



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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November 16, 2009

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

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Dear Madam Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition 00126 concerning workers at the Piqua Organic Moderated Reactor in Piqua, Ohio, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13 (c)(1) and 42CFR Sec. 83.13 (c)(3). The Board respectfully recommends Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) designation be accorded to all employees of the Department of Energy (DOE), its predecessor agencies, and its contractors and subcontractors who worked at the Piqua Organic Moderated Reactor in Piqua, Ohio, during the covered period from May 2, 1966 through February 28, 1969, 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:

- The Piqua Organic Moderated Reactor site is a DOE covered facility from January 1, 1963 through 1969, and served as a facility involved with nuclear reactor activities.
- NIOSH found that based on the absence of internal monitoring data and the exposure potential during the post-operational period, it is not feasible to estimate radiation dose of all members of the NIOSH evaluated class with sufficient accuracy for the entire evaluated class of employees from May 2, 1966 to February 28, 1969. The Board concurs with this conclusion.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this determination.

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Based on these considerations and the discussions held at our October 20 to 22, 2009, Advisory Board meeting in Port Jefferson, New York the Board recommends that Special Exposure Cohort status be granted.

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]

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.
Chairman, ABRWH

Enclosure