



## 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 00214 concerning workers at the Sandia National Laboratories-Livermore in Livermore, California 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 in any area at the Sandia National Laboratories-Livermore in Livermore, California, from October 1, 1957, through December 31, 1994, 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 external and internal doses from exposures to radioactive materials, to which employees of the Sandia National Laboratories-Livermore may have been subjected. The Board concurs with this determination.
- NIOSH also determined that health may have been endangered for these Sandia National Laboratories-Livermore employees during the time periods 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