.

OGC/Regional Counsel Input

Applicable Concern(s): 4

Offer Early-ADR? - Discrimination Allegation Prima-Facie Showing? Y ☐ N ☒

- ☒ Allegor engaged in protected activity
- ☐ Adverse action taken against alleged
- ☒ Mgmt knowledge of alleged's protected activity
- ☐ Reasonable Inference that protected activity was, at least in part, a reason for the adverse action

Other OGC/Regional Counsel Comments:

ARB Attendees

Chairs: J. YEROKUN

EICS: M. CHECKLE, S. MENDEZ, D. GAMBERONI, L. GIBSON

Ol (b)(7)(C)

OGC/Counsel: S. PRICE

Branch Chiefs: M. ERNSTES, R. MUSSER, J. HEISSERER, B. BONSER, B. DESAI

Other Attendees: G. KHOURI, J. KENT, D. HARMON, C. EVEN, J. PELCHAT, J. QUINONES, C. KONTZ, C. RAPP, J. TORNOW, E. LEA, D. PICCORILLO, J. GOLDEN, S. MEIGHAN (VIA PHONE)

Checkle, Melanie

15-46

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 2:17 PM
To: Checkle, Melanie
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

The email I forwarded to you with the word "Threats" in the subject block is what the CI was referring to during our phone conversation last night in terms of (b)(7)(C) creating a chilled environment.

From: Checkle, Melanie
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:45 AM
To: Artayet, Alain; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Cc: Musser, Randy; Kent, Jonathan; Khouri, George
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

Thanks Alain for the information. We'll schedule this case for re-ARB for next week. The acknowledgment letter has to go out today. we will just not close any of the concerns as planned, based on the new information. Please also send us the additional information he provided to you via telephone regarding the chilled work environment concern. Thanks

Melanie M. Checkle

Senior Allegation Coordinator
Enforcement and Investigation Coordination Staff
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
404.997.4426

If this email contains sensitive allegation information, please delete when no longer needed.

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:06 AM
To: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra; Checkle, Melanie
Cc: Musser, Randy; Kent, Jonathan; Khouri, George
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

Sandra contacted me yesterday afternoon stating the CI wanted to talk to me personally with contact phone number. I called the CI who shared more details about a copper nozzle of the weld head making contact with the molten puddle (but that was hearsay because the CI did not see this with his own eyes). The CI continued by sharing that it was believed to be the field weld joining panels (b)(7)(C) in the reactor cavity area on the west weld which is the duplex stainless steel side (WP (b)(7)(C) and sketch (b)(7)(C) at a height of 4 scaffold bucks (24-28 feet at 6-7' per buck) from the floor. The CI also informed me that they've had issues with the automatic welding machines approximately 15 times in the past several months. He asked for my work address (which I provided) so that he could send me documents supporting the aforementioned.

More emails were sent to me before I left work yesterday (which I will forward to both of you shortly) that shed more light on the CI's interaction with (b)(7)(C) that is effecting the SCWE.

I believe we should not send an acknowledgment letter to this CI (unless you want to let him know that we are waiting for this information either via phone or mail) until we review the said documents.

Thank you for your support.

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:09 AM
To: Artayet, Alain
Cc: Musser, Randy; Kent, Jonathan; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

Good morning Alain.
I'm at VCS this morning.

Sandra.
Please send Alain the ARB invite for today

Thanks

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:04 AM
To: Musser, Randy; Khouri, George
Subject: FW: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

FYI – I will go to ARB this afternoon. George. what time?

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:01 AM
To: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Cc: Kent, Jonathan; Artayet, Alain
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

Good morning Sandra.

Yes – Alain inspected concern 1 and it was not substantiated. I'd recommend that you have Alain support re-ARBiing.

Since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. I concur with closing out CN2

Per our call with the CI, his concerns were not technical. He indicated that he had no issues with the final quality of the weld. His concern seemed to be more industrial safety (CN3) and interface with (b)(7)(C) (revised to CN4 to Chilled Work Env.). The plan was to re-ARB CN4 today.

If you like to discuss it, please send me an email and I'll call you – I'm not in the office.

Thanks.
George

From: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 6:45 AM
To: Khouri, George
Cc: Kent, Jonathan; Artayet, Alain
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

I just check the ARB notes, so CN1 was inspected and it was not substantiated? And even when the problem was not documented it did not needed to be, because the wells were not damage?

If I capture it correctly I think we can close CN1 and re-ARB concern 2 in closure as there is no apparent wrongdoing.

Sandra

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 5:08 PM
To: Artayet, Alain
Cc: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra; R2Allegations Resource; Kent, Jonathan
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

Thanks Alain for your inspection associated with Concern 1

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 4:00 PM
To: Khouri, George; Kent, Jonathan
Cc: Ernstes, Michael; Musser, Randy; Vasquez, Jose; Ponko, Anthony; Heisserer, Jamie
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

As part of our inspection last week of the VOG MAB activities, the inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the MAB CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556 with the responsible CB&I Power (b)(7)(C). The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The inspectors asked many questions of (b)(7)(C) including if there were any issues with the machine welding and equipment. (b)(7)(C) openly shared that it has happened that the weld head continues with a slight forward progression after clicking the stop button on the monitor screen with the computer mouse. If needed, (b)(7)(C) added that there is a secondary red "STOP" button for emergency stoppage just below the monitor.

The inspectors also questioned two SNC individuals (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(C) who both oversee the MAB about any issues with the machine welding equipment, and they openly shared that on a two occasions the weld head bumped against a scaffold tube extension and an electrical cable. When asked as to whether or not N&Ds (nonconformance and deficiency reports) were written, they both indicated "No" because the welds were not damaged, and they were not aware of any damage to welds caused by the "automatic" welding machines.

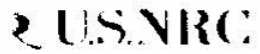
From: Khouri, George
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 8:45 AM
To: Artayet, Alain
Subject: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

Alain,

First – thanks so much for your good work and assistance.

Attached is the intake form and the ARB disposition. As we discussed, please document what you've inspected and email it back to me (& copy Jonathan).

