



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH
4676 Columbia Parkway, MS: C-46
Cincinnati, Ohio 45226
(513) 533-6825

July 2, 2007

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Lafayette, Indiana

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The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Secretary of Health and Human Services
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition-0030 concerning workers at the Rocky Flats facility in Denver, under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13 and 42 CFR Sec. 83.14. The Board respectfully recommends Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) status be accorded to all employees of the DOE, its predecessor agencies, or DOE contractors or subcontractors who were monitored or should have been monitored for neutron exposures while working at the Rocky Flats facility in Denver, Colorado for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days during the period from April 1, 1952 through December 31, 1958, or in combination with work days within the parameters established for one or more other classes of employees in the SEC. The Board finds that although there are insufficient data available to reconstruct neutron dose with sufficient accuracy for all members of the class during this time period, the Board believes that NIOSH may be able to reconstruct other components of the internal and external dose, and therefore individuals with non-presumptive cancers may be considered for partial dose reconstructions.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- Many of the highest exposed individuals at Rocky Flats were not monitored for neutron exposure during this time period. In addition, there were significant process changes during this time period which makes it infeasible to use data from later periods to estimate neutron doses for the time period of concern. Further, observed large variations between individual neutron dose rates (mrem/day) and neutron photon ratios suggest that a building level correction factor is not adequate for purposes of estimating individual doses.

- The Board believes that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation at the Rocky Flats facility within the time period in question.

Enclosed is supporting documentation from the Advisory Board Meeting held in Denver (Westminster), Colorado on May 2-4, 2007 and other meetings where this special exposure cohort class was discussed. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul L. Ziemer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D
Chairman

Enc.