



## ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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March 28, 2011

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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 00175 concerning workers at the Grand Junction Operations Office in Grand Junction, Colorado, 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 the Department of Energy, its predecessor agencies, and its contractors and subcontractors who worked at the Grand Junction Operations Office in Grand Junction, Colorado, from March 23, 1943 through January 31, 1975 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 in the SEC.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- People working at the Grand Junction Operations office during the time period in question worked on uranium processing activities related to nuclear weapons production.
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) review of available monitoring data as well as available process and source term information for various production activities at the Grand Junction Operations Office found that NIOSH lacked adequate information necessary to complete individual dose reconstructions with sufficient accuracy for internal doses from exposures to radon during the time period in question and for reconstruction of external doses prior to 1960. The Board concurs with this determination.
- NIOSH determines that health may have been endangered for these Grand Junction Operations Office facility workers during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

The Secretary

March 28, 2011

Based on these considerations and the discussion at the February 23-25, 2011 Board meeting held in Augusta, Georgia, the Board recommends that this class be added to the SEC.

Enclosed is the documentation from the Board meeting(s) where this Special Exposure Cohort class was discussed. The documentation includes transcripts of the deliberations, 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