Again – thanks a million.
George



Ensuring the safe use of nuclear energy

George Khouri, Senior Project Inspector
Division of Construction Projects
USNRC Region II

O: 404.997.4457

C: (b)(7)(C)

E-Mail: george.khouri@nrc.gov

Checkle, Melanie

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:11 AM
To: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra; Checkle, Melanie
Subject: FW: RMTS Failure 2/3/15
Attachments: image005.png; image006.jpg

An email related to technical/programming glitch with the automatic welding machine, but this is a machine maintenance issue and not a safety-related issue (in my humble opinion).

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 6:02 PM
To: Artayet, Alain
Subject: FW: RMTS Failure 2/3/15

Alain,

This is a report from (b)(7)(C) -- this is to give you some alternate persons account of issues and another situation that occurred with him--- this is one report you nor others ever saw nor was it recorded to the best of my knowledge?

More to Follow.

(b)(7)(C)
> From: (b)(7)(C)
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: FW: RMTS Failure 2/3/15
> Date: Mon, 30 Mar 2015 21:29:56 +0000
>
>
> info

(b)(7)(C)

> CB&I
> Vogtle 3&4
> 7828 River Road
> Waynesboro, Ga. 30830
> www.CBI.com
>
>
>
>

> From: (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:54 PM
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Cc: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: RMTS Failure 2/3/15

>
> The RMTS unit Orange A000007 Unit #4 on the night shift of 02/03/2015 did not fall. At approx. 1:30 Am on 02/04/2015 the Unit #4 system experienced a known glitch. After running weave test it took off in the direction it last traveled before initiating the weave test. It crashed through the key plate stalling the motors and shutting down travel the total distance traveled was 3 to 4 feet. When this glitch occurs the unit travels at an accelerated rate of speed faster the fastest jog rate. I suggested that the motor torques be verified because of the forces to the drive motor. The new systems have all couplings keyed unlike this system which the first couple of the travel is not. The front end is requiring repairs and parts have to be replaced due to the damage.

> [cid:image005.png@01D040C5.1FC40760]

(b)(7)(C)

> CB&I
> Vogtle 3 & 4
> 7828 River Road
> Waynesboro, GA 30330
> [www.CBI.com](http://www.cbi.com)<<http://www.cbi.com/>>

> [b.jpg]

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> affiliates) confidential and privileged information. This
> information is protected by law and/or agreements between CB&I (or
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> provider with which you or your employer are associated. If you are

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> e-mail and delete all copies of this e-mail: further, you are
> notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any
> action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly
> prohibited.~~

Checkle, Melanie

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:20 AM
To: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra; Checkle, Melanie
Subject: FW: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)
Attachments: image001.gif; ATT00001

More emails going back and forth related to the technical/programming glitch with the automatic welding machine. Again this is a machine maintenance issue and not a safety-related issue (in my humble opinion). I could not open the attached ATT00001 file (some kind of error).

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 6:13 PM
To: Artayet, Alain
Subject: FW: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

From: (b)(7)(C)
To: (b)(7)(C)
Date: Mon, 30 Mar 2015 15:09:48 -0700
Subject: Delivery Status Notification (Failure)

(b)(7)(C)

--Forwarded Message Attachment--

From: (b)(7)(C)
To: alain.artayet@nrc.com
Subject: FW: Mini RMTS
Date: Mon, 30 Mar 2015 18:09:48 -0400

Alain,

I will send this by printing my original mail as this has correspondence that will be very hard to decipher with responses coupled with sending and communications somewhat cryptic like inside joke would be hard to understand? will send in an alternate means later or tomorrow early

Thanks for the time

> **From:** (b)(7)(C)
> **To:** (b)(7)(C)
> **Subject:** FW: Mini RMTS

> Date: Mon, 30 Mar 2015 21:33:35 +0000

>

>

> for me

(b)(7)(C)

> CB&I

> Vogtle 3&4

> 7828 River Road

> Waynesboro, Ga. 30830

> www.CBI.com

>

>

>

>

> From: (b)(7)(C)

> Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 9:45 AM

> To: (b)(7)(C)

> Cc: (b)(7)(C)

> Subject: RE: Mini RMTS

(b)(7)(C)

> We will be more than happy to have (b)(7)(C) come in to witness a retrofit and observe the FAT of the next series of Summer Retrofits.

>

> As per (b)(7)(C) earlier e-mail we are ready at this time for acceptance testing for the first two Summer retrofits but quite frankly it is probably too short of a notice for (b)(7)(C)

>

> What I suggest is, let us get confirmation with Summer on when the next two will be released. Once we know that information we will inform you of timing. The entire process takes approximately 2 days. If for some reason the timing does not work for (b)(7)(C) for the next two, there will be two more two system cycles.

>

> As for the water flow detection we have a system on the wall and we are working on it along with the intermittent travel issue. I will keep you posted.

(b)(7)(C)

>

>

>
> From (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 12:24 PM
> To (b)(7)(C)
> Cc (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: FW: Mini RMTS
> Importance: High
>

> Sorry included some details,

(b)(7)(C) needed knowledge.. This would be knowledge reflecting a Superintendents role / trainer / mentor, coach – the whole process of which I spent a day and a half to get up to speed --- hit the road running so to speak----- was when site had two Failed travel motors 3yrs and 6 months ago ---WOW !! Never Know may also be able to find our elusive smoking gun with weave test run away ---- could be a combo right click button hit ??? By looking back at our Daily reports When (b)(7)(C) (Encompass employee) went to work for Tech West to make some money out here when we outsourced two techs we had three run away's at that time. I actually think this is much more prevalent than what is reported due to quick reactions and not reporting all the time. Same with (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)
> From (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 10:49 AM
> To (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: RE: Mini RMTS

(b)(7)(C)
> Can I ask what type of training you are looking for and who the person is?

>
> As for the water flow detection, we are about to complete the first two retrofits for Summer. Once on the wall we will test the flow detection change.

