

This transcript of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health, Mound Work Group, has been reviewed for concerns under the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552a) and personally identifiable information has been redacted as necessary. The transcript, however, has not been reviewed and certified by the Chair of the Mound Work Group for accuracy at this time. The reader should be cautioned that this transcript is for information only and is subject to change.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL  
SAFETY AND HEALTH

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ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND  
WORKER HEALTH

+ + + + +

MOUND WORK GROUP

+ + + + +

TUESDAY,  
JUNE 5, 2012

+ + + + +

The Work Group meeting convened in the Zurich Room of the Cincinnati Airport Marriott Hotel, 2395 Progress Drive, Hebron, Kentucky at 9:00 a.m., Josie Beach, Chair, presiding.

PRESENT:

JOSIE BEACH, Chair  
BRADLEY P. CLAWSON, Member  
PHILLIP SCHOFIELD, Member\*  
PAUL L. ZIEMER, Member

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ALSO PRESENT:

2

TED KATZ, Designated Federal Official  
TERRIE BARRIE\*  
ROBERT BARTON, SC&A\*  
RON BUCHANAN, SC&A\*  
JOSEPH FITZGERALD, SC&A  
KARIN JESSEN, ORAU  
JENNY LIN, HHS  
JOHN MAURO, SC&A\*  
ROBERT MORRIS, ORAU\*  
JAMES NETON, ORAU  
BILLY SMITH, ORAU\*  
JOHN STIVER, SC&A

\*Present via telephone

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 4

2 9:00 a.m.

3 MR. KATZ: Is everybody in here  
4 ready to get going? Josie, are you?

5 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

6 (Roll call.)

7 MR. KATZ: Very good. There is an  
8 agenda for this meeting. It's pretty simple.  
9 It's posted on the web and the Chair can go  
10 through that.

11 And there are also various  
12 documents related to this meeting, and they  
13 should be posted on the web as well.

14 And it's your meeting, Josie.

15 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

16 MR. KATZ: And just to remind  
17 everyone on the line when you're not speaking  
18 to the group, please mute your phone. If you  
19 don't have a mute button, use \*6. And then  
20 press \*6 again to unmute your phone. Thank  
21 you.

22 CHAIR BEACH: Thank you. We are

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1 going to go ahead and take off where we left<sub>5</sub>  
2 off on our last meeting on April 10th.

3 We're going to start with  
4 tritides. The Agenda as Ted pointed out, is  
5 pretty brief. I didn't give any times because  
6 of that.

7 So, we'll start with tritides.  
8 We'll work into adequacy and completeness of  
9 internal dosimetry. There's a couple items on  
10 that.

11 We'll talk about Work Group  
12 recommendations, and then some action plans as  
13 how we'll proceed at our meeting in June in  
14 Santa Fe.

15 And then I did ask SC&A to put  
16 together the Site Profile issues for the last  
17 four to five years we've been working with the  
18 Mound. And we didn't really want to do  
19 anything with it other than just to get it on  
20 the table, give NIOSH a chance to look at it,  
21 SC&A, make sure that we're capturing all the  
22 Site Profile issues. And then make a plan of

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1 how we're going to correct the Site Profile<sub>6</sub>  
2 issues so that we don't lose any momentum  
3 there.

4 And then I did want an update, and  
5 I talked to Jim about it, it is not on the  
6 agenda, but an update on the radon issues that  
7 we discussed in our April meeting. So, just  
8 kind of where NIOSH is with those items.

9 And the last work paper that came  
10 out with tritides on May, was an SC&A White  
11 Paper. And I'm going to go ahead and turn  
12 this over to Joe and the SC&A Team to walk us  
13 through that paper.

14 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. Thank you,  
15 Josie.

16 Went ahead and did a bit of a  
17 chronology which is in the paper, because this  
18 has a fair bit of history. And so, the  
19 summary at the deliberations piece is the more  
20 detailed account, but let me just sort of back  
21 up and just go through this a little bit.

22 This particular piece of the STC

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1 or tritides review really started in July of  
2 2010, almost two years ago. And we had spent  
3 time looking at different issues related to  
4 exposure potential and what available data  
5 there might be.

6 But at that point I think we had  
7 sort of reached a point where after a number  
8 of secure sessions and interviews, that I  
9 think the Work Group at that time felt it had  
10 a fix on the fact that there were support  
11 workers that might have been implicated, that  
12 there was an exposure potential for those  
13 support workers, and that there wasn't a clear  
14 pathway for dose-reconstructability. And I  
15 think at that particular Work Group meeting  
16 that's kind of where it came to.

17 And at that meeting, I think NIOSH  
18 alluded to having acquired about that time a  
19 lot of swipe data that I think there was some  
20 feeling that that might be applicable useful  
21 way to go forward on the question.

22 And at that point in time, I think

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1 the Work Group wanted to see what would come  
2 from that analysis using swipe data as a basis  
3 for looking at inhalation using a resuspension  
4 factor.

5 Now, saying that, I think it was  
6 pretty clear we - meaning in this case SC&A  
7 and NIOSH staff - agreed to disagree on the  
8 question of whether that exposure was  
9 negligible or not. I mean, I think even two  
10 years ago we were having that sort of debate.

11 There was no question of an  
12 exposure potential. I think there was  
13 agreement that that potential was established,  
14 but the question really was whether that  
15 exposure was trivial or not.

16 And at that point we didn't have  
17 any data, but we agreed to disagree on that  
18 question.

19 In any case, what's been proposed,  
20 and this is going back, geez, I guess we first  
21 saw pieces of an analysis back in October of  
22 last year.

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1                   We saw pieces of a swipe-based  
2 theoretical model that would in fact as we  
3 found out in the December analysis,  
4 demonstrate that an exposure potential for the  
5 support workers based on that analysis was  
6 deemed to be very small and equivalent to  
7 negligible and that no dose reconstruction  
8 would be necessary.

9                   In our analysis, we evaluated the  
10 pieces of that review and we had a Work Group  
11 meeting. I think it was in November. And we  
12 had an initial discussion then.

13                   And at that meeting, I raised some  
14 questions on plausibility. Hadn't had really  
15 a chance to see the full analysis, but felt  
16 that at that very early stage there might be  
17 some questions on the overall plausibility of  
18 the approach.

19                   That's where we kind of left it,  
20 and we did get the full analysis in early  
21 January, which was right before the January  
22 Work Group meeting.

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1                   And that first White Paper which<sup>10</sup>  
2 was sort of taking the pieces we saw in  
3 October providing the full analysis, is what  
4 we now call the extreme case, which is - and I  
5 tend to agree.

6                   It tended to take the variables  
7 and assumptions and use the - more or less the  
8 extreme values. And I think in that case, the  
9 resuspension factor is the most influential  
10 variable. In that case, the assumed value was  
11 fairly extreme.

12                  And we did a review of that  
13 particular White Paper. But before our review  
14 was completed and before the last Work Group  
15 meeting, we got a second White Paper which  
16 proposed what I think we call in our review -  
17 well, NIOSH does too - the realistic case and  
18 used the case study using what was termed more  
19 realistic values.

20                  And that was issued in - well, it  
21 was written late March, but issued in - we got  
22 it in early April. And that was right before

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1 the last Work Group meeting.

11

2 So, we chose to withhold the  
3 analysis we had done on the first paper to  
4 sort of scrutinize and to understand what's  
5 happened in the second White Paper and to  
6 provide a complete analysis with that second  
7 paper in mind. And that's what this analysis  
8 is.

9 I mean, again we started this for  
10 the first one, but we augmented it to include  
11 the second one and the - an approach which is  
12 in that second paper.

13 And our evaluation in short, and  
14 we're going to go through this in some detail,  
15 so I just want to summarize, first reviews the  
16 adequacy and completeness of the swipe data.

17 We had told the Work Group at the  
18 last meeting that we would start there, look  
19 at the question of adequacy and completeness  
20 of the data itself again because this was the  
21 first time we had actually seen this data that  
22 was alluded to back in July of 2009 - or was

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1 it 2010? I'm sorry. 2010. 12

2 And we would also look at the  
3 assumptions in the same light in terms of the  
4 adequacy and the completeness of the  
5 assumptions that were included in that model.

6 The second thing that we looked  
7 at, and this is something, you know, I went  
8 back and looked at the transcripts that were  
9 posted and this is something that we did  
10 discuss at the last Work Group meeting.

11 I mean, it wasn't written down,  
12 but I think I went into some detail as to some  
13 of the concerns we had relative to the  
14 uncertainties that would be associated with  
15 using a theoretical model and the variables  
16 that are in that model and what the  
17 implications might be if one was looking at a  
18 use of that model as a go/no-go for dose  
19 reconstruction consideration.

20 And that's the - sort of the  
21 source of the sort of two -- I put in  
22 quotation marks "policy implications," but

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1 these are just sort of questions that arise<sup>13</sup>  
2 above the technical questions which are, you  
3 know, given the nature of the model, how do  
4 these uncertainties affect that and would that  
5 in fact have implications for how it's being  
6 applied in this particular case?

7 And that's kind of what we  
8 discussed at the last Work Group meeting, but  
9 what's in the paper is really a written  
10 rendition of what I had to say at that  
11 session, some of the concerns I have in that  
12 area.

13 And that would be, I guess, the  
14 going-in summary of where we are today. We  
15 wanted to go ahead and try to be as precise as  
16 we can about some of the concerns that we  
17 expressed verbally in the past two Work Group  
18 meetings.

19 We never quite got to the written  
20 word. We're kind of responding to these two  
21 White Papers that came up right before the two  
22 Work Group meetings.

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1                   So, we did want to spend some time<sup>14</sup>  
2                   trying to as clearly as we could, write down -  
3                   and some of this is a little nuance, but  
4                   trying to write down what we thought were some  
5                   of the implications that the Work Group ought  
6                   to think about and perhaps query the data from  
7                   that standpoint.

8                   I think what we'd like to do,  
9                   Josie, if you're agreeable, is since we did go  
10                  through a fair amount of analysis, just to  
11                  translate that and make it a little clearer by  
12                  walking through that analysis.

13                  The first one was looking at the  
14                  adequacy and completeness of the swipe model  
15                  itself and looking at the assumptions  
16                  themselves.

17                  That review was led by Bob Barton,  
18                  who's on the phone. And what I'd like to do  
19                  is just have Bob kind of walk through that as  
20                  quickly and slowly as anybody wants to. And  
21                  just to make sure that, you know, that's clear  
22                  and that the conclusions are -

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1 DR. NETON: This is Jim. I wonder<sup>15</sup>  
2 if it might not be better to start off at this  
3 higher level, which is the policy implications  
4 and just get those on the table first.

5 Because if those can't be  
6 resolved, these little issues that you've  
7 identified to being smaller bit players in the  
8 whole - I saw nothing in the analysis -

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

10 DR. NETON: -- the technical  
11 analysis that would preclude us from using the  
12 model.

13 I mean, there were issues about  
14 the amount of uncertainty and representatives  
15 of some of the samples, but by and large I  
16 didn't see anything that said this is  
17 technically wrong. I mean, but there are some  
18 policy issues about us being able to use the  
19 model.

