



## ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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April 30, 2008

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The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition-00102 concerning workers at the Special Alloy Materials (SAM) Laboratories of Columbia University in New York City, New York under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13 and 42 CFR Sec. 83.14. The Board respectfully recommends Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) status be accorded to all employees of the DOE, its predecessor agencies, and DOE contractors and subcontractors who worked in the Pupin, Schemerhorn, Havenmeyer, Nash, or Prentiss buildings at the SAM Laboratories of Columbia University in New York City, New York from August 13, 1942 through December 31, 1947 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 in the SEC. The Board notes that although NIOSH found that they were unable to completely reconstruct radiation doses for these employees, they believe that they are able to reconstruct the occupational medical dose.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- People working in these areas of the Special Alloy Materials (SAM) Laboratories during this time period were involved in atomic weapons research and development.
- NIOSH was unable to locate sufficient monitoring data or information on radiological operations at these laboratories in order to be able to complete accurate individual dose reconstructions. The Board concurs with this conclusion.

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- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation in these areas of the SAM Laboratories at Columbia University during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this determination.

Enclosed is supporting documentation from the recent Advisory Board Meeting held in Tampa, Florida where this special exposure cohort class was discussed. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,



Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.  
Chairman

Enc.