>
> Regarding your comment "downslope on GMAW" (b)(7)(C) can you shed some light as to what is needed, this appears to be something new and I am unsure if I understand the issue.

(b)(7)(C)

>
>
> From (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 12:31 PM
> To (b)(7)(C)
> Cc (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: RE: Mini RMTS
> Importance: High

(b)(7)(C)
> I wanted to touch base to see if any progress has been made with the aforementioned highlighted below . I

have not received a call or mail pertaining to this. I also have spoken with (b)(7)(C) Red-D-Arc as to training here or at their facilities and was told would be free – no charge if we sent people out or up to their facilities for this. I was wondering if we could look at doing the same with you. I had Silicon Stud welding – another small company come and fly two people over from the Netherlands and stay a week to help us to do training and PQR's which ended up only costing about 11,000.00 dollars which was fairly cheap being two people including the owner flying here and proving new PQR's as well. I would like to know while testing and having acceptances done if you would mind having a person up there for a week while working on Summers Retrofits. He would also become your sign off man.

> Please feel free to call or send me a mail.

> Thank You

(b)(7)(C)

>

>

> Ø We really need a Software resolution on our water flow detection and a downslope on GMAW with NEW MINI. The last correspondence I had from you was --- We are working on the water flow detection issue. Will get back in touch within 90 minutes. Mon 2/9/2015 1:13 PM Hopefully with (b)(7)(C) in your Employ we will be able to resolve this issue.

>

> This is in process and will be tested once we receive the next system to be retrofitted from Summer. We will also provide both sites with a software upgrade package once we have completed testing. If possible we will attempt to include the "travel run away" fix in place but due to the possibility that this fix may take some time to identify and correct it may not be included with the water flow detection

>

> From (b)(7)(C)

> Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 4:01 PM

> To: (b)(7)(C)

> Cc: (b)(7)(C)

T

> Subject: RE: Mini RMTS

(b)(7)(C)

> In order to insure we have provided a satisfactory action plan to each of your points please review the following.

>

> From (b)(7)(C)

> Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 9:32 AM

> To: (b)(7)(C)

> Cc: (b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

> Subject: Mini RMTS

> Importance: High

(b)(7)(C)

> I waited to send this mail out in hopes that the last few incidents were purely mishaps and understand nobody is perfect. The following are issues to date that need addressing and by what you have told me we can resolve most of these if your software guy is back on you payroll.

>

>

> Ø In the past week we have had another run away which caused the loss of a worm gear and OSC as well as YAW issue from impact to a Key plate after initial weave test. This issue is far more dangerous at our site due to scaffold being built close to the wall and potential for personnel above or below to be in harm's way. Both sites have runaway glitch after weave Test—I have taken out some time to talk with the (b)(7)(C) in person at V.C. due to a recent visit and have confirmed similar circumstances surrounding this and would like to have investigated further by Software person at Encompass – this has cost us dearly in repairs due to head crashing at high speeds before E-stop can be activated.

>

> As just sent to V.C. Summer along with you and (b)(7)(C)

>

> Gentlemen

>

> First I am pleased to inform you that (b)(7)(C) has rejoined Encompass. (b)(7)(C) was the person that wrote the RMTS code and as a result we met with him regarding the intermittent "travel runs away after the termination of the weave test" issue. The challenge is identify the root cause of an highly intermittent problem can be quite the challenge. Therefore can we ask that each site to provide (b)(7)(C) as much historical information as possible. Any hints as to exactly when it occurs and which direction the travel moves would be most helpful. I think we are hopeful that there is a distinct pattern that triggers the fault.

>

> Please let us know as much as possible.

>

>

> Ø I had to come to your Shop to have keyways cut into two bellows last Week due to a Failure on two of our NEW MINI RMTS units—the issue was the bore size on one unit being 75 thousandths off on the travel Bellows and the other not being torqued and slipped down the shaft making unit inoperable as well. One unit was set up to weld on the Module when the failure manifested itself. THIS WAS A VERY BAD MISS IN ASSEMBLY and will not go into issues this could have caused. Luckily we recovered and are back up and running due to the Quick turn around by your machinists

>

> I must admit we find the misfit couplings very baffling. As part of the retrofit activities the couplings were not replaced and were reused out of the machines as provided by site as it was not part of the scope to replace the couplings. During the final assembly and the FAT process of machines 5 and 6 we did discover that the couplings on those two machines were of the larger bore and both were replaced. The issue was extremely obvious as the oversized couple bores simply would not (or could not) clamp onto the worm gear housing input shaft. As a result when the travel motor was removed (as part of the assembly and FAT) the shaft would have easily slipped out of the coupling and the failure identified. How this did not manage to appear at EMI but did at site with two other machines is simply beyond us.

>

> As an corrective action "all future builds, repairs or retrofits, or during the supply of replacement parts" we will inspect and measure each bore to insure that we are not relying on the manufacture part number.

>

> The next concern "as you stated" was the coupling bolt torque specification (b)(7)(C) that was a very good catch on your behalf. If we review the history pertaining to these couplings the first series as supplied by the manufacture did not have key ways in them and therefore all of the torque was transferred by the compressive force (friction) between the OD of the shaft and the ID of the coupling. Due to the safety critical requirements of this gear train we switched from non-keyed to keyed couplings. At that time the torque

specification was no longer mandatory. But I will also agree with you "that insuring high compressive torque force will not cause any negative effects" and therefore in order to insure continuity between both sites and EMI we will torque to the non-keyed specification on all future builds, repairs or retrofits.

>

>

> Ø We really need a Software resolution on our water flow detection and a downslope on GMAW with NEW MINI. The last correspondence I had from you was --- We are working on the water flow detection issue. Will get back in touch within 90 minutes. Mon 2/9/2015 1:13 PM Hopefully with (b)(7)(C) in your Employ we will be able to resolve this issue.

>

> This is in process and will be tested once we receive the next system to be retrofitted from Summer. We will also provide both sites with a software upgrade package once we have completed testing. If possible we will attempt to include the "travel run away" fix in place but due to the possibility that this fix may take some time to identify and correct it may not be included with the water flow detection change.

