



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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November 7, 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 00192 concerning workers at the Rocky Flats Plant in Golden, Colorado, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 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 and subcontractors who worked at the Rocky Flats Plant in Golden, Colorado, from April 1, 1952, through December 31, 1983, 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 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 sufficient information to allow it to estimate with sufficient accuracy the potential internal doses from exposures to thorium-228, thorium-232, uranium-233, and neptunium-237 to which employees of the Rocky Flats Plant may have been subjected for various periods from April 1, 1952, to December 31, 1983. The Board concurs with this determination.
- NIOSH also determined that health may have been endangered for these Rocky Flats Plant employees during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussion at the October 16 and 17, 2013, Board meeting held in Westminster, Colorado, 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