

WRITTEN COMMENTS ON AGENCY REPORT

(OSC File No. DI-12-1820)

I Sheri L. Mills, have reviewed the unredacted report and my comments are as follows:

4. Discussion of Findings:

Paragraph a.

Stated that I voluntarily resigned from my prior position on February 3, 2012, which is correct, but OSC should know that after 22.5 years of service, my resignation came at a high price to me and my family. Because of issues like the certifying payroll and other issues that I could not get resolved. On October 5, 2011 at 10:55 a.m. I tried to discuss the certifying issue with Mr. Potter, Chief Scientist, Central Energy Resource Science Center (CERSC), during our meeting. I forwarded Mr. Potters exact comments from that day to OSC and I quote" I will speak to Ms. Williams, but would not spend a lot of time on this. This allegation would be met with continued and escalation of alienation and harassment from Ms. Williams, Administrative Supervisor. Her treatment also caused other administrative staff members to shun me. I talked with Mr. Potter about having a meeting with the administrative staff and management to discuss internal administrative issues. Mr. Potter said in light of the EEO suit that has been filed, he does not want to have a meeting with the staff until that was over (EEO process is a very long and drawn out process). This was the situation that caused the EEO suit, which was the lack of Mr. Potter not wanting to deal with any of Ms. William's misconduct. I began to experience alienation, no communication and harassment from my supervisor Ms. Williams and two of the other three admin co-workers, whom she would confide in about me. These repetitive actions caused a constant stressful atmosphere and affected my health and well being. I was considered a whistle blower in the office and the continuing belittlement caused unsatisfactory working conditions for me and others. This became very evident, when another employee dared to question Ms. Williams's unethical actions. This led to a second EEO complaint regarding Ms. Williams. I personally witnessed this constant unprofessional behavior going on in the office. Even after a witness on my behalf sent an email to Mr. Potter regarding what she had seen happening to me, he refused to respond to her, once again showing that Mr. Potter did not want to handle any of this.

Paragraph I.

This paragraph states that I meet with Mr. Potter on or about October 5, 2012, or October 6, 2012. Also, Mr. Potter's records reflect that he met with me on either October 4, 2012 or October 5, 2012.

There is a definite error on these dates. I emailed a copy of my written notes to OSC, showing the date I meet with Mr. Potter, which was October 5, 2011 @ 10:55 a.m. If Mr. Potter took notes it was not evident during the meeting. He is also very wrong on the dated information he gave you, neither date of October 4, 2012, or October 5, 2012 are correct. Apparently not only are the dates wrong also the topics he wrote down were not discussed at this meeting. We did not discuss validation and certification. I discussed certifying payroll, validation of payroll was not discussed, only the certifying.

Mr. Potter recalls that he discussed those topics at some point in the Fall on 2011, and he had no record of it, etc.... The only meeting in October was the October 5, 2011, I was not working at the CERSC on October 4, 5, or 6, 2012. My service ended February 3, 2012.

Paragraph m.

Mr. Potter states that he believes Ms. Williams had Quicktime time and attendance certification authority for employees' time and attendance entries. He said that to his knowledge Ms. Williams certifies for a group of employees, approximately 85. Mr. Potter also states that he does not know whether that is entirely appropriate. However, he did not worry about it nor did he ever question her proper use of the system. Even after my **discussion with him on October 5, 2011, about this issue – certifying payroll he still found no reason to question her. This shows his dereliction of his supervisory duties.**

Paragraph n.

Ms. Takacs response that the QuickTime system created user names for all employees in 2003, etc... her comment "this may explain why Ms. Williams does not remember establishing a user name", but then goes on to say, "thought that one of the CERSC's timekeepers did it for her". **Ms. Takacs says "CERSC timekeepers did it for her", If that is a true statement both would know that is a direct violation of DOI/USGS policy for user names and a password violation.**

MY CLOSING COMMENTS

I believe no reasonable person could have withstood the bullying and hostile work place created by Ms. Williams.

After reading the report, it does not surprise me that Ms. Williams would state that she does not remember giving her QuickTime user name and password, or that she even used the QuickTime System. Ms. Williams as the administrative officer of the Central Energy Resource Science Center (CERSC), wanted to be at the forefront at every issue and in the know. It says a lot for someone in the administrative officer position to not remember or even know that passwords should not be made known to others.

After reviewing the report, it looks to me like Ms. Williams and Mr. Potter have both tried to cover and justify their wrong doings, as stated by the following verbiage each has stated; "not remembering"; "did not know".

Once again this shows that Mr. Potter chose to ignore the situation. Ms. Williams chose to make it impossible for me to stay working at the CERSC after turning her in for ethic violation. With tactics that she displayed as well as having others do her bullying I believe no reasonable person could have withstood the hostile work place created by Ms. Williams. I am glad that there are positive changes in the CERSC, but it does not change the fact that I was a victim with no justice to stop the unjust actions of others toward me and put me in a position to be forced to leave my successful government career of 22.5 years.