

March 30, 2012

Dear Dr. Ziemer,

I'm writing this letter in response to the recent TBD-6000 Work Group meeting concerning General Steel Industries. After listening to the March 28, 2012 meeting, I would like for you and Wanda I. Munn to know that I am extremely displeased with the recommendations that both of you made toward SEC-105. Although Dr. Anigstein of SC&A stated that (next to no information exist for the first 4 years) from 1953 to mid 1957, it's obvious that you and Wanda I. Munn still believe that accurate radiation doses can be estimated for GSI employees without data for those particular years. There is absolutely no possible way to reconstruct accurate doses without data. As for the years of mid 1957 to mid 1962, the only information available for GSI employees is testimony from one GSI employee that worked weekends only, one photograph of GSI in the early years, one letter from Dr Konnecker and 1 film badge reading. I simply cannot believe that both of you feel that this is sufficient data to base accurate bounding doses on hundreds or thousands of employees. This type of accuracy is unacceptable.

I find it very interesting that more than 6 years ago the Department of Labor insisted that all documentation such as proof of cancer diagnosis, employment records, etc. must be presented in order to proceed with my father's workers compensation claim. Although proof was given that my grandfather was employed at GSI, the DOL denied my father's claim because they said he had to work in the casting department at GSI. My father did provide this information as well. As a clamant, my father was required to show accurate proof, but yet it appears that NIOSH isn't required to show proof of accuracy to the TBD-6000 Work Group. This standard of business is highly unacceptable and very unprofessional.

As I sit here today and think about all the new information that came out about GSI over the past 6 years, I must thank Dr. McKeel for his persistence in finding information and true facts about GSI. I must also thank Mr. Ramspott for all the time spent sifting and sorting through limited amounts information as well. It appears to me that NIOSH really didn't try or want to know the truth about GSI. The reason I say this is because most information regarding GSI was found by either Dr. McKeel or Mr. Ramspott. As of right now, I will never accept the fact the accurate doses can be reconstructed for any GSI employee from 1953-1963 due to the lack of accurate information and the very limited amount of information available for those years. It truly saddens me to think that these brave GSI employees came through for all Americans when they were called upon during the cold war era but yet when it's time to help the GSI employees and their survivors, the TBD-6000 Work Group simply fails. Thank you very much for your time.

Kent Wall