



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

4676 Columbia Parkway, MS: C-46

Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

(513) 533-6825

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September 14, 2011

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 Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition 00177 concerning workers at the Vitro Manufacturing facility in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA) and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13.

The Board respectfully recommends that SEC status be accorded to:

"All Atomic Weapons Employees who worked at Vitro Manufacturing in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, from January 1, 1960 through September 30, 1965, 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 Vitro Manufacturing facility was involved in early uranium processing work for the manufacture of atomic weapons.
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) evaluation found that there were insufficient data to complete individual dose reconstructions with sufficient accuracy for potential occupational exposures to uranium products and uranium progeny during the time period in question. The Board concurs with this determination.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the workers exposed to radiation during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussion at the August 23-25, 2011 Board meeting held in Richland, Washington, the Board recommends that this class be added to the SEC.

The Secretary

September 14, 2011

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