>

>

> Ø We have had a second incident with a new Mini RMTS unit – Our test shop training unit Failed Compliance and had to be torn down and again found pins in wrong configuration internally when wired at Encompass – Again this was not found. I do not know if you test your harnesses but would be something to add in the future.

>

> Was this the same wire reversal issue you had found before? The reason I ask is that after your first find we began GTAW welding as part of our internal testing.

>

>

> Ø Will need a Quote for a trunk Cable @ 25 feet long X 2 to set up at our test stands – Our full length cables are much too cumbersome

>

> I will insure we provide the pricing as quickly as we can.

>

>

> Ø Will need a Quote for 4 OSC Motors programmed and how quickly we can get them due to our last hit and another unfortunate event that occurred over the weekend

>

> The information with the weave test (run away Travel) issue has been going on for well over a year and a half now and again I think (b)(7)(C) would be able to shed some light on this very Quickly

>

> Thanks for the time and will be in touch. Please feel free to call pertaining to any further details needed on Quotes.

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

please let me know if I have missed anything or if you have any further thoughts or needs.

> Regards

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

> CB&I
> Vogtle 3 & 4
> 7828 River Road
> Waynesboro, GA 30330
> [www.CBI.com](http://www.cbi.com)<<http://www.cbi.com/>>

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Checkle, Melanie

From: Artayet, Alain
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra; Checkle, Melanie
Subject: FW: Encompass and Threats
Attachments: (b)(7) Comments (b)(7)(C) asked 3-24-2015.jpg

Last email a received last night related to the technical/programming glitch and allocation of money with the automatic welding machines.

Of more interest to both of you for SCWE is the contents of the emails and attachment between the CI and

(b)(7)(C) I apologize for the contents.

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 6:16 PM
To: Artayet, Alain
Subject: FW: Encompass and Threats

Alain,

Again I hope this is not too difficult to muddle through but will also send more info by morning in a better format.

Thank You

(b)(7)(C)

> From: (b)(7)(C)
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: FW: Encompass and Threats
> Date: Mon, 30 Mar 2015 21:45:52 +0000
>
>
>

(b)(7)(C)

> CB&I

> Vogtle 3&4

> 7828 River Road

> Waynesboro, Ga. 30830

> www.CBI.com

>
>
>
>
> From: (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 12:16 PM
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: FW: Encompass and Threats
>
> FYI and attached document.

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(C)

>
> CB&I
> Vogtle 3&4
> 7828 River Road
> Waynesboro, Ga. 30830
> www.CBI.com

> From: (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 2:24 PM
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Cc: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: Re: Encompass and Threats

(b)(7)(C) I don't understand why you would send out such an email with the untrue statements that you have included, I have never gave you such direction as you have indicated and have never called you any such name. It's sad that you are on one of your fits as you are very often and write emails coping ?management and

(b)(7)(C)
> ?with untrue comments such as you have written. I will be more than happy to discuss this matter with anyone you have copied on this email.

>
>
> (b)(7)(C)
>

>
> Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

> From (b)(7)(C)

> Sent: Sunday, March 1, 2015 12:44 PM

> To (b)(7)(C)

> Cc (b)(7)(C)

> Subject: Encompass and Threats

>

>

(b)(7)(C)

>

> When you approached me and we spoke in your office on Thursday about CB&I Corporate Security investigation I told you that I did answer what questions they asked. You then told me that I'm "no longer allowed to speak to them without permission of Management first then you stated "OR ELSE" and that you could not protect me from (b)(7)(C)

> Please explain to me why I need protection from (b)(7)(C) ?

> (b)(7)(C) twice in the past three days. And yesterday you sent me a threatening email regarding the near miss accident that happened Thursday. You did not even show up to work at all Friday with full knowledge of how serious this incident was.

> In regards to your e-mail quote below;

>

(b)(7)(C), this needs to be the last email you put on the street concerning equipment issues with Encompass until I have reviewed and approved the content. Please stop coping all these (b)(7)(C) on business such as this".

>

> On Thursday there were (b)(7)(C) including myself on day shift and (b)(7)(C) coming on night shift. It is crucial to our job to know at all times any and ALL issues concerning welding equipment being from Encompass or not. I have not put any emails "on the street" concerning equipment issues with Encompass! On the street means outside of company or or to those not directly affected. This isn't the first build of an AP1000 that I have worked on. I am strictly following site policy and protocol.

>

> You should know that I take your threats seriously and I will not tolerate any form of intimidation, harassment or retaliation from you as (b)(7)(C). I am directing this matter to

> the (b)(7)(C)

>

(b)(7)(C)

>

(b)(7)(C)

>

> CB&I

> Vogtle 3&4
> 7828 River Road
> Waynesboro, Ga. 30830
> www.CBI.com

>
>
>
>
> From: (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 9:23 AM
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Cc: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: Re: Encompass Issues

> (b)(7)(C), this needs to be the last email you put on the street concerning equipment issues with Encompass until I have reviewed and approved the content. Please stop coping all these (b)(7)(C) on business such as this.

> (b)(7)(C)

>
>
>
> Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone mron the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

> From: (b)(7)(C)
> Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 9:02 PM
> To: (b)(7)(C)
> Cc: (b)(7)(C)
> Subject: Re: Encompass Issues

> (b)(7)(C) and I will also participate in this meeting.

>
> Sent from my iPhone

>
> On Feb 26, 2015, at 5:10 PM, (b)(7)(C) wrote:

> (b)(7)(C)
> First of all, I do not know all the people you copied on this email so I have limited the audience to the ones I do know. I am looking at this \$23,757.52 invoice/proposal or is this just a proposal you attached? Don't see any PO number on the proposal and was wondering why we have such an invoice/proposal if these are what you believe to be defective/broken parts due to crashes as a result of glitches in the software within the RMTS system? Or did we damage the system somehow? Or are we looking to modify the system somehow? I am assuming this was a crash in one of the retrofitted RMTS systems just returned. Why would Encompass not cover these expenses under warranty if it was caused by their software glitches?

