



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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December 8, 2010

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The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
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-00088 concerning workers at Texas City Chemicals, Inc. under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13. The Board respectfully recommends Special Exposure Cohort status be accorded to all Atomic Weapons Employer employees who worked at Texas City Chemicals, Inc. from October 5, 1953, through September 30, 1955, 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:

- People working at this facility during the time period in question worked in uranium extraction operations related to nuclear weapons production.
- NIOSH's review of available data found that it lacked adequate source term, personnel monitoring, and air sampling data in order to complete individual dose reconstructions with sufficient accuracy for exposure to radon for employees working at the facility during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this evaluation.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for these Texas City Chemicals, Inc. workers. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussions held at our November 16-18, 2010 Advisory Board meeting held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the Board recommends that this class be added to the Special Exposure Cohort.

The Secretary

December 8, 2010

Enclosed is the documentation from the Board meeting(s) where this Special Exposure Cohort class was discussed. The documentation includes transcripts of the deliberations, 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