



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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December 9, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia M. Burwell
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 SEC Petition 00234 concerning workers at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory – Area IV in Ventura County, California, under the statutory requirements established by 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 their contractors or subcontractors who worked in any area of Area IV of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory in Ventura County, California from January 1, 1965, through December 31, 1988, 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:

- The Santa Susana – Area IV facility was involved in the development and testing of nuclear reactors and related research.
- NIOSH found that there were insufficient biological monitoring data, air monitoring data or process and radiological source information at this facility in order to complete individual dose reconstructions involving internal radiation exposures with sufficient accuracy for Area IV workers during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this conclusion.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation in Area IV during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussions held at our November 30 to December 1, 2016, Advisory Board meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, 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