

**NRC Staff Proposes Fine Against Unit Of Texas Utilities**  
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WASHINGTON -- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff charged that a supervisor "intimidated" quality-control inspectors working at Texas Utilities Generating Co.'s Comanche Peak nuclear power plant.

The NRC staff proposed a \$40,000 fine against the utility.

Richard DeYoung, the NRC's inspection and enforcement director, also said he wants to discuss the alleged violation with executives of the utility and of Brown & Root Inc., the plant's contractor. In its announcement of the fine, the NRC said Mr. DeYoung wants to hear promises that inspectors "are guaranteed the organizational freedom necessary to vigorously implement a quality assurance program at Comanche Peak."

Texas Utilities Generating is a unit of Texas Utilities Co., a Dallas-based electric utility company. Company officials were unavailable for comment.

Paint inspectors employed at the utility complained to the NRC that a quality-control supervisor had intimidated them with threats of disqualification if they continued to write "nit-picking" reports about bad paint coatings. The NRC said its own staff investigation verified the complaint.

Construction is nearly complete at reactor Unit 1 of the Comanche Peak plant, 80 miles southwest of Dallas.

Texas Utilities Generating must give the NRC a written statement admitting or denying the allegation. It can either pay the \$40,000 fine or file an appeal to the NRC staff.

Last August the NRC also proposed a \$40,000 fine against the utility for alleged violations growing out of the firing of a Brown & Root quality-control inspector. Payment of that fine has been deferred while Texas Utilities Generating pursues a court appeal of a Labor Department charge in the case.