20 In particular - well, is it okay  
21 to start with the -

22 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

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1 DR. NETON: I just want to say <sup>a</sup><sub>16</sub>  
2 few things about the distinct impression I got  
3 from reading SC&A's paper that NIOSH was  
4 committed to not including these doses in dose  
5 reconstructions.

6 I think there was a little bit of  
7 talking past each other maybe at this last  
8 meeting, but I was pretty clear that I thought  
9 at the last meeting that anything that would  
10 exceed one millirem exposure would, our  
11 practice, be included in dose reconstructions.

12 I don't think that we were ever  
13 saying that - I think originally Brant may  
14 have started off down that path with this  
15 analysis. But it's become pretty clear at  
16 least to me and SC&A has demonstrated that for  
17 other case scenarios that one can evaluate,  
18 the doses can exceed one millirem for the  
19 lung. No doubt about it. So, we would  
20 propose that this be used to reconstruct doses  
21 for people.

22 Now, the staff at Mound that this

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1 applied to is somewhat limited. It's<sub>17</sub>  
2 recognizing that there's an SEC prior to 1980  
3 in the tritium building where these exposures  
4 occurred. So, all those folks are already in  
5 the SEC.

6 This would only be applied prior  
7 to 1980 to those people who had non-  
8 presumptive cancers. In particular, the  
9 tritide exposures would only affect people  
10 with lung cancers.

11 CHAIR BEACH: Did you say prior to  
12 1980?

13 DR. NETON: Right. Because we have  
14 an SEC up to 1980 for the SW building.

15 CHAIR BEACH: We have some time  
16 period between '80 and later years.

17 DR. NETON: Yes. Well, first I'm  
18 just trying to triage this a little bit and  
19 say -

20 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

21 DR. NETON: - prior to 1980 these  
22 exposures are - people who have these types of

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1 exposures are in the SEC. 18

2 There is the issue of the  
3 remaining non-presumptive cancers. But the  
4 way the tritide model was developed for this  
5 time period, re-suspended hafnium tritide in  
6 the air, assuming it was a hundred percent  
7 hafnium tritide and had people inhaled that  
8 amount of hafnium tritide, that would only be  
9 maximized where people have lung cancers.  
10 Because it would be - it would deliver a  
11 higher dose if they were to use their regular  
12 tritium bioassay, because then it would  
13 immediately go to the affected organs rather  
14 than being held up in the lungs and then  
15 slowly dissolve into the system.

16 So, prior to 1980 it only affects  
17 lung cancers. After 1980, it really only  
18 affects lung cancers, period. And it only  
19 affects people who worked in the SW building.

20 So, it does - it's a limited  
21 population of workers, but we would assign the  
22 doses derived from this model to those

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1 workers.

19

2 So, I just want to make that clear  
3 that it's not an issue with us whether there's  
4 a de minimis dose here that wouldn't be  
5 included.

6 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, the reason  
7 we raise this and we did kind of make, you  
8 know, opened it up for revisiting it at this  
9 meeting because we weren't sure even though --

10 DR. NETON: Right.

11 MR. FITZGERALD: -- at the last  
12 two Work Group meetings we came back and  
13 expressly asked that question because, you  
14 know, again that's what we heard, but we  
15 wanted to make it clear in the answer. And  
16 that's why we used the quotes in there.

17 DR. NETON: Yes.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: The answer was  
19 that, you know, that these were essentially  
20 negligible, but what you're saying now is  
21 that's not the intent.

22 DR. NETON: Right.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. 20

2 MEMBER CLAWSON: Help me to  
3 understand.

4 DR. NETON: So, I wanted to make  
5 sure we got that clarified before we proceed.

6 MEMBER CLAWSON: Because my  
7 understanding was that you did this, that  
8 NIOSH did this test and that the reports came  
9 back and that they were negligible, but were  
10 not going to do dose reconstruction, that it  
11 wasn't needed.

12 DR. NETON: Well, it -

13 MEMBER CLAWSON: And that's why we  
14 went off and did this whole evaluation of what  
15 the uncertainty of it was and everything else  
16 was.

17 DR. NETON: I think that it was  
18 certainly -- the way it was originally drafted  
19 was an attempt to demonstrate that the doses  
20 were very small.

21 And in fact in a particular case  
22 example that was cited, it was -- I think that

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1 the dose was less than a millirem or something  
2 like that and said, well, if they were that  
3 small, maybe we wouldn't worry about them.

4 But then it is clear I said that  
5 at the last meeting that if anything over a  
6 millirem would have to be included in a dose  
7 reconstruction, we cannot leave things on the  
8 table like that.

9 And I can understand the confusion  
10 on this issue. But our position as of today,  
11 you know, I think my position as of the last  
12 meeting, maybe it wasn't very clear, was that  
13 we would include this in dose reconstruction.

14 MEMBER CLAWSON: Okay, this is Brad  
15 again.

16 So, each one of these dose  
17 reconstructions are going to come in and  
18 you're going to do a test to them to see if  
19 they're going to get this dose or not.

20 This is kind of interesting,  
21 because I've never seen - I've never seen  
22 where we test the dose reconstruction first

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1 and then see if they get a dose or not. And  
2 to me, you have to run this test to see if  
3 they get it or not.

4 DR. NETON: Well, that's not true.

5 We do that all the time, Brad. We always  
6 will run the gamut of the scenarios that are  
7 out there that are plausible, which there may  
8 be some debate on this, but all plausible  
9 scenarios and pick the dose that provides the  
10 highest dose to the cancer that we're  
11 evaluating.

12 So in this particular case, in my  
13 opinion, for non - for support workers, we  
14 have bioassay on these people because they  
15 were all bioassayed when they went in the SW  
16 building, we evaluate the HTO dose, tritiated  
17 water dose, they're on bioassay. And also if  
18 they have a lung cancer, though, then we would  
19 do a tritide, a hafnium tritide dose because  
20 the water inhalation is typically going to be  
21 higher than a hafnium tritide.

22 Because what happens, the hafnium

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1 tritide holds up in the lung, sits there, ~~it~~  
2 irradiates the lung a lot longer, and then the  
3 tritium slowly bleeds off into the other  
4 organs.

5 So, you're better off getting a  
6 more soluble intake.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: I think the reason  
8 there's a little confusion is the model, you  
9 know, even the written White Paper expresses  
10 the approach as one to evaluate exposure  
11 potential versus an actual dose reconstruction  
12 method.

13 And that was surprising at one of  
14 the Work Group meetings. And we went back and  
15 said, you know, are we hearing that right?  
16 Because I think the Work Group had requested  
17 back in 2010, you know, to get a dose  
18 reconstruction approach and this seemed to be  
19 something a little different than that.

20 And that's why we are very  
21 carefully through the last two Work Group  
22 meetings, trying to clarify more than anything

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1 else what exactly are we looking at. 24

2 And it was configured to be one  
3 that evaluated the dose from the standpoint of  
4 - and I even asked you that question as to,  
5 you know, is this a dose reconstruction  
6 method?

7 And the answer was, no, this was  
8 really one that would - I don't know whether  
9 the word would be "test," but this would be  
10 actually looking at whether it was a trivial  
11 or not dose. And the conclusion was as it  
12 turns out, it was a trivial dose.

13 So, this is definitely different  
14 than what's been portrayed in the two White  
15 Papers and the past discussions not to say  
16 that, you know, we're at a different place,  
17 but I'm just saying that's why we were  
18 expressing some concerns about that.

19 DR. NETON: I clearly said that  
20 anything more than one millirem would have to  
21 be included in the dose reconstruction. I  
22 know I said that.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Oh, you did say<sup>25</sup>  
2 that, but I'm -

3 DR. NETON: I thought maybe -

4 MR. FITZGERALD: We were trying to  
5 reconcile that with the context of what was  
6 presented before that.

7 DR. NETON: I looked in the  
8 executive summary of the tritide paper -

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

10 DR. NETON: - and the final  
11 sentence says the assessment demonstrates the  
12 exposures and inhalation of insoluble metal  
13 tritide at Mound were small, plausible and  
14 bounding.

15 Doesn't say not required to be  
16 included or anything. It would be the  
17 implication if all cases were that way, but  
18 it's true as SC&A has pointed out, that  
19 they're not all below a millirem.

20 That particular case study was,  
21 but there are numbers of other scenarios that  
22 one can come up with to put it over the

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1 millirem - 26

2 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, again I  
3 think the - and not to beat this thing, but  
4 certainly the dialog over the last couple of  
5 Work Group meetings, and I've gone through  
6 transcripts and everything, I mean, clearly we  
7 were concerned about that interpretation and  
8 went back a couple, two or three times to  
9 clarify it.

10 And am I the only one - I think  
11 the Work Group felt that that was what we were  
12 hearing.

13 Now, saying that -

14 MEMBER ZIEMER: Well, can I just -  
15 while you're on that topic, just interrupt  
16 just for a moment if I might.

17 I think there was some confusion  
18 on the basis for the millirem value. And it  
19 came up again I think maybe in your paper,  
20 Joe, where you indicated you had gone back -  
21 there was some implication that IREP didn't  
22 handle anything below a millirem.

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1 Was it you that - or was it NIOSH?<sup>2,7</sup>

2 MR. FITZGERALD: No, wait, I think

3 -

4 MEMBER ZIEMER: Said, no, they went  
5 back and it does. It will handle smaller  
6 doses.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

8 DR. NETON: Yes, that's another  
9 issue.

10 (Simultaneous speaking.)

11 DR. NETON: But nonetheless, we  
12 would -

13 MEMBER ZIEMER: The millirem is not  
14 a magic number in any event. You're going to  
15 include it.

16 DR. NETON: Yeah, we'll -

17 MEMBER ZIEMER: I mean, do you -

18 DR. NETON: There are proximal  
19 implications for what one includes in dose  
20 reconstruction.

21 MEMBER ZIEMER: Right.

22 DR. NETON: For example, if you

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1 have an environmental exposure that the first-<sup>28</sup>  
2 year exposure gives you five millirem and then  
3 say IREP will calculate or IMBA will calculate  
4 doses ten to the fifth, ten to the sixth, ten  
5 to the eighth, ten to the ninth millirem out  
6 30 years.

7 MEMBER ZIEMER: Right.

8 DR. NETON: And it's very unwieldy  
9 to keep including those type of doses. So,  
10 there's some practical limitations on what we  
11 include in --

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. And then  
13 this came up because --and Brant was sitting  
14 right there and he said, you know,  
15 categorically the doses to the support workers  
16 were not significant. And, therefore, there  
17 didn't need to be dose reconstruction.

18 I said, well, what do you mean by  
19 - how do you - what's significant? And that's  
20 when he threw the ball back at you and we were  
21 trying to figure out, you know, is there a  
22 definition of significant. And that's where

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1 the one millirem came up as sort of a de  
2 facto, this is kind of a benchmark for what's  
3 considered significant.

4 And then that got into this  
5 discussion, well, where does the one millirem  
6 come from? And that's where we were talking  
7 about IREP and I - we, you know, as I said, I  
8 - you're right. That's not the important  
9 issue, but we kept hearing that sort of  
10 categorically that the doses to support  
11 workers - again, two years ago I think Brant  
12 was pretty clear that these were negligible.  
13 And that was pretty much the mantra all the  
14 way through this -

15 DR. NETON: I don't know. I mean,  
16 the first few analyses that you alluded to  
17 back in 2010 were coming up with doses that  
18 were something in the order of hundreds of  
19 millirem, if I recall.

