

Centers for Disease Control  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH)  
143rd Meeting

Wednesday, December 8, and Thursday, December 9, 2021

## **Wednesday, December 8, 2021**

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### **Summary Proceedings**

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health meeting convened via teleconference at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Dr. Henry Anderson, Chair, presiding.

### **Attendees**

#### **Members**

Henry A. Anderson, Chair  
Josie Beach, Member  
Bradley P. Clawson, Member  
R. William Field, Member  
David Kotelchuck, Member  
James E. Lockey, Member  
Genevieve S. Roessler, Member  
Phillip Schofield, Member  
Loretta R. Valerio, Member  
Paul L. Ziemer, Member

#### **Non-Members, Registered and/or Public Comment Participants:**

Roberts, Rashaun, Designated Federal Officer  
Adams, Nancy, NIOSH Contractor  
Barrie, Terrie, ANWAG  
Barton, Bob, SC&A  
Beal, Daisy  
Behling, Kathleen, SC&A  
Blaze, D'lanie, CORE Advocacy  
Calhoun, Grady, DCAS  
Cardarelli, John, DCAS  
Cook, Madeline, DCAS  
Crawford, Frank, DOL  
Degarmo, Denise, Petitioner  
Ehlers, Cathy  
Ehlers, Del, Petitioner  
Gogliotti, Rose, SC&A  
Hand, Donna

Hughes, Lara, DCAS  
Jackson, Jamie  
Lewis, Greg, DOE  
Lobaugh, Megan, DCAS  
McGolerick, Robert, HHS OGC  
Rafky, Michael, HHS OGC  
Rutherford, Lavon, DCAS  
Scott, Elton  
Taulbee, Tim, DCAS

## **Roll Call/Welcome - Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO**

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health at 1:00 pm EDT on December 8, 2021 via teleconference. A roll call of all ABRWH members confirmed that a quorum was present. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. Meeting attendees announced their conflicts of interest during roll call. Dr. Roberts then turned the meeting over to Dr. Anderson, ABRWH Chair.

## **Program Updates: NIOSH, DOL, and DOE**

Grady Calhoun (NIOSH), Chris Crawford (DOL), and Greg Lewis (DOE) gave updates of each organization's activities for the EEOICPA Program and responded to questions from Board Members. Mr. Calhoun's presentation gave an update on the NIOSH Cybersecurity IT Modernization, which has disrupted access to many of the files used in the program. DCAS continues to work on processes to provide the Board and its contractor access to needed files.

## **SEC-00256 Pinellas Plant Evaluation Report – Dr. Megan Lobaugh, DCAS**

Dr. Lobaugh provided summary descriptions of the Pinellas site and its history. Following that she described the reason why the petition had qualified for evaluation for the period January 1957 to December 1990. She then described the information in the petition evaluation report and provided DCAS's conclusion that dose reconstruction is feasible for the period under evaluation. After questions from Board members and discussion, the Board tasked SC&A with reviewing the evaluation report. Bob Barton, SC&A, cautioned that SC&A's review would likely take longer than usual. The reason is that the Cybersecurity IT Modernization has made access to the need documents more difficult. Dr. Denise DeGarmo, and Mr. Delmar Ehlers, the SEC petitioners, urged the Board to consider the petition favorably.

## **Procedures Review Finalization/Document Reviews – Josie Beach, Chair, Subcommittee for Procedure Reviews**

Ms. Beach explained that the Subcommittee would be presenting the results of their deliberations on five technical documents. Kathy Behling, SC&A, then presented the review findings and the resolutions of those findings for the following documents:

- ORAUT-PROC-0022, Rev. 00, "Supplemental Requests for DOE Information"
- DCAS-PER-081, Rev. 0, "Hooker Electrochemical"
- ORAUT-OTIB-0025, Rev. 00, "Estimation of Radium-226 Activity in the Body from Breath Radon-222 Measurements"
- ORAUT-OTIB-0032, Rev. 00, PC-1, "External Coworker Dosimetry Data for the Savannah River Site"

- ORAUT-OTIB-0032, Rev. 00, “Application of Internal Doses Based on Claimant-Favorable Assumptions for Processing as Best Estimates”

Ms. Beach explained that the Subcommittee had completed its reviews of these documents and asked the Board to close the reviews. The Board did so by roll call vote. Ms. Beach then reported that a Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for February 15, 2022. DCAS and SC&A are documenting the outcome of Subcommittee discussions in a way that will make it easy to record the information on the Board Review System when it becomes available.

