



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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2007 JAN -3 P 2:05

January 2, 2007

CHAIRMAN:

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.
Lafayette, Indiana

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

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Elysian, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition-00067 concerning workers at the Allied Chemical Corporation plant in Metropolis, Illinois 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 a Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) be accorded to all Atomic Weapons Employees who were monitored, or should have been monitored for exposure to ionizing radiation, while working at Allied Chemical Corporation plant in Metropolis, Illinois for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days during the period of January 1, 1959 through December 31, 1976, or in combination with work days within the parameters established for one or more other classes of employees included 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 external dose and components of the internal dose (that from uranium), and therefore individuals with non-presumptive cancers may be considered for partial dose reconstructions.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- People working in the Allied Chemical Corporation plant in Metropolis, Illinois were exposed to radiation while working on the conversion of uranium ore concentrates to uranium hexafluoride. In reviewing the available monitoring and other data for these operations, NIOSH found that it did not have access to sufficient information, including personnel dosimetry, workplace monitoring data, or sufficient process and radiological source information, that would allow it to estimate with sufficient accuracy the internal doses to non-uranium radionuclides for the time period from January 1, 1959 through December 31, 1976. The Board concurs with this determination.

STAFF:

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Lewis V. Wade, Ph.D.
Washington, DC

COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT :

LaShawn D. Shields
Atlanta, Georgia

- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation in the Allied Chemical Corporation plant in Metropolis, Illinois within the time period in question. The Board concurs with this determination.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul L. Ziemer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.
Chairman

Enc.