20 MR. FITZGERALD: No, no.

21 DR. NETON: And they became more  
22 and more refined. As they became more - as

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1 the process evolved and more and more data<sup>30</sup>  
2 became available, it became more refined.  
3 They started to drop as you took out some of  
4 these very large overestimates.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Now, the  
6 chronologies - and back in 2010, we didn't  
7 really have any numbers. What we had was data  
8 for the ten operators who we knew by name.

9 DR. NETON: Yeah.

10 MR. FITZGERALD: And at that point,  
11 you know, we had a number of renditions where  
12 we expressed some concern that there was more  
13 than ten people. That in fact these ten  
14 operators had to be supported by support  
15 workers, you know, maintenance people, HP  
16 techs and that kind of thing.

17 And we established that was in  
18 fact the case and that there was exposure  
19 potential based on the interviews with Mound  
20 workers. The Work Group was part of that  
21 discussion.

22 And at that point back in July of

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1 2010, there was agreement, actually. I think<sup>31</sup>  
2 we did agree that there was an exposure  
3 potential.

4 MR. KATZ: Oh, I can hear it.  
5 Someone is talking on the line, having a  
6 conversation at their own location.

7 Will you please mute your phone?  
8 Press \*6 if you don't have a mute button, and  
9 that will mute your phone.

10 Someone who is talking right now.  
11 There is a woman talking right now. Please,  
12 if you're on this line, you shouldn't be  
13 talking on an open mic.

14 So, please mute your phone. Press  
15 \*6 so the rest of us can hear each other.  
16 Thank you.

17 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, let me just  
18 finish. So, in that July's meeting, we got to  
19 that point where we acknowledged that there  
20 was an exposure potential to the support  
21 workers. And, again, I think, however, the  
22 difference was Brant at that time felt that

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1 that dose would be negligible and we felt that<sup>32</sup>  
2 in fact that exposure potential is something  
3 that should be considered for dose  
4 reconstruction.

5 And the source of that difference,  
6 and I don't want to put too much on this, was  
7 interviews with people familiar with the  
8 program. And, you know, we were getting into  
9 these intermittent glove-box failure which you  
10 tend to have when you're dealing with tritium.

11 And we talked to these folks and  
12 said, you know, when you're handling in these  
13 tritide operations, did you have the kind of  
14 glove-box failures you tend to have in tritium  
15 operations? And they said, yeah, of course.

16 And would the tritides figure in  
17 some release scenario based on that? And they  
18 said, yes, but, you know, it would be  
19 understandably small.

20 So, you know, that's all we had.  
21 Literally, that's all we had. So, we  
22 interpreted that to say, well, there's an

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1 exposure potential that needs to be reviewed<sup>33</sup>  
2 and looked at.

3 And I think at that point, Brant  
4 felt that even though there's an exposure  
5 potential, it would be negligible and  
6 something that would not be of concern from  
7 the programmatic standpoint.

8 And we went from there, Jim, and  
9 we got to this first December 2011 White Paper  
10 and that was the so-called extreme case.

11 DR. NETON: Right. That was the  
12 one I thought that was in the hundred  
13 millirem, 200 millirem -

14 MR. FITZGERALD: That got - yeah,  
15 that got to a couple hundred millirem.

16 DR. NETON: Right.

17 MR. FITZGERALD: And that was the  
18 first time actually there was a number  
19 attached to it.

20 DR. NETON: Right.

21 MR. FITZGERALD: And, you know -

22 DR. NETON: I don't think at that

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1 time we were indicating that that wouldn't be  
2 included in dose reconstruction.

3 MR. FITZGERALD: No, it was called  
4 very small. But, again, if you go back to  
5 that particular meeting, which was January  
6 5th, and we went into that issue as to - I  
7 think I've got the citations here, but we went  
8 into that issue talking about the significance  
9 and the question of whether or not this was a  
10 dose reconstruction method, or whether in fact  
11 it was just simply to look at exposure  
12 potential.

13 DR. NETON: Well, I think we're  
14 getting caught up in the difference between  
15 saying we can demonstrate that we can bound  
16 things versus do we have a refined dose  
17 reconstruction methodology.

18 Those things sort of always kind  
19 of go hand in hand. Just because you can say  
20 you put an upper limit on something,  
21 eventually you have to come to some way to  
22 apply that to the cases.

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1                   And in fact, I think this next<sup>35</sup>  
2 iteration is exactly that, the one that came  
3 out a few months ago.

4                   CHAIR BEACH: So, you're talking  
5 the March 30th, 2012, that paper?

6                   DR. NETON: The most -

7                   MR. FITZGERALD: The most recent  
8 iteration.

9                   CHAIR BEACH: That's the most -

10                  DR. NETON: Well, you know, as they  
11 became more and more refined, the doses went  
12 down and down and became smaller and smaller.

13                  Brant's position was it became  
14 manageable small and I can understand that he  
15 was indicating that they were probably so  
16 small they wouldn't need to be included in  
17 dose reconstruction. It's clear to me that  
18 the dose is past some threshold where you'd  
19 have to include it.

20                  So, what I'm saying here today,  
21 which I guess is probably the most important  
22 thing, is that we would include these in dose

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1 reconstructions using this methodology. 36

2 DR. MAURO: This is John. I agree  
3 with Jim in terms of this is a clarification  
4 that we really needed because we weren't quite  
5 sure as Joe had pointed out, whether the case  
6 was being made that it's negligible, or the  
7 case is being made, no, we have a coworker  
8 model now that can be used to place a  
9 plausible upper bound.

10 And I think that we, you know, in  
11 our perspective, this clarification allows us  
12 now to focus in on the assumptions, the model,  
13 the approach that you have adopted and the  
14 degree to which you have sufficient data,  
15 swipe data, and that you selected are  
16 resuspension factors and other parameters that  
17 do represent a way to come at the problem and  
18 assign a plausible upper bound to some groups  
19 of workers that might have been exposed.

20 So, I think this is important.  
21 I'm very glad you brought that up, Jim,  
22 because we were not - quite frankly we were

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1 operating on the premise that this was not<sup>37</sup>  
2 being offered up as a way to do dose  
3 reconstruction.

4 MR. STIVER: This is John Stiver.  
5 I second what John just said.

6 I had asked Brant directly at the  
7 last Subcommittee meeting whether this was  
8 indeed going to be used as a coworker model.  
9 And I didn't get the point because this more  
10 realistic or not quite as bounding set of  
11 parameters that were chosen yielded doses that  
12 were, in his opinion, vanishingly small. He  
13 thought that it would be probably better just  
14 as a demonstration than just whether you'd  
15 need to be reconstructed.

16 But I think we're kind of  
17 incrementally getting to a point where we can  
18 see that indeed resuspension factor, the  
19 degree of solubility, the effectiveness of  
20 reasonable process and things of that nature.

21 Oh, and uncertainties that were going to  
22 drive the range of plausible doses over a

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1 millirem.

38

2                   So, it does need to be  
3 reconstructed and Jim is presenting that now.

4 I think that's a great -

5                   DR. NETON: And the only thing I'd  
6 like to point out in addition to this unless  
7 I'm missing something here, is this would only  
8 be applied - this technique would only be  
9 applied to lung cancers.

10                   We have bioassay data, tritium  
11 bioassay data for everyone else. And I  
12 believe that those would end up being higher  
13 to organs that are nonrespiratory tract organs  
14 using the tritium water model.

15                   MEMBER ZIEMER: So, just to  
16 clarify, so pre-'80 if you have someone who  
17 doesn't qualify for the SEC in terms of the  
18 250 days or whatever, if they have lung cancer  
19 you would use the tritide model. If they have  
20 another cancer, you'd use the tritium bioassay  
21 as -

22                   DR. NETON: Everyone was required

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1 to submit that worked in the SW building. 39

2 MEMBER ZIEMER: Right. If it's  
3 after '80, it would only be used for lung  
4 cancer cases.

5 DR. NETON: Well, we would run both  
6 -

7 (Simultaneous speaking.)

8 DR. NETON: The maximum dose would  
9 be for lung cancer cases. You would probably  
10 end up with a higher dose using the regular  
11 tritium model.

12 MEMBER ZIEMER: But that would be  
13 checked at least.

14 DR. NETON: Yes, we would check it.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I was  
16 wondering wouldn't you just run it and see -  
17 you're just saying that -

18 DR. NETON: We could do both, but  
19 it seems to me that if you have -

20 MR. FITZGERALD: If you validated  
21 it, you -

22 MEMBER ZIEMER: It's likely only

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1 lung cancer, but you would still run - 40

2 MR. FITZGERALD: You would still  
3 run it for everything just to make sure.

4 DR. NETON: Right. Because we may  
5 actually have higher tritium HTO intakes  
6 beyond the resuspension that occurred from the  
7 material on the ground.

8 I mean, so we would take the  
9 bioassay data and run it as if it were HTO.

10 MR. FITZGERALD: And the DR  
11 approach, I mean, let's call it a DR approach  
12 now since it's clearly not an exposure  
13 potential analysis, is the model as it's  
14 written. I mean, it's -

15 DR. NETON: Well, there's still  
16 some -- it is subject to debate about whether  
17 the 50th or the 95th percentile would be used.  
18 That's always open for discussion.

19 We tend to use the 95th percentile  
20 in these cases, because there's a lot of other  
21 uncertainty that you - SC&A has well pointed  
22 out.

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1                   And if we use this fixed<sup>41</sup>  
2                   resuspension factor, this approach would be  
3                   totally consistent with what we've done in  
4                   many other places and particularly residual  
5                   contamination periods there. Resuspend the  
6                   material, pick the 95th percentile value of  
7                   the contaminant and assume that that is re-  
8                   suspended in that concentration for every hour  
9                   of every day that these people work. And I  
10                  think it sort of accounts for some of the  
11                  other uncertainties that are in there.

12                  The alternative would be to run it  
13                  as a full-fledged distribution of values, you  
14                  know, picking a distribution about the  
15                  resuspension factor, distribution about the  
16                  concentration using the 50th percentile of  
17                  that and run it through in that way.

18                  MR. FITZGERALD: And this would be  
19                  for all workers that -

20                  DR. NETON: All workers that had -

21                  MR. FITZGERALD: -- had tritium  
22                  bioassay.

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1 DR. NETON: -- tritium bioassay<sub>42</sub>  
2 correct.

3 CHAIR BEACH: So, if you look at  
4 Joe's point, the second point, the use of the  
5 conceptional model for which site-specific and  
6 empirical values of the SECs are lacking, so  
7 basically you lack site-specific parameters  
8 and there's still too many variables that I  
9 can see.

10 DR. NETON: Well, I mean, we have  
11 site-specific data. There are smears taken in  
12 all the rooms by year.

13 The resuspension factor is not  
14 necessarily site-specific, but this is exactly  
15 how we model residual contamination. This is  
16 a TIB-70-type approach that SC&A has reviewed  
17 and has not said is invalid.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Well, that's a  
19 technical discussion. I think Bob Barton is  
20 going to -

21 DR. NETON: Right. But what I'm  
22 saying is to say that the approach is not

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1 valid, I would say that we've used this many<sup>43</sup>  
2 times in the past and I don't know why it  
3 wouldn't be valid here to resuspend material  
4 into the air.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Let me clarify. I  
6 think - in fact, we actually say this in the  
7 review, and I think Bob will second this in  
8 his more detailed discussion, is that we don't  
9 fault the analysis or the model itself.