>
> I assume again this is an invoice since you are asking to not release funds? Just so you know, I was not aware and don't have anything to do with this invoice/proposal. I was also not aware the we have paid a few hundred thousand dollars in NON reoccurring engineering cost? I am only aware of purchases and expenses related to what the Equipment Group has purchased in the way of equipment from Encompass in support of

the projects. Like to know about the track ♦gloating♦ purchases as well.

>

> I think we need to have a conference call to discuss so that I am not making assumptions especially in light of Corporate Security all over us for what they perceive as improprieties having gone on with Encompass. They are not wanting me to release any funds to get Encompass paid for equipment already delivered to the sites. I assume we have invoices to back up your claim that we have spent a Few Hundred Thousand Dollars? If they are out there I am sure Corporate Security knows about them and may be why they are asking so many questions?

>

> Let♦s set something up before somebody pulls the wool over my eyes again. I rely on you guys to make me see clearly because you guys are the experts. We do have a process to ensure/approve that we are not requisitioning services that are not needed .

>

> Thanks for your comments,

>

>

> <image002.png>

> (b)(7)(C)

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

> CB&I

> 128 South Tryon Street, Suite 600

> Charlotte, NC 28202

> USA

>

> www.cbi.com<<http://www.cbi.com/>>

>

> From (b)(7)(C)

> Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2015 9:15 AM

> To: (b)(7)(C)

> Cc: (b)(7)(C)

> Subject: Encompass Issues

> Importance: High

>

> (b)(7)(C)

> If you look into the conversations I have had with Encompass with glitches and other Software issues you will find this has cost us dearly in repairs. I will forward you a parts cost sheet to reflect what associated costs are for just a few items. 60 percent of the monies spent are on crashes and of which we have just had a couple more (last two weeks) due to glitches in software.

> I would respectfully ask to visit this before releasing all funds. We have lost a few hundred Thousand dollars due to paying for NON Re-occurring engineering costs, as well (b)(7)(C) all but gloating how they drug us over the coals on our last two orders of tracks. I guess we cannot blame them for our miss.

> Please feel free to call about anything (b)(7)(C) wants to deal with Managers and or Directors due to

being able to pull the Wool over your eyes. He cannot do so with us and with open communication on Items we could save millions if communication from your level down to ours is open and we can catch these things. We can offer great insight I believe if given the opportunity.

> You asked me about two years ago what I thought of Encompass and I told you they have a good bit of brilliance but TO RUN AWAY due to issues on deliveries and manipulating the buyer to thinking they are getting what they want and what they asked for.

> I would like your feedback.

> They have all but eluded to their lack of being able to take care of any software issue by Telling hoe pleased they are to have (b)(7)(C) back in their Employ due to the fact there is NOBODY on the East coast that can Manipulate LAB VIEW software (RMTS) this is very bad and a poor choice of software due to JUST this scenario. THANKS AGAIN

> Respectfully

(b)(7)(C)

>

> P.S. Recent mail to (b)(7)(C) regarding aforementioned.

>

> (b)(7)(C)

> Below are listed Items I would need Quotes on and Availability. Part of these are due to somewhat catastrophic circumstances of crashes related to glitches in software.

> 4 Each -- MDI1PRD23C7-EQ M-drive size 23 avc/osc motors programmed.

> 4 each --- Quad lead screws for avc/ osc

> 2- Computers fully loaded ready to go with latest software upgrades . Are you interested or shall we go for new which would be \$2,800 (which by the way is considerably less than one of the old quotations I just looked at). Quoted from (b)(7)(C)

> 2- Cable Bundles to set up in test areas (25' trunk cables) 25ft is a standard from Lincoln for wire feeder

> 2- Sets of control Cables ◆ AVC/OSC/YAW/INDEX ◆ new travel motor to Mini

> 1- 485 converter cable

> These Items are needed fairly Quickly and need to have lead times associated with them so can order accordingly

> Thank You

(b)(7)(C)

>

> <image003.gif>

> (b)(7)(C)

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

>

> CB&I

> Vogtle 3 & 4

> 7828 River Road

> Waynesboro, GA 30830

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>

> <EMIQ-15-236.pdf>

>

>

>

>

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> prohibited.

15-46

Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 10:32 AM
To: Kent, Jonathan
Cc: Ernstes, Michael; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE - 2015-0046, CN3 related docs.
Attachments: DGTFri2-27-2015.xlsx; 0703_001.pdf

Resending as a reminder for re-ARB of CN3 next week.

I think this is enough info to conclude that CB&I and SNC are engaged with the industrial safety aspect of this concern. Recommend closure

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 3:29 PM
To: R2Allegations Resource
Cc: Kent, Jonathan; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE - 2015-0046, CN3 related docs.

Afternoon all,

Attached are the site documents associated with the industrial safety automatic welding machine

Thanks,
George

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:58 PM
To: Khouri, George
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:53 PM
To: (b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE



(b)(7)(C)

CB&I
7828 River Road
Waynesboro, Georgia 30830

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:46 PM
To: (b)(7)(C)
Subject: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE

(b)(7)(C)

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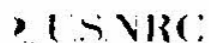
15-46

Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:03 PM
To: R2Allegations Resource
Cc: Checkle, Melanie; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra; Kent, Jonathan; Ernstes, Michael
Subject: RII-2015-A-0046 CN3 & 4, Provide to Licensee as FYI

Today (March 12, 2015) CN3 & 4 have been provided to the Licensee as FYI

George



George Khouri, Senior Project Inspector
Division of Construction Projects
USNRC Region II

O: 404.997.4457

C: (b)(7)(C)

E-Mail: george.khouri@nrc.gov

Checkle, Melanie

15-46

From: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:10 AM
To: Checkle, Melanie
Subject: Fwd: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

From: "Khour, George" <George.Khour@nrc.gov>
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition
Date: 10 March 2015 08:01
To: "Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra" <Sandra.Mendez-Gonzalez@nrc.gov>
Cc: "Kent, Jonathan" <Jonathan.Kent@nrc.gov>, "Artayet, Alain" <Alain.Artayet@nrc.gov>
Good morning Sandra,

Yes – Alain inspected concern 1 and it was not substantiated. I'd recommend that you have Alain support re-ARBiing

Since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met Code, the issue was not entered in the CAP. I concur with closing out CN2

Per our call with the CHN, concerns were not technical. He indicated that he had no issues with the final quality of the weld. His concern seemed to be more industrial safety (CN3) and interface with (b)(7)(C) (revised to CN4 to Chilled Work Env.). The plan was to re-ARB CN4 today.

