different sites -- SRS, Hanford and Oak Ridge are the ones that I've dealt with mostly -- is that DOE says it does not have the records for workers who have presented Social Security records, W-2 forms, affidavits from fellow workers saying that they worked at the site. I've just really been appalled at DOE's lack of thoroughness in getting records, particularly when they -- they have duPont, Westinghouse or Bechtel that they're dealing with. They know these people have the records and all DOE has been doing is just simply asking them and then saying okay, well, if you don't have them, that's it, and workers claims then getting denied.

I think by continuing to be persistent in asking for the records, NIOSH can at least document that they are asking for the records over and over again. What I've had in several cases is they say there's no records, and then finally when it gets up to Workers Advocacy in Washington, suddenly all the records are there. And by that time NIOSH has already done the dose reconstruction on a very abbreviated work history and they've lost. And so we get up -- all the way up there.

I would point out that the status report sent out by NIOSH that you send out normally really doesn't help much when a dose reconstruction is started and then the status report comes out every month just showing that the dose reconstruction started on the same date, with no changes. I have about a half a dozen clients who have been waiting for more than 180 days for a dose reconstruction and all they get every month is a call saying -- I mean a report, then they call me -- well, all this says is the same thing last month. If it was some kind of expectation or estimate of when the dose reconstruction was going to be completed, then that would give you useful information, I think.

Now in light of the testimony of the two ladies last night, I also want to know -- want you to know about several other women who had worked in this administration building at SRS. They worked as secretaries and then had breast cancer. One client of mine with breast cancer was denied benefits because the NIOSH dose reconstruction procedure was based upon her 30 millirems of exposure over seven years, and it was based supposedly on the most favorable dose. But if -- as you heard last night, if they were working next

to a radiation zone that wasn't separated by any -- any lead or anything else, then there's something that could have happened to these workers. I know of two other workers who were secretaries and they were diagnosed with different cancers. One died in the forties, the other one died in her thirties. And these cases are just the ones I know about or the ones you know about and I know about from last night.

I would join David (sic) Miller in asking that the members of this panel look into this situation and do a -- some type of cancer screening of administrative personnel who were almost 100 percent women and who worked in the 700 areas at SRS.

The last point I would make is that I hope some of you on this committee will also use your expertise to -- with NIOSH's help, to actually perform a dose reconstruction on workers who had lymphomas, leukemia or thyroid cancer. I don't think it's a secret in the scientific community that if you have large numbers of people exposed to radiation that the expected result would be thyroid cancers, lymphomas and leukemias. Somehow the NIOSH dose reconstruction process is not

finding that there is at least a 50 percent probability of causation in these particular cases, at least from the cases I've seen. Please look into this problem because I think something is very wrong with the NIOSH procedures for this particular type cancers, the thyroid, the leukemias and the lymphomas.

Thank you very much. Any questions?

MR. ELLIOTT: Questions for Mr. Warren?

(No responses)

MR. ELLIOTT: Last person we have on the sign-up list is Howard Lawson.

MR. LAWSON: Good afternoon. I guess -- yeah, it's afternoon already. I am Howard Lawson. I'm electrician by trade and a union health and safety representative for the atomic trades and labor council at the Y-12 plant in Oak Ridge. And I've got a couple of issues to lay on you, a couple of bricks -- more bricks for your load. But first, on behalf of the ATLC in Oak Ridge, let me thank the Board, each of you, for the work that you do.

And one of the issues that I have is the one that we've heard a lot about, and that's the Special Exposure Cohort. But before I get into

it, let me remind you just a little bit about Oak Ridge site. And it is one site with three individual plants. We've got the K-25 plant or the gaseous diffusion plant or the -- I guess it's the ETTP now, East Tennessee Technology Plant or something. And of course we have the Y-12 weapons plant where I work, and the X-10 national lab.

Let me find my place here. A lot of things I've lost; I miss my mind more than anything a lot of times.

Though all three plants are different, and basically all the exposures were the same and the monitoring was the same, is one reason that I think that all plants should be in the special cohort. But like I say, there's three plants on one site and of course K-25 is in the special cohort by virtue of being a gaseous diffusion plant. But the ATLC, if you have a opportunity to advise the powers that be on inclusion of people in the special cohort, the ATLC would like to have the current and former workers at Y-12 and X-10 who are affected or have been affected by one of the specific cancers be included in the special cohort as a class of people. Justification for the SEC for X and Y worker is that, like the

gentleman that spoke first, talked about the construction workers moving from site to site, the Oak Ridge workers -- maintenance workers routinely went from one site to the other, for training or one reason or another. Another justification for the SEC classification is workers at X-10 developed and tested many of the diffusion processes that are used around -- around the country. And in bygone years, accident and exposures happened, especially at the Y-12 plant. We've all read about those that -- in those days -- well, not the criticality one, but the others were considered normal or everyday occurrences. And today they're not, they're considered off-normal occurrences and incidents and they're -- just aren't acceptable today, where in days gone by, they were. And I mention that because I want to know if NIOSH can or has taken that into consideration when they're doing the dose reconstruction, or is it possible to -- to estimate those things.