10 DR. NETON: Yes, when I read that,  
11 I thought I was done reading.

12 (Laughter.)

13 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. No, no.  
14 The model itself is not -

15 (Simultaneous speaking.)

16 MR. FITZGERALD: I think it has a  
17 lot of history and all the rest of it.  
18 Clearly we're more concerned and have been  
19 from Day 1, on tritides. In fact, the  
20 uncertainties - this is a subjective thing,  
21 again.

22 And I think you said in one of the

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1 Work Group meetings that applying models like<sup>44</sup>  
2 this, it's not unheard to actually reflect the  
3 uncertainties - uncertainty ranges on some of  
4 these things.

5 That is where, you know, we had  
6 two concerns. And I think you satisfied the  
7 first one in your clarification.

8 But the second one is that when a  
9 theoretical model - and again this is - it's  
10 hardly one or the other. I mean, this does  
11 have some site-specific information and does  
12 have the tritium even though we don't know how  
13 much of the tritide is in the tritium.

14 It was done in the locations where  
15 the operations took place. So, you know, that  
16 could be considered site-specific.

17 On the other hand, we don't have  
18 the actual monitoring data per se for the  
19 tritides. And one has to make assumptions  
20 about all that, which is what we're talking  
21 about in the model. And we're just more  
22 concerned about the uncertainties that are

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1 embedded in the model. 45

2 And this is a conversation that  
3 the full Board has had a number of times on  
4 models as to whether, you know, the  
5 uncertainties and the basis of the model in  
6 actual either empirical or site-specific data  
7 is sufficient to give one confidence in the  
8 application of that model in dose  
9 reconstruction.

10 I'll tell you that's not something  
11 that SC&A can offer. That's a study judgment  
12 call that the Board has to make on any model  
13 that's advanced like this. And it's not  
14 different than maybe the radon discussion at  
15 Blockson or some of the other models that have  
16 been considered.

17 It's a judgment call as to whether  
18 the uncertainties are acceptable or not  
19 acceptable, whether the site-specific roots of  
20 the model, the empirical basis of the model is  
21 sufficient.

22 And I, like I said, I think we

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1 just wanted to present all the facts that we<sup>46</sup>  
2 could in terms of the uncertainty issues and  
3 whatnot. And I think it's the Board that has  
4 to decide whether it in its judgement, has  
5 enough confidence that the model would support  
6 dose reconstruction with sufficient accuracy.

7 And I think that's a judgment call.

8 I mean, I've been listening to the  
9 debate on the models in the past and I don't  
10 know what you can say about it.

11 DR. NETON: I'd say a couple things  
12 about this. It's not as unique, I think, as  
13 SC&A tends to think it is.

14 You think what happened here - the  
15 active use of the tritide compounds has  
16 stopped by this time.

17 So, what we're having here is  
18 essentially a classic period of there's no  
19 active airborne generators of tritium  
20 compounds during this period.

21 MR. FITZGERALD: I can't speak  
22 specifically to the time frame -

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1 DR. NETON: I understand. So, ~~if~~  
2 there are no active source generators going  
3 on, then you have a resuspension problem just  
4 like we have in many other sites.

5 The only way this model works and  
6 if that's true - now, if there's other issues  
7 that come out that it might be --

8 MR. FITZGERALD: The Work Group is  
9 familiar with issues that date past 1980 that  
10 would -

11 DR. NETON: Well, that's --

12 MR. FITZGERALD: - undercut that.

13 DR. NETON: - in the D&D era, I  
14 think, maybe.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: This is not D&D.

16 CHAIR BEACH: No, it's not D&D.

17 DR. NETON: Okay. Well, up until  
18 let's say - right now the model works if it's  
19 a resuspension because there's no active  
20 generators of material. So, you have a  
21 resuspension problem just like you have at  
22 many other sites. We have smear data. We

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1 have re-suspended it.

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2 The doses in resuspension periods  
3 tend to be very small because you're re-  
4 suspending a very small fraction of what's on  
5 the surface.

6 By nature of reconstructing small  
7 dosimetric quantities, the uncertainty goes  
8 large because any time you have a small dose,  
9 the uncertainty value as far as that, that's a  
10 given.

11 But we feel that it is small and  
12 is bounded by this approach. So, I'm not sure  
13 why there would be an issue with it. But I  
14 agree, you know, the Board certainly can weigh  
15 in on that, but I -

16 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, and I don't  
17 disagree with what you said. I think the  
18 model - I mean, this approach has been done  
19 before and it is - we weren't saying it wasn't  
20 relatively common.

21 I think what we're saying is that  
22 this deliberation by the Board on whether a

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1 model's inherent uncertainties and its roots<sup>49</sup>  
2 and site-specific data are adequate enough to  
3 support dose reconstruction, that part of it I  
4 think does happen and would need to happen on  
5 this one in the Work Group, but there's two  
6 issues.

7           Really, the first issue is  
8 obviously the operational status, this  
9 question that we can't really get into in  
10 detail, but the Board - Members of this Work  
11 Group are pretty familiar with that postdate  
12 1980 in terms of generation.

13           The second issue is again because  
14 of the nature of the beast, this hafnium  
15 tritide, the - and we've had this discussion  
16 in the past. The source term can't - we don't  
17 have specific source term data. We do have  
18 the tritium data.

19           But I think again from the  
20 standpoint of the uncertainties that pushes  
21 you into, a judgment has to be made as to  
22 whether those uncertainties would be

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1 acceptable or not given the uncertainty. 50

2 Now, not the mechanistic ones of  
3 resuspension, but just the ones where you're  
4 going to have to conclude particle size,  
5 you're going to have to conclude the, you  
6 know, in this case you're going to have to  
7 conclude a hundred percent tritide.

8 But the other issues that come  
9 into the uncertainties that we've laid out  
10 that there are a lot of uncertainties when  
11 you're dealing with theoretical model that has  
12 to be theoretical, because there isn't a whole  
13 lot of hard edges to it because of the nature  
14 of the analysis.

15 DR. MAURO: Joe and Jim, this is  
16 John again. Jim just said something that was  
17 very important to me in looking at the model  
18 that they're offering.

19 And that is I was always concerned  
20 that the resuspension model would be used at a  
21 time period when a person might be being  
22 exposed to both re-suspended material, but

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1 also direct airborne contamination from<sub>51</sub>  
2 leakage during operations.

3 And I just heard something that  
4 answered a very important question to me. And  
5 that is this resuspension model would only be  
6 used during time periods when the only way in  
7 which a person could be exposed to metal  
8 tritides is from resuspension and not from  
9 direct leakage.

10 That was, quite frankly, when I  
11 was reviewing the resuspension factor issue,  
12 you may have seen it, that - I was concerned  
13 that if you have direct exposure from leakage,  
14 the resuspension model is not going to  
15 necessarily do the trick for you.

16 So, I want to make sure that's  
17 confirmed here. I know this is a subject that  
18 was not directly addressed.

19 In fact, I remember asking Brant  
20 that question at the last meeting and they  
21 really for a variety of reasons, it was left  
22 ambiguous.

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1                   But it sounds like that their<sup>52</sup>  
2                   Jim, your position now is that this  
3                   resuspension model that you're offering up  
4                   would only be used for people who might have  
5                   been exposed to material that was literally  
6                   re-suspended as opposed to direct injection.

7                   DR. NETON: Yeah, I mean, I see no  
8                   other way it is valid.

9                   DR. MAURO: I agree with that and  
10                  thank you. That's clarification Number 2. In  
11                  my mind, that was really fundamental to  
12                  everything we're talking about.

13                  MR. FITZGERALD: Well, you know, I  
14                  don't, you know, starting with - I'm beginning  
15                  to agree with your premise of talking about  
16                  this first.

17                  I think this sort of leaves us  
18                  with the question of a dose reconstruction  
19                  method that save a decision on maybe a  
20                  distribution, which is what you're saying, and  
21                  some resolution of this generating - source of  
22                  generation issue which -

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1 DR. NETON: This is a new issue to  
2 me. So, I haven't been privy to what the -

3 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. Again,  
4 it's just difficult to talk about, but that  
5 actually was the whole source of the last  
6 year's worth of analysis of data if you look  
7 at the data, because the fabrication period  
8 was well before that.

9 DR. NETON: Yes.

10 MR. FITZGERALD: So, that's not an  
11 issue.

12 DR. NETON: Right.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: But the reason  
14 we're even talking about it in this context  
15 and not just D&D, is because of that issue.

16 So, that certainly is a question  
17 which we have basically done all we can with,  
18 actually. There isn't much more we can do  
19 with that one.

20 DR. NETON: Well, let me ask - I  
21 don't know if you can answer this or not, but  
22 is it safe to assume that up to 1980 this

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1 would be valid, this technique? 54

2 I don't want to say "valid."

3 There's no reason to assume that there's  
4 airborne generators -

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, there is -

6 DR. NETON: -- other than is an  
7 SEC already. And so, we're taking care of -

8 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, no, the  
9 problem is that you do have generators before  
10 '80. So, you couldn't apply the method.

11 DR. NETON: Well -

12 CHAIR BEACH: You mean after '80.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

14 DR. NETON: But everybody is in the  
15 SEC before '80 primarily.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: But the method for  
17 those who are not if it's -

18 DR. NETON: Right.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: The lung would not  
20 work for the generator because -

21 DR. NETON: Well, and then that had  
22 been - I know Brant's opinion and I have no

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1 reason to doubt it, but he knows who were<sup>55</sup>  
2 physically working with these materials in  
3 that time frame.

4 We would assume that their urine  
5 analysis would be based on tritide exposures  
6 and then -

7 CHAIR BEACH: But, Jim, isn't it  
8 true -

9 DR. NETON: -- maintenance workers  
10 would get the re-suspended -

11 CHAIR BEACH: Oh, I was going to  
12 say we couldn't identify the maintenance -

13 DR. NETON: All the ancillary  
14 workers would receive this.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. And I  
16 would agree with that. They would be -

17 DR. NETON: So, through 1980 it  
18 seems like it's okay. I'm not - unless I'm -

19 MR. FITZGERALD: No, I think that's  
20 -

21 DR. NETON: I can't address the -  
22 what you brought up about after 1980, because

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MR. FITZGERALD: That was the subject of many a trip to OST, Brant and I. So, that took a while to establish and there is a real - well, there actually was agreement on it, but we added rooms. Originally there was two rooms, and now there's four. And that's the reason there's four.

DR. NETON: Okay.

MR. FITZGERALD: So, yeah, that's an issue. And certainly that would be probably the - one of the bigger questions, technical questions - or one of the bigger questions that have to be resolved.

DR. NETON: Would that same situation apply if we knew the workers in that time frame - well, establish that they were the ones that get the high dose, then the same resuspension factors would apply to those workers, would that not work. Not knowing the circumstances of what you're talking about.

MR. FITZGERALD: Well, that's the

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1 question we'd have to answer. Now, you know<sup>57</sup>  
2 are the personnel the same, or not?

3 DR. NETON: Do we know the  
4 personnel?

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Do we even know  
6 the personnel? But that would be the question  
7 as to whether you can make that bifurcation  
8 and apply it that way.