If you like to discuss it, please send me an email and I'll call you – I'm not in the office.

Thanks,
George

From: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 6:45 AM
To: Khour, George
Cc: Kent, Jonathan; Artayet, Alain
Subject: RE: **Sensitive Allegation Information** allegation 15-0046, intake and ARB disposition

I just check the ARB notes, so CN1 was inspected and it was not substantiated? And even when the problem was not documented it did not needed to be, because the wells were not damage?

If I capture it correctly I think we can close CN1 and re-ARB concern 2 for closure as there is no apparent wrongdoing.

Sandra

From: Khour, George
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 5:08 PM
To: Artayet, Alain

Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra

15-46

From: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Khouri, George
Subject: FW: SENSITIVE INFORMATION - CONCERNED INDIVIDUAL: Logbook Entry: 03/01/2015
Attachments: Recorded on 01 Mar-2015 at 11.33.29.WAV

FYI 15-046 Sarah's allegation was also received through the HOO (Same CI). Just FYI as additional

-----Original Message-----

From: HOO Hoc
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 11:48 AM
To: HOO Hoc
Subject: SENSITIVE INFORMATION - CONCERNED INDIVIDUAL: Logbook Entry: 03/01/2015

Ops Officer : MARK ABRAMOVITZ
Entry Date : 03/01/2015 - 11:40
Entry Type : ALLEGATION
Notify Date - Time : -
Event Date - Time : - ()
Site : VOGTLE
Emergency Class :

A concerned individual working at Vogtle 3 & 4 has concerns about the welding performed by CBI.

Notified the R2 and HQ Allegations groups.

7D

R11-2015-A-0046

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
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1. Article Addressed to:

7D

R11-2015-A-0046

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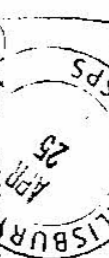
A. (b)(7)(C)

☒ Agent
☐ Addressee

B. (b)(7)(C)

C. Date of Delivery
4-25-2015

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☒ Yes
If YES, enter delivery address below:



3. Service Type
☒ Certified Mail
☐ Registered
☐ Insured Mail
☐ Express Mail
☒ Return Receipt for Merchandise
☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

(b)(7)(C)

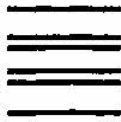
2. Article Number
(Transfer from service label)

7D

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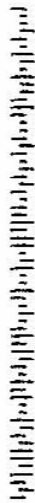
05 APR '15



First-Class Mail
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Atlanta, Georgia 30343





UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

April 21, 2015

(b)(7)(C)

SUBJECT: Concerns You Raised to the NRC Regarding Vogtle Nuclear Plant, Unit 3 & 4-
Allegation Report RII-2015-A-0046

Dear (b)(7)(C)

The NRC has completed its follow-up in response to the concerns you brought to our attention on March 1, 2015 regarding the Vogtle Nuclear Plant, Units 3 and 4. You were concerned about the automated welding equipment (Concerns 1, 2, and 3) and a chilled work environment (Concern 4). The Enclosure to this letter restates your concerns and describes the NRC's review and conclusions with regard to these concerns.

Thank you for notifying us of your concerns. Allegations are an important source of information in support of the NRC's safety mission. We take our safety responsibility to the public seriously and will continue to do so within the bounds of our lawful authority. We believe that our actions have been responsive to your concerns. If, however, new information is provided that suggests that our conclusions should be altered, we will reevaluate that information to determine if additional evaluation is warranted. Should you have any additional questions or if the NRC can be of further assistance, please call me at the regional office toll-free number 1-800-577-8510 extension 4540 or you may provide information to me in writing at P. O. Box 56274, Atlanta, GA 30343. You may also communicate with me by electronic mail, if you so choose. However, when doing so, please call me in advance or provide your phone number in your e-mail message so that I can confirm that you are the source of the information. Also, please be advised that the NRC cannot protect the information during transmission on the Internet and there is a possibility that someone could read your response while it is in transit. My e-mail address is Michael.Ernstes@nrc.gov. Should you prefer to communicate by email, please also respond to the following email address: R2Allegations@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Ernestes".

Michael Ernestes, Chief
Division of Construction Project Branch 4

Enclosure(s): As stated

Certified Mail Number: (b)(7)(C)
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR OPERATING COMPANY

VOGTLE UNITS 1, 2, 3 & 4

RESPONSE TO CONCERNS

Concern 1:

There is a "glitch" with the automated welding equipment used in the MAB that may affect the quality of the welds for safety-related modules and is causing damage to the modules.

Response to Concern 1:

The NRC performed an independent inspection for this concern as part of the Vogtle site inspection activities. The inspectors observed vertical-up machine welding from a remote monitor inside the Module Assembly Building (MAB) CA-01 module for field weld FW-2 of work package 2556. The adequacy of the machine programming was evident with the quality of the weld puddle using proper weld head oscillation, angular motion of the wire feed, and dwell time for wetting on the sidewalls of the groove butt joint.

The weld machine issues were openly discussed with the NRC inspectors by both Chicago Bridge and Iron (CB&I) and Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) individuals that have oversight responsibility. Although the automated seam welding machine exhibited erratic behavior, the welding was monitored and the final condition of the weld met the American Welding Society (AWS) Code requirements.

Based on the NRC's inspection of the automated welding equipment and interviews with individuals responsible for this equipment, this concern could not be substantiated in that the automated welding equipment was not negatively impacting welds or damaging the modules due to the described "glitch" in the equipment.

