



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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July 31, 2009

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The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Madam Secretary:

Enclosed for your information is a document that summarizes three (3) reports submitted previously to the Secretary of Health and Human Services by the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (the Board). The Board conducts independent reviews of selected radiation dose reconstructions completed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in accordance with the requirements of the Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000. The Purpose of the Board's review process is to advise you on the "scientific validity and quality of dose estimation and reconstruction efforts being performed for purposes of the compensation program."

This report was prepared by the Board's Subcommittee on Dose Reconstruction and was approved by the full Board at its May 12, 2009, meeting in Amarillo, Texas. The Board believes that this review process or audit, which is carried out with the assistance of the Board's Technical Support Contractor, Sanford Cohen and Associates (SC&A), has been an effective means of improving the NIOSH dose reconstruction program over the past several years.

This current report includes an executive summary that provides a brief overview of the findings that emerged from the audits reported to the Secretary to date. The main body of the report delineates in more detail the types of cases reviewed; the various findings and their impact on compensation decisions; the demographics of the cases reviewed; and a summary of the types of changes that have resulted from the review process. We hope you will find this information useful and informative.

Sincerely,

[Signature on file]

Paul L. Ziemer
Chairman, ABRWH

Enclosure