9 And you're right. Do you know the  
10 personnel for the second as opposed to the  
11 first?

12 MEMBER ZIEMER: You're talking  
13 about '80?

14 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

15 MEMBER ZIEMER: That's what you're  
16 asking?

17 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

18 MEMBER CLAWSON: I thought that we  
19 just got into that and Brant felt he had a  
20 good handle on it, and it fell apart.

21 MR. FITZGERALD: More on the  
22 support workers. I mean, knowing the

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1 operators by name was clear-cut, but the <sup>58</sup>  
2 it's like an iceberg.

3 Knowing all the workers who  
4 reported those glove-box operations, that  
5 wasn't as clear. That's why we're sort of  
6 into this you can't really distinguish who  
7 that population might be.

8 MEMBER CLAWSON: Right. That's  
9 what I want to make sure because we have never  
10 been able to do that. I mean, we have people  
11 come in that we changed out the glass in this,  
12 we changed out fans in this. It was an  
13 ongoing thing. It wasn't just cut and dry ten  
14 people.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Yeah, we've  
16 actually sat in interviews and got to about 20  
17 names because the operators could remember who  
18 supported them.

19 But at that point, you know, it's  
20 hard to figure out, you know, you've been in  
21 facilities. It's hard to figure out who  
22 actually all these folks are. There's a lot

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1 of them.

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2 So, but, no, I agree. I think if  
3 you had analogous to the pre-'80, you actually  
4 could identify operators versus others, then I  
5 don't see why you couldn't apply the same  
6 approach.

7 But of course then the overriding  
8 question would be treating -- or again the  
9 acceptability of the model from the standpoint  
10 of uncertainties and site-specific data again  
11 which, you know, beyond the mechanistic part,  
12 beyond this part is poor judgment. So, that's  
13 how I would sum it up.

14 CHAIR BEACH: Right. And I know  
15 we'll get into this later, but I know there's  
16 a lot of the swipe data that's missing in  
17 several years during that time period as well.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: I think Bob can go  
19 into that, but that's all - well, that gets  
20 into a question of whether you can  
21 extrapolate, but I think NIOSH does that quite  
22 often.

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1 I think what Bob was pointing out<sup>60</sup>  
2 and he mentioned it at the last Work Group  
3 meeting, is that all these were two-month span  
4 of samples. And in translating that to annual  
5 dose estimates, that multiplier wasn't used.

6 So, he went ahead and came up with  
7 some really nice tables. He went ahead and  
8 made the adjustment.

9 So, I think that - is John on the  
10 phone? That's tractable. That can be  
11 adjustable. I don't see an issue there.

12 I think it really comes down to  
13 this one question of whether you can make it  
14 work post-'80. Another question as to whether  
15 or not the uncertainties can be - if that's  
16 satisfactory to the Board as a model.

17 And then, you know, we're left  
18 with this D&D issue, which quite frankly, you  
19 know, that was a new wrinkle. We had  
20 interviews that seem to suggest that there  
21 were tritide issues in the actual terminal  
22 cleanup of Mound.

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1 I think Brant had done additional<sup>61</sup>  
2 interviews which - that seem to come up with a  
3 different answer from some of the same people.

4 So, we didn't have time to look at that, but  
5 that would be another question.

6 I think - I'm not sure the model  
7 would work for D&D per se. Although, I guess  
8 I'd have to think about that. It would be a  
9 different kind of -

10 DR. NETON: It would be harder to  
11 justify, but I got the impression from reading  
12 the earlier report that NIOSH put out that in  
13 the D&D era they had adopted a very different  
14 way of monitoring for tritides.

15 In other words, they had a filter  
16 sample, a BZ sample that they were going to  
17 analyze with a scintillation counter, as well  
18 as looking at the gaseous form.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, and it may  
20 turn out that I've got to look at the timing,  
21 you know, the entire complex got alerted to  
22 tritides about the time that Mound was getting

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1 through D&D. So, I don't know if that might  
2 have led to compensatory steps or something  
3 where that the exposure potential would have  
4 been pretty controlled.

5 DR. NETON: Right. You have to  
6 match up when the D&D activities actually  
7 occurred versus when they instituted these new  
8 protocols for tritide monitoring.

9 MR. FITZGERALD: But that, to me,  
10 is a different issue than whether or not the  
11 model would work as - in terms of  
12 implementation. So, that's more of a question  
13 -

14 MR. STIVER: This is Stiver. I  
15 remember now that basically the D&D activities  
16 were going on in the post-835 environment.  
17 And there was as Jim alluded to, a different  
18 technique employed they also used scanning  
19 electron micron to identify particulates.

20 And so, they had a technique by  
21 which they were able to identify the  
22 materials.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: It's just a matter  
2 of timing. I think Mound precipitated the  
3 attention. So, it may very well have been  
4 that the D&D was controlled from the get-go,  
5 because there was concern going into D&D that  
6 this would be -

7 MR. STIVER: But, I mean, the  
8 question is whether this type of a model would  
9 be applicable or -

10 DR. NETON: We certainly would use  
11 it if we had the type of data that I - it  
12 sounds like they collected -

13 MR. STIVER: Fill that gap --

14 DR. NETON: Any time you have a D&D  
15 and try to estimate resuspension factors -

16 MEMBER CLAWSON: This is Brad  
17 talking again. I remember something else  
18 about the D&D period.

19 Everybody wasn't tested for it.  
20 They took the stance of one out of 20 would  
21 have a BZ sample and then that was it.

22 So, you know, that's a whole other

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1 - that's getting into - 64

2 MR. STIVER: You're getting into  
3 representativeness and data adequacy -

4 MEMBER CLAWSON: And this was  
5 brought out in many of the interviews and many  
6 of the people discussed that it was off, but I  
7 want to step back just a second.

8 So, we have a path forward. We  
9 actually have a dose reconstruction method  
10 that is going to be applied. I've been going  
11 for two years here and understanding that we  
12 have one, but it was more of a - just a  
13 general - so, the approach that you put out  
14 now is what NIOSH is standing on for a dose  
15 reconstruction for people.

16 There's no half a millirem limit?

17 DR. NETON: Sorry to confuse the  
18 issue.

19 MEMBER CLAWSON: No, no.

20 DR. NETON: I believe this would be  
21 the best -

22 MEMBER CLAWSON: You've got to

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1 understand we've been dealing - we've been<sup>65</sup>  
2 battling this back and forth. And even  
3 started out with slight data and this is how  
4 we're going to get here, but it doesn't really  
5 matter because it's negligible and we're back  
6 and forth.

7 And I personally coming into this  
8 today, did not think that we had a  
9 representative path forward with the dose  
10 reconstruction for it. And I guess I just  
11 want to make sure that that's clear that we  
12 have -

13 MR. FITZGERALD: And you have  
14 really, you know, it wasn't wasted effort, the  
15 analysis on the method, you know.

16 The only difference is I think  
17 some decision on the dose distribution guide  
18 50th or 95th, but essentially the model is the  
19 same model that's reviewed in the paper.

20 MEMBER CLAWSON: Right.

21 MR. FITZGERALD: So, you're  
22 equipped to evaluate the model as a dose

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1 reconstruction model, not as something else.<sup>66</sup>

2 And as we were just saying, the  
3 only question really gets down to the adequacy  
4 and completeness of that model which is also  
5 analyzed in here.

6 And of course the remaining  
7 concern that we've expressed on uncertainties,  
8 but I think you've already heard about that.  
9 It's not the mechanistic. The actual model  
10 itself, the mechanistic approach is fine.  
11 It's been used in resuspension factors.  
12 That's all been pretty standard.

13 It's whether or not it's grounded  
14 enough, and that's a judgment call that I  
15 don't know how to say it.

16 It's just that you have to decide  
17 from a site-specific and uncertainty  
18 standpoint whether it's that famous  
19 sufficiently accurate or not to be used in  
20 dose reconstruction. And that's a Board call.

21 We, I think, pretty much have laid  
22 it out in probably excruciating detail as far

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1 as what the uncertainties might be and what <sup>is</sup><sub>67</sub>  
2 the significance. They're all there.

3 DR. NETON: I don't have time to  
4 review all --

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Right, right. So,  
6 it's like - I don't know. And we can go  
7 through that as we proceed, but there's not  
8 much more that can be said. You have pretty  
9 much our full assessment of what those  
10 uncertainties are.

11 Some of the concerns over, you  
12 know, site specificity, which is kind of a  
13 term of art almost, but just what we consider  
14 some of the site specificity issues.

15 MEMBER CLAWSON: And this is why I  
16 bring it up because - and this is Brad again.

17 I'm sorry.

18 The thing is as we came into this,  
19 I was looking at that as more of a test of the  
20 test's validity or -

21 MR. STIVER: Whether you need to  
22 reconstruct, basically.

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1                   MEMBER CLAWSON: Yes. And I have<sup>68</sup>  
2                   been on that premise for almost two years  
3                   because it was kind of put forth to us this  
4                   way. And now these gaps in the analysis, the  
5                   way we look at this is a little bit more  
6                   meaningful to me.

7                   MR. FITZGERALD: And we say it's  
8                   subjective, you know. I think, Paul, we were  
9                   taking about trying to come up with some  
10                  analogy. We're talking about the high-fired  
11                  plutonium at Rocky because there's, you know,  
12                  certainly the solubility question seems to be  
13                  pretty parallel.

14                  But there and again it sort of  
15                  goes back to not necessarily the method as  
16                  opposed to whether that method is grounded in  
17                  either empirical data, in that case it's  
18                  autopsy data, or grounded in site-specific  
19                  information.

20                  Of course Rocky had quite a bit of  
21                  plutonium bioassay for both - for all workers.

22                  It was fence line to fence line practically.

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1                   So, I don't think that's the case<sup>69</sup>  
2 here, but it's a matter of degree. So, it's  
3 not sort of saying white or black. It's just  
4 saying that the degree of supporting  
5 information and the uncertainty range is, I  
6 think, relatively higher for this one versus  
7 for the high-fired plutonium.

8                   MEMBER ZIEMER: And I think it's  
9 important to realize that uncertainties per se  
10 don't dictate sufficient accuracy conceptually  
11 because general premise the bigger those  
12 uncertainties are, the more claimant favorable  
13 your decision is because it spreads that  
14 distribution out.

15                   If you've got a 95th percentile, I  
16 would venture to say and I've done these  
17 exercises in class with students, the tighter  
18 your uncertainties are, the smaller - the  
19 lower the dose assigned is at the 95th  
20 percentile.

21                   Sufficient accuracy means that  
22 you've bounded well enough to make any correct

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1 decision on a claimant. 70

2 Usually sufficient - or  
3 uncertainties help the claimant. There may be  
4 an exception to that. I have not seen it yet.

5 Assuming you have a reasonable  
6 model, a model which is plausible which is  
7 important, it's got to be a plausible model,  
8 and certainly if you have site-specific data  
9 that that's built on, that helps you.

10 If you don't have that, then  
11 you're into other things like surrogates and  
12 so on. But I think it's important that we not  
13 think that uncertainties as they get bigger at  
14 a given site, tend to hurt sufficient accuracy  
15 decisions. The accuracy doesn't have to do  
16 with getting an exact dose. It has to do with  
17 getting a good decision.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: The only thing I  
19 would add is that what sticks in my mind is  
20 the famous stratification - radon  
21 stratification debate which was filled with  
22 uncertainties in terms of where radon would go

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1 in a building.