Concern 2:

CB&I is covering up issues in the MAB associated with welding activities and (b)(7)(C) is attempting to cover up concerns.

Response to Concern 2:

As discussed under Concern 1, since the welding was monitored, per the site's process, and ultimately met the AWS Code, the issue was not required to be entered into the Corrective Action Program (CAP). Based on the description above, this concern could not be substantiated in that there was no cover up of welding issues determined to exist in the MAB.

Concern 3:

Personnel Safety/OSHA concern: The automated welding machine in the MAB, the RMTS, is broken and operates unsafely.

Response to Concern 3:

Please be advised that we determined that this issue involving automated welding equipment operating unsafely, which relates to industrial safety, does not fall under NRC jurisdiction.

Enclosure

The agency having jurisdiction is the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Although this industrial safety concern is not within the purview of the NRC, we have provided it to the licensee, SNC, with your identity and position withheld. For their information and any other actions they deem appropriate. On the basis of the foregoing, further NRC intervention on this issue is not warranted at this time. However, please note that CB&I documented this personnel safety concern in a Preliminary Incident Report and in the Daily Report. SNC provided a copy of these documents to the NRC for review.

Concern 4:

(b)(7)(C) CB&I's (b)(7)(C) has created a Chilled Work Environment

Response to Concern 4:

With regard to your concern pertaining to pushback from the CB&I's (b)(7)(C) and the chilling effect this had on you, please be advised that we have determined that this is not an issue we can pursue on the basis of the information provided. Based on the information you provided, we could not conclude that a widespread chilled work environment currently exists in the (b)(7)(C) group. During our phone call on March 5, 2015, you indicated that you could not state whether other people are chilled or would not raise nuclear safety concerns. In addition, you indicated that although you were hesitant to raise certain issues due to the pushback, you would still raise major issues, such as those which represented violations.

While we understand that you felt chilled by the pushback when raising issues to your management, the issue, as described by you, does not warrant further NRC intervention at this time. Given the potential willingness and ability of individuals to raise safety concerns, as described by you, we have no basis for intervention at this time. However, we have provided the name of the (b)(7)(C) in question to the licensee, SNC, with your identity and position withheld, for their information and any other actions they deem appropriate.

Please note that the NRC reviews the area of Safety Conscious Work Environment (SCWE) routinely during our baseline inspection program using the following inspection procedures: IP 35007, Quality Assurance Program Implementation during Construction and Pre-Construction Activities for Unit 3 & 4. The inspection procedures can be located at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/insp-manual/inspection-procedure/>.

Sloan, Kimberly

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2015 9:50 AM
To: Sloan, Kimberly
Cc: Kent, Jonathan; Kowal, Mark; Lerch, Andrew; Ernstes, Michael
Subject: RE: *SENSITIVE INFORMATION*, 15-0046 closure ltr
Attachments: 15-46 closure ltr.docx

Kim,

Please prepare the attached letter for Mike's sig on Monday.

Melanie's comments have been incorporated and she concurs with this version.

Thanks,
George

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

Article Addressed to:

(b)(7)(C)

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. (b)(7)(C)
X

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If YES, enter delivery address below:

3. Service Type
☐ Certified Mail ☐ Express Mail
☐ Registered ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise
☐ Insured Mail ☐ C.O.D.

4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) ☐ Yes

1. Article Number (b)(7)(C)
(Transfer from service label)

PS Form 3811, February 2004

Domestic Return Receipt

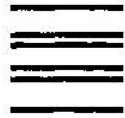
102595-02-M-1540

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

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IN THE
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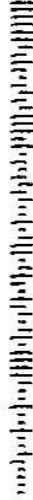
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IN THE
UNITED STATES



First-Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
USPS
Permit No. G-10

• Sender: Please print your name, address, and ZIP+4 in this box •

P.O. Box 56274
Atlanta, GA 30343



R2Allegations Resource

From: Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 3:58 PM
To: (b)(7)(C)
Cc: R2Allegations Resource
Subject: Allegation Report RII-2015-A-0046
Attachments: ReportingSafetyConcernstotheNRC.PDF; Allegation Report RII-2015-A-0046 - Ack Letter.PDF

(b)(7)(C)

Enclosed is the letter documenting our understanding of the concerns you brought to our attention on March 1, 2015 regarding the Regarding Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 3 & 4. Your concerns, are currently under review. You will receive another letter, at a later date, documenting the results of our review. Lastly, we ask that you please verify receipt of this email and it's attachments.

Should you have any questions, please call me at the regional office toll-free number 1-800-577-8510 extension 4707. You may also communicate with me by electronic mail, if you so choose. Should you prefer to communicate by email, please also respond to the following email address: R2Allegations@nrc.gov.

Sandra L. Mendez-Gonzalez

Allegation Coordinator
Enforcement and Investigation Coordination Staff

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Marquis One Tower
245 Peachtree Center Ave., NE Suite 1200
Atlanta, GA 30303-1257
Office: 404-997-4707
Fax: 404-997-4903

If this email contains sensitive allegation information, please delete when no longer needed.



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
245 PEACHTREE CENTER AVENUE NE, SUITE 1200
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-1257

March 31, 2015

(b)(7)(C)

SUBJECT: Concerns You Raised to the NRC Regarding Vogtle Nuclear Plant, Unit 3 & 4-
Allegation Report RII-2015-A-0046

Dear

(b)(7)(C)

This letter refers to your telephone conversation with U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Headquarters Operational Officer (HOO) on March 1, 2015, and subsequent telephone conversations with Ms. Sarah Temple, Resident Inspector with the NRC, on March 2, 2015; and with Mr. George Khouri and me, Ms. Sandra Mendez, on February 5, 2015. During your telephone conversations you expressed concerns related to a chilled work environment, maintenance issues, and industrial safety issues at Southern Nuclear Operating Company (SNC) Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Unit 3 & 4. During a subsequent telephone conversation with NRC staff members, Mr. Alain Artayet and me on March 30, 2015, you provided additional information regarding your concerns.

