



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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May 29, 2012

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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 0046 concerning workers at the Feed Materials Productions Center under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA) and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13.

The Board respectfully recommends that SEC status be accorded to:

"All employees of DOE, its predecessor agencies, and their contractors, or subcontractors who worked at the Feed Materials Production Center (FMPC) in Fernald, Ohio, from January 1, 1968 through December 31, 1978, 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:

- Workers at this facility during the time period in question were involved in operations related to nuclear weapons production.
- The Board's review of available monitoring data, as well as available process and source term information for this facility found that NIOSH lacked the sufficient information to allow it to estimate with sufficient accuracy the potential internal doses from exposure to thorium, which employees at this facility may have been subjected.
- The Board also determined that health may have been endangered for these Feed Materials Production Center employees during the time period in question.

The Secretary

May 29, 2012

Based on these considerations and the discussion at the April 26, 2012, Board teleconference meeting, 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