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January 30, 2008

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-00090 concerning workers at the Mound Plant near Dayton, Ohio under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13. The Board respectfully recommends Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) status be accorded to all employees of the Department of Energy (DOE), its predecessor agencies, and DOE contractors or subcontractors who worked in any areas at the Mound site for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days from October 1, 1949 through February 28, 1959, 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, NIOSH believes that they are able to reconstruct other components of the internal dose and all external doses.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- People working at the Mound facility during this time period worked on research and production activities related to nuclear weapons production.
- The NIOSH review of the available monitoring data as well as the available source term and other information found that they lacked adequate information necessary to conduct accurate individual dose reconstructions for internal doses from exposures to Radium 226, Actinium 227, and Thorium 228 at the Mound facility during the time period in question.

• NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for these Mound facility workers. The Board concurs with this determination.

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

Sincerely,

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.

Chairman

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