



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

1150 Tusculum Ave
Cincinnati, Ohio 45226
(513) 533-6825

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December 29, 2017

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

Dear Mr. Acting Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition 00245 concerning workers at the Ames Laboratory under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13.

The Board respectfully recommends that SEC status be accorded to:

“All employees of the Department of Energy, its predecessor agencies, and their contractors or subcontractors who worked in any area of the Ames Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, during the period from January 1, 1971, through December 31, 1989, for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days, occurring either solely under this employment or in combination with work days within the parameters established for one or more other classes of employees included in the Special Exposure Cohort.”

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- During this time period, the Ames Laboratory was involved in research and development work related to the production of nuclear weapons. This work included some remediation work on contaminated facilities.
- NIOSH found that there were insufficient biological monitoring data, air monitoring data, or process and radiological source information at this facility in order to complete individual dose reconstructions involving internal radiation exposures with sufficient accuracy for Ames Laboratory workers during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this conclusion.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation at the Ames Laboratory during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussions held at our December 13 and 14, 2017, Board meeting held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Board recommends that this class be added to the SEC.

Enclosed is the documentation from the Board meeting(s) where this SEC class was discussed. The documentation includes copies of the petition, the NIOSH review thereof, and related materials. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

[Signature on File]

James M. Melius, M.D., Dr. PH.
Chairman, ABRWH

Enclosure