

**Division of Compensation Analysis and  
Support  
Program Evaluation Report**

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Effective Date: 3/26/2014  
Revision No. 0

**Grand Junction Operations Office**

Page 1 of 2

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**RECORD OF ISSUE/REVISIONS**

<b>ISSUE AUTHORIZATION DATE</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>REV. NO.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
3/26/2014	3/26/2014	0	New document to determine the effect on previously completed claims due to changes to Grand Junction Operations Office dose reconstructions.

**1.0 Description**

No Technical Basis Document exists for Grand Junction Operations Office (GJO) claims. However, a template has been used as guidance to complete claims. During the evaluation of a Special Exposure Cohort petition, additional information was discovered that required a change to the template. The template was edited on 9/5/2012 to incorporate the additional information. This PER is intended to evaluate the effect of these changes on previous dose reconstructions.

**2.0 Issue Evaluation**

On April 29, 2011, the Secretary of Health and Human Services designated a Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) for GJO. The SEC designation specified that NIOSH was unable to estimate external dose prior to 1960 or internal dose prior to February 1975. While evaluating the SEC petition, additional information was discovered that includes:

- Additional external dosimetry data discovered causing each claim to be reviewed to determine if the data was previously available and used.
- The existence of a neutron source used by geologists requiring an estimate of neutron exposure to specific groups of employees
- While all radiation workers were reportedly monitored, it is now unclear if the monitoring records are complete thus changing the approach to unmonitored workers. Unmonitored workers were previously given an environmental dose but now receive a co-worker dose.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Division of Compensation Analysis and Support</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Program Evaluation Plan</b></p>	<p>Document Number: DCAS-PER-047</p>
<p>Effective Date: 3/26/2014      Revision No. 0</p>	<p>Page 2 of 2</p>

- Additional airborne activity data was found including radon data. This caused a revision to previous intake estimates including radon.

### **3.0 Plan for Resolution or Corrective Action**

All GJOO claims with a probability of causation (POC) <50% were reviewed to determine if the latest information was used. Those that utilized the latest information were not reviewed further. Additionally, those with no employment after 1959 were removed from further consideration since no dose estimate exists in that time frame due to the SEC. Lastly, any of these claims that would qualify for compensation under this SEC (or other SEC) were removed. Qualifying for compensation includes at least 250 days of employment during the SEC period and diagnosis with a qualifying cancer at an applicable time frame following first exposure. Any claims meeting those requirements that also included a cancer not designated for compensation under the SEC would still be considered for potential effect on medical benefits. However, no claims evaluated under this PER met that condition.

This process resulted in a total of 24 claims to be further evaluated under this PER.

#### **3.1 Determination of claims which will change due to TBD revision.**

Dose for the each of the 24 claims was recalculated using all current dose reconstruction methods. From the recalculated dose, a new probability of causation (POC) was determined. The POC remained below 45% for 22 claims. The POC fell between 45% and 50% for 1 claim. For that claim, IREP was run 30 times with 10,000 iterations for each run in accordance with NIOSH procedures. As a result, the claim remained below 50%. The remaining claim produced a POC greater than 50%. NIOSH will notify DOL of all the results and request a return of the 1 claim that would now result in a POC greater than 50%.