Enclosure 1 to this letter documents your concerns as we understand them. We have initiated actions to evaluate your concerns and will inform you of our findings. The NRC normally conducts an evaluation of a technical concern within six months, although complex issues may take longer. If the description of any of your concerns as noted in Enclosure 1 is not accurate, please contact me so that we can assure that your concerns are appropriately described and adequately addressed prior to the completion of our review.

In evaluating your concerns, the NRC intends to take all reasonable efforts not to disclose your identity to any organization, individual outside the NRC, or the public. It is important to note, particularly if you have raised this issue internally, that individuals can and sometimes do surmise the identity of a person who provides information to the NRC because of the nature of the information or other factors beyond our control. In such cases, our policy is to neither confirm nor deny the individual's assumption.

Enclosed with this letter is a brochure entitled "Reporting Safety Concerns to the NRC," which includes an important discussion of the identity protection provided by the NRC regarding these matters as well as those circumstances that limit the NRC's ability to protect an allegor's identity. Please read that section of the brochure.

However, you should be aware that your identity could be disclosed regarding this matter if the NRC determines that disclosure is necessary to ensure public health and safety, to respond to an order of a court or NRC adjudicatory authority or to inform Congress or State or Federal agencies in furtherance of NRC responsibilities under law or public trust, to support a hearing on an NRC enforcement matter, per requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), or if

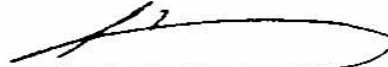
CERTIFIED MAIL NUMBER
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

(b)(7)(C)

you have taken actions that are inconsistent with and override the purpose of protecting an alleged's identity. If a request is filed under the FOIA related to your areas of concern, the information provided will, to the extent consistent with that act, be purged of names and other potential identifiers. Further, you should be aware you are not considered a confidential source unless confidentiality has been formally granted in writing.

Thank you for notifying us of your concerns. We will advise you when we have completed our review of your concerns. Should you have any additional questions or if the NRC can be of further assistance, please call me at the regional office toll-free number 1-800-577-8510 extension 4707 or you may provide information to me in writing at P. O. Box 56274, Atlanta, GA 30343. You may also communicate with me by electronic mail, if you so choose. However, when doing so, please call me in advance or provide your phone number in your e-mail message so that I can confirm that you are the source of the information. Also, please be advised that the NRC cannot protect the information during transmission on the Internet and there is a possibility that someone could read your response while it is in transit. My e-mail address is Sandra.Mendez-Gonzalez@nrc.gov. Should you prefer to communicate by email, please also respond to the following email address: R2Allegations@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Mendez-Gonzalez
Allegation Coordinator
Enforcement and Investigation Coordination Staff

Enclosure(s): As stated

SOUTHERN NUCLEAR COMPANY**VOGTLE UNITS 1, 2, 3 & 4****STATEMENT OF CONCERNS****Concern 1:**

There is a "glitch" with the automated welding equipment used in the Modular Assembly Building (MAB) that may affect the quality of the welds for safety-related modules and is causing damage to the modules.

Concern 2:

Chicago Bridge & Iron (CB&I) is covering up issues in the MAB associated with welding activities and (b)(7)(C) is attempting to cover up concerns.

Concern 3:

The automated welding machine in the MAB, the RMTS, is broken and operates unsafely.

Concern 4:

(b)(7)(C), CB&I's (b)(7)(C) has created a chilled work environment.

15-46

R2Allegations Resource

From: Khouri, George
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 3:29 PM
To: R2Allegations Resource
Cc: Kent, Jonathan; Mendez-Gonzalez, Sandra
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE - 2015-0046, CN3 related docs.
Attachments: DGTFri2-27-2015.xlsx; 0703_001.pdf

Afternoon all,

Attached are the site documents associated with the industrial safety automatic welding machine

Thanks.
George

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:58 PM
To: Khouri, George
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:53 PM
To: (b)(7)(C)
Subject: FW: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE

(b)(7)(C)

From: (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:46 PM
To: (b)(7)(C)
Subject: AUTOMATIC MACHINE ISSUE

(b)(7)(C)

~~This e-mail and any attached files may contain CB&I (or its affiliates) confidential and privileged information. This information is protected by law and/or agreements between CB&I (or its affiliates) and either you, your employer or any contract provider with which you or your employer are associated. If you are not an intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and delete all copies of this e-mail; further, you are notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.~~



Chicago Bridge & Iron

Daily Report

(b)(4), (b)(7)(C)

PRELIMINARY INCIDENT INFORMATION & INITIAL SIGNIFICANCE RATING

(b)(4), (b)(7)(C)

(b)(4)



CBI INCIDENT PERSONNEL STATEMENT FORM

(b)(4),(b)(7)(C)



CBI INCIDENT PERSONNEL STATEMENT FORM

(b)(4),(b)(7)(C)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4),(b)(7)(C)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4),(b)(7)(C)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4),(b)(7)(C)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4)



CBI INCIDENT REPORT

(b)(4)

EXEMPTION 7(A) CERTIFICATION

FOIA 2016 - 0473

Upon review of the records subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Number listed above, the documents listed below, or the indicated portions thereof, should be released in response to this request. The undersigned hereby certifies that, with respect to the remaining documents in the file, disclosure of each document, or any portion thereof, could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings. Therefore, the remaining documents should be withheld from public disclosure pursuant to Exemption 7(A) of the FOIA.

VOLUME OF RECORDS IN FILE 780 pgs
Pages/Inches

NAME/TITLE/OFFICE

Melanie Checkle

Sr. Allegation Coordinator Region II

SIGNATURE



DATE

5/31/16

MANAGEMENT APPROVAL

NAME/TITLE/OFFICE

David Gamberoni

EICS Team Leader Region II

SIGNATURE



DATE

5/31/2016

RELEASABLE DOCUMENTS

Allegation RII-2015-A-0046 - 108 pgs.

Allegation RII-2015-A-0193 - ~~108 pgs~~ 24 pgs.

RII-2015-A-0165 IS NOT
RELEASEABLE, AT THIS TIME, DUE
TO AN OPEN INVESTIGATION.
JH2