

## Alexander, Donald H

---

**From:** Alexander, Donald H  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 8:18 AM  
**To:** McNulty, Richard R  
**Cc:** Branch, Stanley; Lagdon, Richard H; 'damerine@aol.com'; 'Bruce Matthews'; 'Sam Fink'  
**Subject:** Grievance  
**Attachments:** 54 Issue.pdf; 39 Issue.pdf

Rick,

It appears to me that management within BNI, DOE, and apparently WRPS (according to the correspondence) deliberately conspired together to try to undermine the pursuit of legitimate technical issues (both design and safety) being raised by myself and other members of the DOE-ORP technical staff.

In the spring I raised a series of concerns with respect to the performance of the non-Newtonian vessels. Because I raised the issue, Frank Russo directed me to write my issues in a paper over the Easter weekend and deliver the paper on Monday April 5, 2010, which I did. I wrote most of the paper on Easter Sunday to meet the April 5<sup>th</sup> deadline imposed by Contractor Management. As a consequence the BNI manager labeled my issues as the "non-Newtonian curve-ball."

Since when are DOE staff supposed to take direction from Contractor management? At the same meeting, Mr. Russo also directed Dr. Walt Tamosaitis to gather as many top flight PhDs as possible together and **discredit** my paper. I requested that my paper receive appropriate peer review but that request was denied. Walt had trouble even assembling a team. Walt knew that my issues were technically correct and he never submitted a counter paper. Walt, Dr. Perry Meyer, and Dr. Dave Dickey later presented their independent calculations to DOE-WED, led by Gary Brunson that demonstrated that the vessels would have to be run at about 20 meters/second in order to properly clear the vessel bottom. This is not achievable since the vessels are designed for 12 meters/second under normal operating conditions.

I raised the issue because the design had never been properly evaluated with appropriate simulants. Even recent testing in November and December of 2010 was constrained to Newtonian simulants.

Last summer (June 2010) the Engineering team including Rob Gilbert and myself among others developed a large set of technical comments that were never closed with respect to the potential performance of the non-Newtonian vessels.

I was personally placed under tremendous pressure by management to concur on the M-3 Closure package. I did not. Instead I non-concurred.

The two attachments show that Contractor and DOE-ORP management tried to stop our obligation to raise legitimate technical issues.

Clearly, the management system or "safety culture" is broken. I find the behavior of management to be appalling. I believe that it is time to take this issue beyond the DPO process.

I have been under tremendous stress for more than a year. It seems to me that this is beyond a purely technical issue and is a whistle blower issue.

Please advise.

Sincerely,

*Attachment 7*



54

From: Ashley, Gregory  
Sent: Wed May 19 13:27:27 2010  
To: Russo, Frank M (WTP)  
Subject: Re: Shirley is trying to reach u  
Importance: Normal

Frank, I talked to Shirley last night. She and Guy want us to work with TF to see what can be done to help close M3 (particularly) with new NN issues. Clearly they are concerned that Alexander and Gilbert are not going to back off of their issues. Told her we would engage with them this PM. Good news, they're with us. I'll talk to you when I get in this PM.

-----  
Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

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

From: Russo, Frank M (WTP)  
To: Ashley, Gregory  
Sent: Tue May 18 20:28:39 2010  
Subject: Shirley is trying to reach u  
Says its important. 8 30 pm your time.

#39

From: Olinger, Shirley J  
Sent: Fri Jul 16 15:05:52 2010  
To: Russo, Frank M (WTP)  
Subject: Re: Heads up  
Importance: Normal

DOE - Ph.D.

That is good. Dale should have Keith K help him thru this if Don A gets involved. Let me know if you need help w/David K or HQs.

Txs, sjo

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

From: Russo, Frank M (WTP) <frusso@bechtel.com>  
To: Olinger, Shirley J  
Sent: Fri Jul 16 07:52:57 2010  
Subject: Re: Heads up

Yes. Very aware. He was equally concerned when Kosson had one of Walt's emails forwarded to him. Kosson was not happy. Brunson was the one who told me about Kosson concerns. Who knows how he plays into this.

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

From: Olinger, Shirley J <Shirley\_J\_Olinger@URL.gov>  
To: Russo, Frank M (WTP)  
Sent: Fri Jul 16 10:49:12 2010

Subject: Re: Heads up  
Is Dale aware of both Walt and possibility of Don A?

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

From: Russo, Frank M (WTP) <frusso@Bechtel.com>  
To: Olinger, Shirley J  
Sent: Fri Jul 16 07:36:25 2010  
Subject: Fw: Heads up  
Fyi re Walt

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

From: Triay, Ines <Ines.Triay@cm.doe.gov>  
To: Russo, Frank M (WTP)  
Sent: Thu Jul 15 19:41:19 2010  
Subject: Re: Heads up  
Thanks Frank for this communication. I truly appreciate it.  
Ines

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

From: Russo, Frank M (WTP) <frusso@Bechtel.com>  
To: Triay, Ines  
Sent: Thu Jul 15 19:07:34 2010  
Subject: Heads up

Walt Tamositis (URS) had lost focus after we put Mike Robinson in charge of M3. Towards the end, he became disruptive and sent emails out that caused CRESO and others concern. I asked URS to transfer him and gave them a couple of months to do it. When he sent one email to many, I told URS that he had to leave because he was undermining M3. He left the project 6/30 but still remains a URS employee. He is very annoyed because he intended to retire off of the project. That was never an option. Heads up, he is now going to the differing professional opinion process to try to call into question the very work he led for several years. I asked pethick and Leo to manage him the