71

2 And I think the representativeness  
3 of the model to a real situation, I sat  
4 through the debate I said, you know, I thought  
5 I knew how uncertainty would play in the  
6 model. Now, I have to assume that, yes, I  
7 think that's kind of a judgment call.

8 MEMBER ZIEMER: It is a judgment  
9 call. I think the model is pretty good, but  
10 the -

11 MR. STIVER: I think Paul hit it  
12 right on the - the crux of the problem here is  
13 that we're looking at - we're kind of defining  
14 "uncertainty" in different ways.

15 I mean, this is a classic  
16 definition of the uncertainty of the  
17 parameters that give rise to the distribution  
18 results.

19 MEMBER ZIEMER: Right, the  
20 definition of "uncertainty," yeah.

21 MR. STIVER: But what we're looking  
22 at here is just uncertainty and assumptions,

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1 because we don't have site-specific data. 72

2 So, we have this one assumption,  
3 the percent of STCs ranges from zero -

4 (Simultaneous speaking.)

5 MR. STIVER: So, we have no way to  
6 benchmark this model that on the surface it  
7 appears to be a good model. We have  
8 reasonable parameter values drawn from the  
9 scientific literature, but you just don't have  
10 that link back to any kind of site-specific  
11 information where you can benchmark it.

12 DR. NETON: But the zero to 100  
13 percent, I mean, SC&A has alluded in there  
14 that they believe that there was significant  
15 potential for tritide exposure in the  
16 workplace.

17 I mean, I don't know how you  
18 interpret significant, but to me that could  
19 mean as high as a hundred percent. It could  
20 be a spot, you know. We don't know.

21 MR. STIVER: This becomes a -

22 DR. NETON: I don't know. And

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1 everything that one has to consider and I know<sup>73</sup>  
2 it's hard to get your head around it, but  
3 these are small doses.

4 The uncertainty and the  
5 stratification for the radon was because we  
6 didn't know what the uncertainty was. We  
7 couldn't put a bound on, you know, I tried. I  
8 tried to say, okay, how stratified could it  
9 be?

10 Here I think you can bound the  
11 uncertainties because it's no more than a  
12 hundred percent, and the uncertainty in the  
13 resuspension factor can be easily quantified.

14 So, you've got an ability to put  
15 upper caps on these things that make some -

16 MR. FITZGERALD: I might add it was  
17 actually SC&A that enhanced that radon model.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. FITZGERALD: So, I'm not saying  
20 that -

21 CHAIR BEACH: Well, and I don't  
22 think that dose - how small the dose is really

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1 matters, but it's how you're going to do the  
2 dose reconstruction.

3 And until today, we did not know  
4 that. We were left at the last meeting with  
5 that this was not a dose reconstruction. So,  
6 that does clear that up.

7 MR. STIVER: The magnitude of the  
8 dose isn't at issue. It's whether it's  
9 reconstructable and -

10 CHAIR BEACH: Exactly.

11 DR. NETON: What I'm saying,  
12 though, as the magnitude of the dose goes  
13 down, the uncertainty goes up. It's an  
14 inherent nature of reconstructing small doses.

15 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, are we  
16 ready to hear from Bob?

17 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I think that  
18 certainly -

19 MEMBER CLAWSON: About five minutes  
20 ago I started in onto this because Paul made a  
21 comment, and I agree with him on it, that when  
22 he was speaking that this - just because we

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1 get uncertainties and there that it basically<sup>75</sup>  
2 comes back to the basis and that is with site  
3 data, that all of a sudden we're coming in and  
4 we don't have good site data.

5 And then we're putting  
6 uncertainties on that and we're adding to  
7 this, you know, half of nothing is still  
8 nothing.

9 And this is - this is one of the  
10 things that I want to point out because  
11 personally looking at their data, they haven't  
12 got much, in my eyes.

13 DR. NETON: There are 60,000  
14 swipes.

15 MEMBER CLAWSON: What's that?

16 DR. NETON: There are 60,000  
17 swipes.

18 MEMBER CLAWSON: 60,000 swipes, but  
19 there's also very large gaps in it. The  
20 process that was going on with it there was  
21 questions in that there we start getting into  
22 uncertainties on that.

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1                   And this just compiles the issue<sup>76</sup>  
2                   and this is, you know, this is where we  
3                   started off two years ago is to be able to  
4                   with this swipe data and be able to look at  
5                   this.

6                   I do not disagree that when we  
7                   have uncertainties that it makes the doses  
8                   bigger or whatever else like that, but it is  
9                   compounded by when we don't have good data to  
10                  be able to track it.

11                  If you go -- looking at it from  
12                  just this, this is fine. But when we go clear  
13                  back to the site and go through the process  
14                  and there's holes and gaps, it makes it much  
15                  harder to be able to do.

16                  We have a hundred percent I'd  
17                  agree with you, but we're not working in a  
18                  classroom setting to where we can put this up  
19                  there. This is a dose reconstruct - this is a  
20                  compensation act for people.

21                  When we don't have the data there,  
22                  in my eyes, they set up an operation for us to

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1 be able to take care of that and sometimes we  
2 really go a long ways.

3 DR. MAURO: Brad, this is John.  
4 I'd like to second - I think you are now  
5 moving into the - we've sort of set the  
6 framework with the problem now very nicely in  
7 terms of we know there's a coworker model in  
8 front of us and it's to be used for workers  
9 only exposed to resuspension. That was a very  
10 important boundary.

11 Now, we're in that world and I  
12 think you brought up the first and one of the  
13 most important questions. Does the data that  
14 we - the swipe data that's out there, does it  
15 capture the full range of exposure scenarios?

16 And what I'm hearing is that there  
17 might be some question whether that data is  
18 complete. Do we have enough data representing  
19 all scenarios and circumstances so that we  
20 have a degree of certainty, assurance, that  
21 we're not going to underestimate the dose to  
22 any particular worker?

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1                   And I think we're actually now<sup>78</sup>  
2                   into the substance of do we have sufficient  
3                   data. And the first data point, and this is  
4                   the only real data we're working with, site-  
5                   specific data, that is the swipe data.

6                   So, everyone says, okay, that is  
7                   the rock we're standing on. Is that rock  
8                   solid, or is there something about it that's a  
9                   problem?

10                  Later on we're going to talk about  
11                  given that data are complete and reliable,  
12                  then of course we can talk about the  
13                  resuspension factor and other assumptions.

14                  But I think, Brad, you've just  
15                  nailed down the single most important question  
16                  given the context we're in now.

17                  Does the swipe data capture the  
18                  full range of exposure scenarios from  
19                  resuspension that we need to address, or are  
20                  there holes there that we can't deal with?

21                  So, I'm glad we got to that point.  
22                  That's where we should be.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, John, that's<sup>79</sup>  
2 a perfect segue into Bob Barton's discussion  
3 of data adequacy and completeness.

4 DR. NETON: You guys must have  
5 rehearsed that.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. FITZGERALD: So, Bob, are you  
8 still with us?

9 MR. BARTON: I'm still here, John.  
10 Thank you.

11 Okay. So, I guess I'm going to  
12 start with the completeness data. For those  
13 of you following along, the report is actually  
14 on the website. That starts on Page 25, which  
15 is Section 4 of the report.

16 As Joe sort of mentioned at the  
17 outset of this meeting, there's been sort of  
18 an iterative process to this whole thing. And  
19 that goes for the data that was compiled, too.

20 And in my mind, it sort of went  
21 through three stages where Stage 1 was sort of  
22 the data we were discussing at the November

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1 7th meeting. And that covered two rooms. It  
2 was the SW-8 Room and the R-108 Room. And  
3 that data started in 1985, and it was compiled  
4 through 1989.

5 Stage 2 was about a report  
6 released early in January of this year and  
7 that added additional for those two rooms.  
8 So, now the SW-8 dataset actually started in  
9 1969, and the R-108 dataset started in 1983.  
10 So, more data was added in sort of a Stage 2  
11 iteration.

12 And then there's been the most  
13 one, so I'll call it Stage 3, which was the  
14 report released in late March. And this one  
15 added actually two additional rooms to the  
16 original two. And that's Room SW-13 starting  
17 in 1974, and SW-150 starting in 1968.

18 So, that's kind of the dataset  
19 that we're at now. And because of how the  
20 whole process has sort of been iterative, so  
21 is the completeness analysis and how it was  
22 set up.

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1                   So, if it's agreeable, what I'd  
2 like to do is kind of start by talking about  
3 those first two rooms for which data was  
4 compiled. That's SW-8 and R-108. And then we  
5 can kind of discuss the final two rooms added  
6 at this latest stage at the very end.

7                   And the reason I'd like to do that  
8 is so that anyone who's following along in the  
9 actual report can really go kind of page-by-  
10 page through this completeness analysis and  
11 hopefully not get lost along the way.

12                   So, if we start with Room R-108,  
13 like I said, the data begins in about mid-1983  
14 and goes up to 1989.

15                   The intake periods that were  
16 defined off this dataset for this room and the  
17 corresponding number of samples are shown in  
18 Table 1 of Section 4.1.1, and are also shown  
19 visually in Figure 1.

20                   It should be noted that no data  
21 had originally been compiled for 1987. And  
22 that's really kind of a two-year gap starting

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1 in mid-1986 through mid-1988. 82

2 Any other gaps that were kind of  
3 noticed in the data were generally on the  
4 order of a few months. And this was the case  
5 for a lot of these rooms.

6 Moving on to the second room, SW-  
7 8, again the dataset was expanded in sort of  
8 the second iteration so that the data actually  
9 begins in 1969 and goes up through 1989.

10 Similar to the first room, you can  
11 see what the defined intake periods were and  
12 the corresponding number of samples for intake  
13 period on Table 2, and again shown visually in  
14 Figures 2 and 3.

15 There are several gaps for SW-8.  
16 They're listed on Page 27 in the sort of  
17 bolded form. I don't really want to read  
18 through each and every one, but it's worth  
19 noting that a lot of them are on the order of  
20 a few months.

21 Although in some cases such as in  
22 the early '70s, the gap could be up to two-

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1 and-a-half years.

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2 Sort of the next thing we did in  
3 relation to these two rooms is perform an SRDB  
4 search to see, all right, do we have any more  
5 available data that might be able to fill in  
6 some of these gaps?

7 And one of the types of reports we  
8 came across was what we called these HP trend  
9 reports. And what these are, originally it  
10 was preferable to use the raw datasets. That  
11 is you have essentially a map of the room, and  
12 you have a number in each area of the room  
13 where a swipe was taken and what the value of  
14 that swipe was.

15 Well, in the absence of the raw  
16 data there's also these trend reports which  
17 basically list out the week and will give you  
18 a high, a low and an average swipe result for  
19 any given day. They usually also provide the  
20 number of samples that were taken on that  
21 given day.

22 So, we found some of those. And

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1 in particular we found one for SW-8 in 1980<sup>84</sup>  
2 which previously didn't have any, you know,  
3 data compiled for it.

4 And there were also several of  
5 these trend reports in the late '80s that  
6 could kind of fill in some of these gaps where  
7 you have a five, six-month period without any  
8 of the raw data, but then you could always use  
9 these trend reports to kind of supplement the  
10 dataset.

