



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

4676 Columbia Parkway, MS: C-46

Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

(513) 533-6825

January 31, 2013

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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:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition 00208 concerning workers at the Battelle Laboratories King Avenue facility in Columbus, Ohio, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 and incorporated into 42 C.F.R. § 83.13.

The Board respectfully recommends that SEC status be accorded to:

"All Atomic Weapons Employees who worked at the King Avenue facility owned by Battelle Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio, during the period from April 16, 1943, through June 30, 1956, 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:

- Individuals employed at the King Avenue facility worked on a number of projects related to the development of nuclear weapons.
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) review of available monitoring data, as well as available process and source term information for this facility found that NIOSH lacked the information necessary to complete individual dose reconstructions with sufficient accuracy for internal radiological exposures from thorium and/or uranium and their progeny to which these workers may have been subjected during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this determination.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for these Battelle Laboratory King Avenue facility employees during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussion at the December 11 and 12, 2012, Board meeting held in Knoxville, Tennessee, 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