## **Public Comment**

Members of the public commented on the Pinellas Plant, their personal experiences there, and their health issues. Other members of the public commented on the desirability of petitioners having access to documents used in Evaluation Reports and questioned why earlier Pinellas petitions did not qualify for evaluation. Following public comment, Dr. Anderson adjourned the meeting for the day at 5:35 pm.

**Thursday, December 9, 2021**

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## **Summary Proceedings**

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health meeting convened via teleconference at 1:01 p.m. Eastern Time, Dr. Henry Anderson, Chair, presiding.

## **Attendees**

### **Members**

Henry A. Anderson, Chair  
Josie Beach, Member  
Bradley P. Clawson, Member  
R. William Field, Member  
David Kotelchuck, Member  
James E. Lockey, Member  
Genevieve S. Roessler, Member  
Phillip Schofield, Member  
Loretta R. Valerio, Member  
Paul L. Ziemer, Member

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Buchanan, Ron, SC&A  
Calhoun, Grady, DCAS  
Cardarelli, John, DCAS  
Fitzgerald, Joe, SC&A  
Gogliotti, Rose, SC&A  
Hand, Donna  
Hughes, Lara, DCAS  
McGolerick, Robert, HHS OGC  
Rafky, Michael, HHS OGC  
Rutherford, LaVon, DCAS  
Taulbee, Tim, DCAS

## **Roll Call/Welcome – Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO**

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health at 1:01 pm EST on December 9, 2021 via teleconference. A roll call of all ABRWH members confirmed that a quorum was present. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. Meeting participants declared conflicts of interest during roll call.

## **SEC Petition Status Update & SEC Qualification Process – LaVon Rutherford, DCAS**

Mr. Rutherford reported that there were no SEC petitions in the qualification process. DCAS is working on an addendum to its evaluation report for a petition for Lawrence Livermore National Lab. Additionally, DCAS and SC&A are continuing work on SEC petitions from Hanford, Savannah River Site, Los Alamos National Lab, Sandia National Lab-Albuquerque, Idaho National Lab, Argonne National Lab-West, Area IV Santa Susanna, Metals & Controls, DeSoto Avenue Facility, the Y-12 Plant, Pinellas, and Reduction Pilot Plant. DCAS is still evaluating records from West Valley Demonstration Project to see if an 83.14 petition is warranted for the years 1966-1968.

## **Subcommittee on Dose Reconstruction Reviews Update and Discussion – Dr. David Kotelchuck, Subcommittee Chair**

Dr. Kotelchuck reported that, despite restrictions from COVID and the Cybersecurity IT Modernization, the Subcommittee had managed to meet about two times per year. Their next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2022. The Cybersecurity IT Modernization has made DR Tools unavailable. Blind reviews depend on DR Tools, so that type of review stopped in May. Prior to that, 44 blind reviews had been completed by the Subcommittee. Dr. Kotelchuck categorized those reviews in terms of employment facility, years of employment, and gender of employee. Twelve of the blind reviews have been completed since the Subcommittee's last report to the Secretary, HHS. Dr. Kotelchuck presented the Probability of Causation (POC) values developed by DCAS and SC&A for those cases, showing very close agreement on all but two. In both cases NIOSH's value was higher and was below 50%.

## **Board Work Session**

Dr. Roberts introduced Robert McGolerick and Michael Rafky, HHS OGC attorneys who are providing legal support to the Board and DCAS since Jenny Naylor's departure. Then Dr. Roberts reminded Board members of the dates for the next several meetings: telephone meeting February 16, 2022; potential in-person meeting April 27 & 28; telephone meeting June 15; and a planned in-person meeting August 17 & 18. Meeting in person will depend on NIOSH removing the COVID travel restrictions in time. If the Board can meet in person in April, the Board selected a site near Savannah River Site as the location. The following dates were selected for future meetings: October 20 for a telephone meeting and December 7 & 8 for an in-person meeting. Work Group chairs reported on issues under consideration, recent progress, and planned investigations and meetings. Progress on several sites has been severely impacted by COVID travel restrictions and by the Cybersecurity IT Modernization. Dr. Anderson announced that there is no word on the nominations for potential new Board members. Board members decided it would be beneficial for them to attend training on the existing NIOSH document portal, since that will be the only way to view documents for some time.

## **Meeting Adjourned**

Dr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 2:39 pm.