11 These trend reports were actually  
12 used for years prior to 1985 by NIOSH for  
13 these two rooms. So, that wouldn't be  
14 inconsistent with what has essentially been  
15 already done.

16 So, I guess the conclusion there  
17 is there is a little more out there in the  
18 form of the HP trend reports that could sort  
19 of bolster the datasets of these two rooms,  
20 you know, if it's determined that that's  
21 necessary to sort of flesh out the proposed  
22 coworker model.

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1                   Okay. So, I guess next along the<sup>85</sup>  
2 line here in Section 4.1.3, we identify a sort  
3 of dose calculation inconsistency among the  
4 different years. Might be beneficial here  
5 just to briefly describe again what the model  
6 is.

7                   You have a bunch of swipe data  
8 taken. Based on certain assumptions about the  
9 detector efficiency and that sort of thing,  
10 you can kind of get what the activity is on  
11 the ground. And you can use the resuspension  
12 factor to see, well, if that's the activity on  
13 the ground, what's the activity available to  
14 be inhaled in the air?

15                  Then you take that and you apply a  
16 worker exposure time and a breathing rate and  
17 you can develop an intake, a radioactive  
18 intake for whatever period you want to define.

19                  The way the calculational  
20 spreadsheets were set up, originally it was  
21 hoped that you could get a defined intake for  
22 each month of the year.

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1                   And if you have an intake for each<sup>86</sup>  
2 month, you sum all 12 months and you get an  
3 intake for the year. That's kind of how  
4 mechanistically these spreadsheets were set  
5 up.

6                   The problem comes is when you  
7 don't have an intake defined for each month of  
8 the year. So, for example, say you only had  
9 data for one month. You could take all that  
10 data, develop, you know, the 50th percentile,  
11 95th percentile air contamination value and  
12 you can develop what the intake was for that  
13 month. But if you didn't have other months in  
14 the year, the, you know, hypothetical worker  
15 was only assigned an intake based on one month  
16 of exposure.

17                   And that's not necessarily because  
18 he didn't have exposure, because that for the  
19 rest of the year it's more you didn't have the  
20 data to develop an intake value.

21                   So, for situations where the  
22 hypothetical I gave where you could only

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1 develop an intake for a single month, you're<sup>87</sup>  
2 essentially underestimating the exposure  
3 potential by about a factor of 12 if you were  
4 going to extrapolate that to a full year.

5 It's not a real big deal. I mean,  
6 you can easily go in and sort of fix those  
7 errors and get it going. And we'll show a  
8 little later on how if you do go through and  
9 fix those errors with the most recent NIOSH  
10 case study, the doses change a little bit.  
11 But, I mean, again mostly on the order of  
12 about a factor of 12.

13 The very next section I really  
14 don't want to spend too much time on.  
15 Basically what happened was in preparation for  
16 the November meeting, we had performed our own  
17 data compilation of these HP trend reports  
18 just to see, all right, what's out there, you  
19 know, can these fill in the gaps, you know,  
20 how do these value shown in the HP trend  
21 reports compare with the raw data that has  
22 already been compiled and how might that

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1 influence things?

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2 And so based on that dataset that  
3 SC&A independently compiled, we were able to  
4 make a direct comparison to what NIOSH had  
5 compiled sort of in the Stage 2 where they  
6 added a lot more data for the first two rooms  
7 there, SW-8 and R-108.

8 The moral of the story there is  
9 any errors found, and errors could be a number  
10 was transcribed incorrectly or maybe it was  
11 transcribed twice or maybe it was just missed  
12 altogether, all those errors combined were  
13 very low. It was under two percent.

14 And even when looking at the  
15 magnitude as you went through and corrected  
16 all those little small, really, really, minor  
17 errors, it really did not affect the outcome  
18 of this dose model in any meaningful way at  
19 least in my mind.

20 And so, I don't want to spend a  
21 lot of time on that one because I don't think  
22 it's really important to this discussion.

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1                   So, I guess next we move on to the<sup>89</sup>  
2 final two rooms which were SW-13 and SW-150  
3 who had data added in the most recent  
4 iteration of the proposed method.

5                   And one thing that was kind of  
6 different about the data for these two rooms  
7 is it wasn't compiled necessarily on a monthly  
8 basis. That is when they developed an intake  
9 value, kind of pooled all the data for a  
10 single year into one dataset. And then from  
11 there you could do log-normal fit and develop  
12 air concentration.

13                  One concern that immediately  
14 jumped out to me when you do a model based on  
15 that, one, it's rather inconsistent compared  
16 with the first two-room analysis, because that  
17 at least attempted to do things on a monthly  
18 basis. But also if you're pooling all the  
19 data into a single year, there's always the  
20 off chance that the final result is unduly  
21 biased by a single month worth of data.

22                  Hypothetically you could have a

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1 month that only had ten samples that had  $\bar{90}$   
2 seemed to be only higher contamination, and  
3 then the next month have 300 samples and it  
4 was a lot lower. When you pool them  
5 altogether, it kind of muddies the water.

6 That's one thing that SC&A took a  
7 look at and said, all right, what happens if  
8 we take these things and weigh all the data by  
9 month? Let's weigh it by month. So, each  
10 month gets equal weight in calculating the  
11 annual contamination and how does that  
12 compare.

13 And it was generally favorable,  
14 you know. You don't see a very big difference  
15 for most months there. And I think there was  
16 a couple of - or most years there, there was a  
17 couple of years where, you know, if you had  
18 weighted all the data by month, that annual  
19 contamination value might increase by 25 to 35  
20 percent depending on the room and year. So,  
21 that might be a consideration.

22 NIOSH might want to consider

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1 breaking down the data on a monthly basis if  
2 for nothing else to be consistent throughout  
3 their dose model.

4 So, they're really trying to break  
5 it down by month where you can. And if you  
6 can't, then you can extrapolate things to a  
7 full year.

8 And the last thing is this most  
9 recent case study which is essentially, all  
10 right, we have these derived intake values.  
11 Now, let's see what a potential dose situation  
12 might be like.

13 And when we define that is when  
14 we're going to have a worker who's exposed for  
15 two years, he's at two years with the highest  
16 contamination among all four rooms. And we're  
17 going to say, all right, he's exposed for two  
18 years, and then we're going to evaluate the  
19 dose ten years after that exposure period.

20 And what is shown in - I believe  
21 it's Figure - one moment, please, but those  
22 values were presented in Figure 1 of the

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1 original NIOSH - or the NIOSH report for  
2 March.

3 MR. KATZ: Bob, Figure 9.

4 MR. FITZGERALD: Figure 9, Page 42.

5 MR. KATZ: Page 42.

6 MR. BARTON: Yes, there it is.  
7 Okay. So, that's the original values. And as  
8 you can see, this sort of bounding case - when  
9 I say "bounding," it's based on the 95th  
10 percentile air contamination value for SW-8,  
11 and the total dose evaluated ten years after a  
12 two-year exposure was about 0.48 millirem.

13 Now, we also got the source  
14 spreadsheets on that, and unfortunately the  
15 same error that I discussed earlier about  
16 extrapolating doses to a full year applies  
17 here.

18 It especially has an affect on  
19 those two latter rooms in which data were  
20 compiled, because again the original  
21 spreadsheet calculation only assumed for each  
22 intake a one-month exposure time.

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1                   So, since all the data was pooled  
2                   into a single value for each year in those two  
3                   latter rooms, again you end up with a dose  
4                   that's approximately a factor of 12 below what  
5                   it should be if it was actually extrapolated  
6                   to the full 2,000-hour-per-year exposure.

7                   So, as everyone can see in Table  
8                   16 on Page 42, which is just below the  
9                   original NIOSH results, these kind of show how  
10                  the doses would change if they were actually  
11                  extrapolated to that full year of exposure.

12                  And so the limiting case becomes -  
13                  again this is bounding 95th percentile  
14                  contamination. Room SW-150 comes out at about  
15                  3.7 millirem.

16                  So, I mean, that's just, you know,  
17                  one of those little things. That's kind of  
18                  how it changes. Again, it's kind of a factor  
19                  of 12 increase for that room.

20                  And, you know, when you go through  
21                  a fixed set error, that's the case study, you  
22                  know. Assuming all the resuspension and all

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1 these other uncertainties are out the window<sup>94</sup>  
2 we're just going to go with the original case  
3 study example and all those assumptions, this  
4 is kind of where it comes out. So, you're  
5 limiting cases up from 0.48 to about 3.7.

6 And I guess to kind of put a cap  
7 on the concluding statements, we didn't really  
8 feel that the data was incomplete or unuseable  
9 for this kind of application.

10 I guess where we come out on it is  
11 when there are gaps, for example, like a two-  
12 and-a-half-year gap in the early '70s like  
13 some of these longer gaps, you know, it can be  
14 established within the bounds of security  
15 concerns and whatnot to have a discussion to  
16 kind of verify that these gaps, these time  
17 periods without any data that it is  
18 appropriate to sort of use the temporal  
19 neighbor, that is the data before and after  
20 the period with no data, as representative.

21 I mean, as long as there's no  
22 reason to think that these periods that don't

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1 have data are decidedly different from the<sup>95</sup>  
2 periods surrounding them, then we feel that  
3 the data is adequate and complete for this  
4 purpose and that proper extrapolation is  
5 likely possible as long as that connection can  
6 be made.

7 So, I guess that kind of sums up  
8 the completeness and adequacy end. Does  
9 anybody have any questions? I know I kind of  
10 went quickly through that.

11 So, is there anything I can  
12 clarify or - am I still on the line?

13 CHAIR BEACH: You're still on the  
14 line. We're all thinking.

15 MR. STIVER: Everybody is trying to  
16 absorb what you -

17 MR. KATZ: You were actually very  
18 nicely clear.

19 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

20 DR. MAURO: Bob, this is John. I  
21 think the question you're raising is something  
22 that really goes to NIOSH.

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1                   When you do have time periods, and<sup>96</sup>  
2 notwithstanding the extrapolation 12-month  
3 business, certainly that's something that  
4 could be dealt with, though, but you do bring  
5 up a point that there are these gaps.

6                   And you mentioned a two-year  
7 period where you don't have swipe data for a  
8 particular room, and really the question goes  
9 to NIOSH.

10                  How do you deal with that? That  
11 is in the past when there are gaps, you know,  
12 somehow you have to convince yourself that the  
13 other data you have, like you said, the  
14 temporal data that's around it somehow can be  
15 used to place a plausible upper bound on the  
16 gaps, you know, and I agree. I mean, that's  
17 the question. And the question really goes to  
18 NIOSH. How are you going to deal with the  
19 gaps?

20                  By the way, the other question  
21 that I'd like to pose to NIOSH is, the data  
22 that are out there that we have, the swipe

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1 data, did that capture different kinds of  
2 operations like inside ducts, inside hoods if  
3 that in fact is applicable that I could  
4 envision workers operating in a setting where  
5 there's a potential for resuspension that's  
6 unusual?

7 And so, I guess given the summary  
8 you just gave, Bob, I have a couple of  
9 questions for NIOSH. And one is the gap, and  
10 the other is the scenario. I think that needs  
11 to be explored.

