

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH)
161st Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Summary Proceedings

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health meeting convened via Zoom and telephone at 10:00 am Eastern Standard Time (EST), Dr. Henry A. Anderson, Chair, presiding.

Attendees

Members

Henry Anderson, Chair
Josie Beach, Member
Bradley Clawson, Member
Arthur Frank, Member
James Lockey, Member
Nicole Martinez, Member
David Pompa, Member
Loretta Valerio, Member
Paul L. Ziemer, Member

Non-Members, Registered and/or Public Comment Participants

Rashaun Roberts, Designated Federal Official
Nancy Adams, NIOSH contractor
Bob Barton, SC&A
Kathy Behling, SC&A
Ron Buchanan, SC&A
Zaida Burgos, NIOSH
Bob Burns, ORAU Team
Emily Cain, DOL
Grady Calhoun, DCAS
John Cardarelli, DCAS
Stephanie Carroll, Public/Authorized representative
Denise DeGarmo, Petitioner Representative

Michael Elliott, Petitioner representative
Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A
Rose Gogliotti, SC&A
John Hawkinson
Malia Holzberger, HHS
Regina Kelleher-Griego, DOE
Amy Mangel, SC&A
Lori Marion-Moss, DCAS
Chuck Nelson, DCAS
Kathleen O'Conner
Steve Ostrow, SC&A
Mark Rolfes, DCAS
Judith Ryan
Ken Silver
Tim Taulbee, DCAS
Brant Ulsh, NIOSH
Faye Vlieger
Carolyn Walker, Public

Roll Call/Welcome - Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health via Zoom and telephone at 10:00 am EST on December 5, 2024. A roll call of all ABRWH members confirmed that a quorum was present. Board members and staff announced conflicts of interest during roll call. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. Dr. Roberts urged participants to behave collegially and respect the differing reviews that are presented. She then turned the meeting over to Dr. Anderson, Board Chair, who moved on to the first agenda item.

Program Updates: NIOSH, DOL, DOE

Lori Marion-Moss (NIOSH), Emily Cain (DOL), and Gina Kelleher-Griego (DOE) gave updates of each organization's activities for the EEOICPA Program and responded to questions from Board Members. Ms. Marion-Moss is serving in an understudy position to the DCAS Director and will assume that position when Grady Calhoun retires in January. Similarly, Brant Ulsh is serving in an understudy position to the Associate DCAS Director for Science and will assume that role when Tim Taulbee retires in March. Charles Nelson has succeeded LaVon Rutherford as Health Physics Supervisor. The Division is recruiting Health Physics Team Leaders to replace Ms. Marion-Moss and Mr. Nelson in their previous positions. Ms. Marion-Moss reported that Board members and DCAS and SC&A staffs now have access to the Site Research Database and the Board Review System through an application called Cyberark. The next application that will become available is the SEC Viewer.

Procedures Review Finalization/Document Approvals – Ms. Josie Beach, Subcommittee Chair and Ms. Kathy Behling, SC&A

After introductory remarks by Ms. Beach, Subcommittee Chair, Ms. Kathy Behling, SC&A presented a detailed summary of the Subcommittee's review of the following documents.

- OCAS-PER-009, rev. 0, "Target Organs for Lymphoma"
- ORAUT-OTIB-0057, rev. 00, "External Radiation Dose Estimates for Individuals Near the 1958 Criticality Accident at the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant"
- ORAUT-PROC-0090, rev. 00, "Computer Assisted Telephone Interview Process"
- ORAUT-PROC-0092, rev. 00, "Close Out Interview Process"
- OCAS-PER-062, rev. 0, "ORIAUT-OTIB-0052"
- OCAS-PER-017, rev. 0, "Evaluation of Incomplete Internal Dosimetry Records from Idaho, Argonne-East and Argonne-West National Laboratories"

After each presentation the Board agreed to close the review of these documents

SEC Petition Status Update – Mr. Chuck Nelson, DCAS

Mr. Nelson reported that there are currently no petitions in the qualification process, and evaluation reports have been prepared for all the petitions that did qualify. This includes

an addendum for Lawrence Livermore National Lab, which DCAS will present later in this meeting. Ten petitions are under Board consideration. They are SEC-057 for Hanford, SEC-0103 for Savannah River, SEC-0109 for Los Alamos National Lab, SEC-0219 for Idaho National Lab, SEC-0224 for Argonne National Lab West, SEC-0235 for Area IV Santa Susanna, SEC-0236 for Metals & Controls, SEC-0246 for DeSoto Avenue Facility, SEC-0250 for the Y-12 Plant, and SEC-0256 for the Pinellas Plant. Mr. Nelson presented recent activities associated with each of these. DCAS is considering a possible SEC for the AWE period of West Valley Demonstration Project, 1966-1968.

Savannah River Site (SRS) Work Group Update Group Update – Mr. Brad Clawson, Chair, SRS Work Group

After opening remarks by Mr. Clawson, Dr. John Cardarelli, DCAS, presented the information contained in report 92, “Evaluation of Bioassay Data for Subcontracted Construction Trades Workers at the Savannah River Site.” That document contains information about the types of bioassay sampling that were performed at SRS, and summaries of the bioassay results that are available. Then, Bob Barton, SC&A, presented a summary of the Work Group’s activities since the Board’s July 2021 recommendation to add an SEC class for SRS subcontractor construction workers from 1972 to 1990. When the Board recommended adding that class it noted that the end date might be extended based on additional research. The Work Group’s subsequent meetings embody that research. SC&A’s conclusion is that there are several possible dates in the 1990s that could mark the end of the SEC covered period. During the ensuing Board discussion, Work Group members explained why they had concluded that December 1992 was a suitable ending date for the SEC class.

Lawrence Livermore National Lab (LLNL) Addendum – Mr. Mark Rolfes, DCAS

Mr. Mark Rolfes, DCAS presented the addendum to the Lawrence Livermore National Lab (LLNL) SEC Evaluation Report. Mr. Rolfes described the history of Lawrence Livermore’s operations and the previous EEOICPA work concerning the site. The Board has previously recommended SEC classes for all Lawrence Livermore workers from 1950 to 1989. This ER addendum addresses the years 1990-1995. DCAS concluded that dose reconstruction is feasible for those years. The Board then tasked SC&A to review this addendum.

Board Work Session

The Board Work Session started before Public Comment, then resumed after Public Comment concluded. There were extensive discussions about the activities of the Pinellas Work Group and the Subcommittee for Dose Reconstruction Reviews, and brief updates about the activities of some other Work Groups. The Board’s scheduled telephone meeting on February 12, 2025, was rescheduled to February 25. The Board’s next full meeting is scheduled for April 23 and 24, 2025, and is intended to be an in-person meeting in the vicinity of the former Pinellas Plant. The Board then scheduled a

telephone meeting for October 8, 2025, and full meeting for December 17 and 18, 2025. Dr. Roberts reviewed the public comments from the August meeting, then Dr. Anderson read a congratulatory letter to Grady Calhoun, who is retiring as the Director of DCAS at the end of January. Board members added their well wishes. The Board tasked SC&A to update the statistics in their last letter to the Secretary about their dose reconstruction reviews.

Public Comment

Members of the public provided comments related to the Pinellas Plant, lack of timeliness in evaluating SEC petitions, the schedule for informing Metals& Controls claimants that their claims have been returned to DOL for consideration under the SEC. and the differences in programs for veterans and DOL complex workers.

Meeting Adjourned

Before adjourning Dr. Anderson read a congratulatory letter to Grady Calhoun upon his pending retirement. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.