



## ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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November 16, 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:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition 00149 concerning workers at the Metals and Controls Corporation in Attleboro, Massachusetts, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.14. The Board respectfully recommends SEC status be accorded to all Atomic Weapons Employees (AWE) who worked at Metals and Controls Corporation in Attleboro, MA, from January 1, 1952 to December 31, 1967, 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 SEC.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- The Metals and Controls Corporation is an AWE covered facility from January 1, 1952 to December 31, 1967, and served as a facility involved with numerous radiological activities.
- NIOSH lacks sufficient information, which includes thorium internal monitoring and/or air sampling data, to allow it to estimate with sufficient accuracy the potential internal exposures to thorium to which the proposed class may have been subjected from January 1, 1952 through December 31, 1967. The Board concurs with this conclusion.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussions held at our October 20 to 22, 2009, Advisory Board meeting in Port Jefferson, New York the Board recommends that Special Exposure Cohort status be granted.

The Secretary

November 16, 2009

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]

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.  
Chairman, ABRWH

Enclosure