



# RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) / PRIVACY ACT (PA) REQUEST

2000-0136

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RESPONSE TYPE  FINAL  PARTIAL

REQUESTER

Ophelia G. Williams

DATE

MAR 02 2000

### PART I. -- INFORMATION RELEASED

- No additional agency records subject to the request have been located.
- Requested records are available through another public distribution program. See Comments section.
- APPENDICES  Agency records subject to the request that are identified in the listed appendices are already available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room.
- APPENDICES  A Agency records subject to the request that are identified in the listed appendices are being made available for public inspection and copying at the NRC Public Document Room.
- Enclosed is information on how you may obtain access to and the charges for copying records located at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC.
- APPENDICES  A Agency records subject to the request are enclosed.
- Records subject to the request that contain information originated by or of interest to another Federal agency have been referred to that agency (see comments section) for a disclosure determination and direct response to you.
- We are continuing to process your request.
- See Comments.

### PART I.A -- FEES

AMOUNT \*

\$

- You will be billed by NRC for the amount listed.  None. Minimum fee threshold not met.
- You will receive a refund for the amount listed.  Fees waived.

\* See comments for details

### PART I.B -- INFORMATION NOT LOCATED OR WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE

- No agency records subject to the request have been located.
- Certain information in the requested records is being withheld from disclosure pursuant to the exemptions described in and for the reasons stated in Part II.
- This determination may be appealed within 30 days by writing to the FOIA/PA Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Clearly state on the envelope and in the letter that it is a "FOIA/PA Appeal."

### PART I.C COMMENTS (Use attached Comments continuation page if required)

SIGNATURE - FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND PRIVACY ACT OFFICER

*Carol Ann Reed*  
Carol Ann Reed

**RESPONSE TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) / PRIVACY ACT (PA) REQUEST**

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**PART II.A -- APPLICABLE EXEMPTIONS**

APPENDICES  
**B**

Records subject to the request that are described in the enclosed Appendices are being withheld in their entirety or in part under the Exemption No.(s) of the PA and/or the FOIA as indicated below (5 U.S.C. 552a and/or 5 U.S.C. 552(b)).

- Exemption 1: The withheld information is properly classified pursuant to Executive Order 12958.
- Exemption 2: The withheld information relates solely to the internal personnel rules and procedures of NRC.
- Exemption 3: The withheld information is specifically exempted from public disclosure by statute indicated.
  - Sections 141-145 of the Atomic Energy Act, which prohibits the disclosure of Restricted Data or Formerly Restricted Data (42 U.S.C. 2161-2165).
  - Section 147 of the Atomic Energy Act, which prohibits the disclosure of Unclassified Safeguards Information (42 U.S.C. 2167).
  - 41 U.S.C., Section 253(b), subsection (m)(1), prohibits the disclosure of contractor proposals in the possession and control of an executive agency to any person under section 552 of Title 5, U.S.C. (the FOIA), except when incorporated into the contract between the agency and the submitter of the proposal.
- Exemption 4: The withheld information is a trade secret or commercial or financial information that is being withheld for the reason(s) indicated.
  - The information is considered to be confidential business (proprietary) information.
  - The information is considered to be proprietary because it concerns a licensee's or applicant's physical protection or material control and accounting program for special nuclear material pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(d)(1).
  - The information was submitted by a foreign source and received in confidence pursuant to 10 CFR 2.790(d)(2).
- Exemption 5: The withheld information consists of interagency or intraagency records that are not available through discovery during litigation. Applicable privileges:
  - Deliberative process: Disclosure of predecisional information would tend to inhibit the open and frank exchange of ideas essential to the deliberative process. Where records are withheld in their entirety, the facts are inextricably intertwined with the predecisional information. There also are no reasonably segregable factual portions because the release of the facts would permit an indirect inquiry into the predecisional process of the agency.
  - Attorney work-product privilege. (Documents prepared by an attorney in contemplation of litigation)
  - Attorney-client privilege. (Confidential communications between an attorney and his/her client)
- Exemption 6: The withheld information is exempted from public disclosure because its disclosure would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
- Exemption 7: The withheld information consists of records compiled for law enforcement purposes and is being withheld for the reason(s) indicated.
  - (A) Disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with an enforcement proceeding (e.g., it would reveal the scope, direction, and focus of enforcement efforts, and thus could possibly allow recipients to take action to shield potential wrongdoing or a violation of NRC requirements from investigators).
  - (C) Disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
  - (D) The information consists of names of individuals and other information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to reveal identities of confidential sources.
  - (E) Disclosure would reveal techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or guidelines that could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law.
  - (F) Disclosure could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of an individual.
  - OTHER (Specify)

**PART II.B -- DENYING OFFICIALS**

Pursuant to 10 CFR 9.25(g), 9.25(h), and/or 9.65(b) of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations, it has been determined that the information withheld is exempt from production or disclosure, and that its production or disclosure is contrary to the public interest. The person responsible for the denial are those officials identified below as denying officials and the FOIA/PA Officer for any denials that may be appealed to the Executive Director for Operations (EDO).

DENYING OFFICIAL	TITLE/OFFICE	RECORDS DENIED	APPELLATE OFFICIAL		
			EDO	SECY	IG
Guy P. Caputo	Director, Office of Investigations	Appendix B	✓		

Appeal must be made in writing within 30 days of receipt of this response. Appeals should be mailed to the FOIA/Privacy Act Officer, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, for action by the appropriate appellate official(s). You should clearly state on the envelope and letter that it is a "FOIA/PA Appeal."

**APPENDIX A**  
**RECORD BEING RELEASED IN ITS ENTIRETY**  
**(If copyrighted identify with \*)**

<b><u>NO.</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION/(PAGE COUNT)</u></b>
1.	10/21/99	Memo from R. W. Borchardt to H. Miller, Region I, S. Collins, NRR, D. Dambly, OGC, subject: OI Report 1-99-006 Re: Nine Mile, Discrimination Against a Chief Shift Operator. (2 pages)

**APPENDIX B  
RECORDS BEING WITHHELD IN THEIR ENTIRETY**

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION/(PAGE COUNT)/EXEMPTIONS</u>
1.	Various	OI Case File for 1-1999-006, Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1: Discrimination Against a Chief Shift Operator for Having Engaged in Protected Activities. (Approximately 820 pages) <b>EX. 7A</b>



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 21, 1999

MEMORANDUM TO: Hubert J. Miller, Regional Administrator  
Region I

Samuel J. Collins, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Dennis C. Dambly, Associate General Counsel  
For Materials Litigation and Enforcement  
Office of the General Counsel

FROM:

R. W. Borchardt, Director  
Office of Enforcement

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Nelson", with a checkmark to the left and some illegible scribbles below.

SUBJECT:

OI REPORT 1-99-006 RE: NINE MILE POINT, DISCRIMINATION  
AGAINST A CHIEF SHIFT OPERATOR

The above referenced investigation was initiated on February 23, 1999 to determine whether a Chief Shift Operator (CSO) at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 1, had been discriminated against for having engaged in protected activities. Specifically, the CSO claimed that she had been forced to accept a demotion due to circumstances resulting from having raised safety concerns in November 1996 and filing a complaint with the Department of Labor in October 1997.

In its report dated August 25, 1999 the Office of Investigations could not substantiate that the CSO was discriminated against as a result of having engaged in protected activities. We will consider the matter closed unless we receive a different view within three weeks of the date of this memorandum.

Please contact Dave Nelson of my staff at (301) 415-3280 with any comments.

cc: F. Miraglia, DEDR  
J. Zwolinski, NRR  
G. Caputo, OI  
T. Walker, RI

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