The second issue and final issue that I need your help with is the health screening program. Here again, there's a difference among the three plants on the same site. K-25 has the screening,

and also they have the scat can -- CAT scan truck that is used for early lung detection. And from what I've heard of the people at K-25, it's -- it does work. It's a good thing. The ATLC would like to see that same process come to -- for the current and former workers at Y-12 and X-10.

Now we worked on a screening process with Mark and some more of them on the needs assessment for the screening program, and the last I found out that the medical screening program was in the works and probably will happen. But the CAT scan truck and the early detection system was not going to be part of it. And the ATLC would like to see that -- you know, whatever we can do, whether we borrow it from PACE, which is an outstanding organization, or get a CAT scan truck of our own for the workers at X-10 and Y-12.

DR. ZIEMER: Thank you very much. Are there any -- those are the four commenters that have signed up. Are there any others here who didn't get a chance to sign up that wish to make public comment?

MS. GANTZ: Hello. I'm Julie Gantz. I'm a former employee of Savannah River Site. Like I stated last night, I worked in 773-A on D wing and

I have been told that the office that I worked in at one time was a contaminated lab that was supposedly cleaned up. It backed up to a fab lab, which was in RCA, and there were several times that they would melt the -- I knew that they were melting circuit boards to get the precious metals and fumes would come over into my office and I would get headaches and my eyes would burn immediately. I never knew when they were down there or what they were doing. I never -- did not know until several incidents went by when they were forced to stop and build a retaining wall. There was no retaining wall in between my office and that RCA, and I have since been -- the recommended decision from NIOSH is to deny my claim, and in my report it says that the dose reconstruction likely overestimates my actual exposure. Well, where's the documentation for that? You know, most of this stuff doesn't really tell you a whole lot, just you know, that... I'm getting nervous. I just wanted to know what documentation that, you know, they used to get all this.

DR. ZIEMER: Again, I think in this case we can ask NIOSH staff to individually provide that

documentation since that is protected information that probably wouldn't be in public record, but maybe one of the staff can talk with Ms. --

MS. GANTZ: 'Cause there are two other women besides me and -- plus my boss, we all had cancer and my boss has died, so you can't exactly talk to him.

DR. ZIEMER: It appears that this could also be a case where there were some chemical implications if they were doing circuit board melting, as you described. Unfortunately, this program doesn't address the issue of chemical exposures and health effects of that, but the documentation at least on the radiation dose reconstruction I think -- whatever is needed can probably be provided. Is that -- is that -- I don't think we need to necessarily do that here, but we could have the staff work with -- with you on that.

MS. GANTZ: Okay. Thank you.

DR. ZIEMER: Thank you very much.

MR. ANFIELD: I have one more question. Reflect back to just one small question. I have one -- they was talking about how can they lose the record, I got my check stubs right here to

document it, so would that be -- would that recognize my record from E.I. duPont, my check stubs? Just a copy of my check stubs, you know, like they're saying they can't find the records for some of the employees.

DR. ZIEMER: I don't know the answer to that. Again, can we ask you to work individually with one of the staff and maybe --

MR. ANFIELD: Well, who is the staff?

MR. ELLIOTT: (Off microphone) Labor's not here right now (Inaudible) clarification.

DR. ZIEMER: That's a -- oh, that's a Department of Labor employment verification issue.

MR. ANFIELD: Yes.

DR. ZIEMER: Can we provide this gentleman with the person he should contact?

MR. ELLIOTT: (Off microphone) Maybe (Inaudible) resource center can help (Inaudible).

DR. ZIEMER: We'll try to help you, sir.

MR. ANFIELD: Okay. Thank you very much.

DR. ZIEMER: This then concludes our open session of the Board meeting. Let me ask if there are any other announcements or issues that need to come before us in open session today.

(No responses)

If not, we are going to recess for lunch, and the Board will reconvene at 1:30 p.m., at which -- which is a closed session. I want to announce to members of the public that that session will be confined to discussion and review of the task order proposal and independent government cost estimate for the Board's contractor, and no other business will be conducted. Thank you very much.

(Whereupon, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned, 12:30 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF GEORGIA)
)
COUNTY OF FULTON)

I, STEVEN RAY GREEN, being a Certified Merit Court Reporter in and for the State of Georgia, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript was reduced to typewriting by me personally or under my direct supervision, and is a true, complete, and correct transcript of the aforesaid proceedings reported by me.

I further certify that I am not related to, employed by, counsel to, or attorney for any parties, attorneys, or counsel involved herein; nor am I financially interested in this matter.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL this 29th day of February, 2004.

Steven R Green

STEVEN RAY GREEN, CVR-CM
GA CCR No. A-2102