12 DR. NETON: Okay. This is Jim. I  
13 think I'd like to turn that question over to  
14 the Mel Chew folks that are on the phone who  
15 were responsible for putting this report  
16 together.

17 Anything you can put - Bob or  
18 anyone else on that end can comment on that?

19 MR. MORRIS: Um, we took the data  
20 as they were available. It wasn't that --  
21 excuse me. Robert Morris talking. Ted, I'm  
22 sorry.

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1 Do you hear me? 98

2 MR. KATZ: Yes, thank you, Robert.

3 MR. MORRIS: Okay. We took the  
4 data then as they were available. And we  
5 didn't exclude anything based on location.

6 What we found is extreme  
7 consistency. So, if it were special job  
8 coverage, we never saw it. We didn't find the  
9 kinds of things you would see swiping the  
10 inside of ductwork or something like that.

11 So, all I can tell you is that we  
12 don't have knowledge of scenarios that might  
13 have been unusual like that, John.

14 DR. NETON: Bob, is there any  
15 intelligence you can provide on why these gaps  
16 may have been there? I mean, were there maybe  
17 not ongoing activities in the room at that  
18 time, or would that just be speculation at  
19 this point?

20 MR. MORRIS: I have no personal  
21 knowledge. I wasn't privy to the kinds of  
22 conversations that were in classified

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1 meetings. So, I don't know that. 99

2 DR. NETON: Okay. Well, I think  
3 SC&A has got a valid point. I mean, NIOSH  
4 needs to go back and evaluate why these gaps  
5 were there. And if there were ongoing  
6 activities, what was happening that might make  
7 them suitable or not suitable for  
8 interpolation between the available points --  
9 or extrapolation, I guess.

10 MEMBER ZIEMER: And the related  
11 question, and I think somebody raised it was,  
12 are there any differences in the operations  
13 during those periods that would cause concern?

14 Extrapolating between or beyond,  
15 you usually have to have --

16 DR. NETON: Yes.

17 MEMBER ZIEMER: -- some assumption  
18 about --

19 DR. NETON: No doubt.

20 MEMBER ZIEMER: -- either things  
21 have changed or not. So, otherwise you're  
22 operating under the assumption that if you

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1 have a lot of samples, they will cover the <sup>100</sup>  
2 scope of the kind of work that was done.

3 I don't know how much we've seen  
4 of what the range of sample - well, we've seen  
5 in the charts what - there's a pretty big  
6 range in some of these samples.

7 And we've covered a lot of  
8 different scenarios, I presume, but that would  
9 certainly need to be confirmed.

10 DR. MAURO: This is John. One  
11 thought is you have lots of these monthly 95th  
12 percentile values rather than look at  
13 individual swipes.

14 If you have monthly 95th  
15 percentile values, and I'm not looking at the  
16 graph right now, but - and collect those, you  
17 start to get a sense of how variable the high  
18 end is.

19 Now, what I mean by that is the  
20 high - for a month, any individual swipe is -  
21 of course you're going to have enormous  
22 variability. Enormous.

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1                   But when you start to collect  
2 hundreds, if not thousands, of swipe samples  
3 that were collected in a given room in a given  
4 month, and you take them all and, you know,  
5 for that month and you get a 95th percentile,  
6 then you take the next month and then the next  
7 month, and then you start to look at those,  
8 that will start to give you a sense of how  
9 variable the high-end concentrations were over  
10 the course of a month.

11                   And that will at least in my  
12 sense, is that will start to give you an  
13 indication whether, you know, what the  
14 variability on the high-end values from month  
15 to month could have been different by factors  
16 of - or by orders of magnitude. Then, you've  
17 got a problem.

18                   But if you see that, you know,  
19 from month to month the 95th percentile values  
20 are clustered, then you start to get a sense  
21 that, well, is there any reason to believe the  
22 place where you have some holes might be, you

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1 know, different. And you could argue, well,  
2 we haven't seen those kinds of differences in  
3 other months.

4 But then again as Paul pointed  
5 out, do we have reason to believe that there  
6 was nothing unusual happening, I mean really  
7 unusual happening in those months that have  
8 the holes?

9 So, I mean, I'm just looking for a  
10 way how I would come at a problem like this.

11 MR. MORRIS: This is Robert Morris  
12 again, please.

13 I think that if you look at the  
14 data as a whole, you will see that it's  
15 remarkably consistent without a lot of high  
16 swipe results in the set. It's a chronic low-  
17 level dataset. It's not characterized by wild  
18 swings.

19 Now, having said that we haven't,  
20 I mean, I can't give you number values on how  
21 to describe that right now, but we certainly  
22 could take that approach if it's worth doing.

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1 DR. NETON: Well, clearly we've got  
2 some work to do on this piece.

3 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, I have two  
4 action items. I've got NIOSH needs to  
5 evaluate gaps in the data, and then Paul's  
6 point, was there any difference in what work  
7 was being done during that time period.  
8 Hopefully I captured that correct.

9 And then what about the table - or  
10 Figure 9 on Page 42 that Bob brought up? I  
11 didn't really hear any discussion on that.

12 DR. NETON: Figure 9?

13 CHAIR BEACH: Yeah, on Page 42.

14 DR. NETON: Oh, that was our own  
15 reconstruction of the doses. That was right  
16 out of Table 1 of our report.

17 CHAIR BEACH: But there were some  
18 mistakes there, and I guess I didn't really  
19 hear any discussion on what would -

20 DR. NETON: Well, I think the  
21 implication is that Bob used where there was  
22 only one month worth of data, he assumed that

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1 there were 12 months of exposure, not one<sup>104</sup>  
2 month as we did. So, his doses are larger  
3 because of that.

4 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

5 DR. NETON: It remains to be seen  
6 at least in my mind, whether it's justifiable  
7 to say there's an additional 11 months worth  
8 of exposure if it was - I'm guessing, but what  
9 if the room were locked up and nothing was  
10 going on there?

11 CHAIR BEACH: So, that goes back to  
12 the first two items.

13 DR. NETON: It all comes back, yes.

14 CHAIR BEACH: I just wanted to make  
15 sure that was covered.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: It's really a sort  
17 of campaign-based or routine operation.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, where does  
19 that leave us as a Work Group then?

20 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, that's data  
21 adequacy.

22 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

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1 DR. NETON: I think I believe <sup>it</sup><sub>105</sub>  
2 may be time for a break.

3 (Laughter.)

4 CHAIR BEACH: I was definitely  
5 going to suggest a break here. So, we'll go  
6 ahead and take a 15-minute break and then  
7 we'll recap.

8 MR. KATZ: Okay. So, it's about  
9 10:30 now. So -

10 CHAIR BEACH: 10:33.

11 MR. KATZ: -- about 10:45.

12 (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
13 off the record at 10:33 a.m. for a brief  
14 recess and went back on the record at 10:53  
15 a.m.)

16 MR. KATZ: Okay. Welcome back,  
17 Mound Work Group. We're ready here in the  
18 room.

19 Phil, do we have you on the line?

20 MEMBER SCHOFIELD: I'm on the phone  
21 there, Ted.

22 MR. KATZ: Hi, Phil. Good. Thank

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1 you.

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2 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, let's just  
3 recap on the tritides discussion. We do have  
4 action items for NIOSH as discussed right  
5 before the break.

6 NIOSH is going to evaluate the  
7 gaps in the data, and then maybe what work was  
8 going on during that time period.

9 Did I have anything else or do we  
10 need to add anything to that?

11 MR. FITZGERALD: For tritides in  
12 general or for -

13 CHAIR BEACH: For tritides in  
14 general.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Essentially what  
16 we did in the report, what Bob Barton covered  
17 was the review of adequacy and completeness,  
18 as well as to look at the assumptions,  
19 essentially the model itself.

20 And after we received the March  
21 2012, the very latest iteration White Paper  
22 from NIOSH, we actually wanted to take a

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1 further look at the question of uncertainties, 107

2 And, Ron Buchanan, are you on the  
3 phone?

4 DR. BUCHANAN: Yes, I am.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: I'd like to have  
6 Ron outline the analysis we did, which just  
7 essentially looks at the variables, the  
8 assumptions which were embedded in the model.

9 Because as I was saying earlier, I  
10 think that was one of our original concerns  
11 over the model itself. So, I think it would  
12 be helpful for the Work Group to hear that  
13 review.

14 And after that, we also looked at  
15 a - sort of an analogous model which DOE put  
16 together and used in our handbook in 2008.  
17 And I think actually the two models are very  
18 similar, but that in terms of contrasting that  
19 we went ahead and did that as well.

20 So, Ron, can you walk us through?

21 DR. BUCHANAN: Okay. In the  
22 report, it starts on Page 60. And the reason

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1 for this was we have the basic equation there<sup>108</sup>  
2 on Page 60 that simply looks at the count rate  
3 that was recorded on the swipe, and then the  
4 conversion factors and some constants put in  
5 and that sort of thing to arrive at a dose.

6 And what our initial concern was,  
7 how does this vary, you know, since we don't  
8 have - we have some specific data for Mound,  
9 but we don't have exact data throughout all  
10 the years for Mound.

11 If you vary these parameters, does  
12 this affect your dose much? That's the  
13 general overall picture we were looking at  
14 here.

15 And so we see on Page 61 there, a  
16 list of about six factors that are in the main  
17 equation. And they're like detector  
18 efficiency, there's counts per minute, how  
19 accurate are those, the swiping of the surface  
20 over periods of time, resuspension factor of  
21 course which we can talk about more in this  
22 section, we just address it, but not discuss

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1 it, the breathing rate, the time of exposure<sup>109</sup>  
2 and dose conversion factor.

3 So, looking at these -- and this  
4 is all summarized in Table 23 on Page 62. And  
5 so, essentially what I tried to do and said,  
6 okay - and this is subjective, you know. What  
7 is a lower value, what's a higher value,  
8 what's median value?

9 And so, I looked at the value that  
10 NIOSH was suggesting to use in their 2012  
11 value, which was more the reasonable estimate  
12 and say, okay, how much could this vary or how  
13 does this match up with what's published and  
14 stuff? And go on either side of that for low  
15 values and upper values within reasonable  
16 range. And I list the parameters there.

17 And then I said, okay, if you used  
18 all lower values or you used all upper values,  
19 how much would this change the median value  
20 that NIOSH put forth in their latest paper?

21 And so, you see I did it two ways.  
22 Since the resuspension factor was of major

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1 concern here and had been related in the past,<sup>110</sup>  
2 I did two analyses that you see in bold at the  
3 bottom.

4 I did it using a constant  
5 resuspension factor. And so, is resuspension  
6 factor the only thing that really matters  
7 here, or do other things matter?

8 And we see that if we were to  
9 settle on a resuspension factor, that the  
10 other variables within reasonable range would  
11 give you a dose that would range from 0.02  
12 times the suggested value to about 135 times  
13 the suggested value.

14 So, essentially this illustrates  
15 that the other factors are of importance also  
16 in this case when you're selecting a model  
17 which you have to plug in parameters that  
18 weren't set necessarily by the site or you  
19 were using a range of these parameters to say,  
20 what I should use, what's the reasonable value  
21 here. So, we see that it does have an impact.

22 Of course in the line above that

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1 you see that if you factor in the resuspension  
2 factor that it varies a lot more, 0.0003 to  
3 8,000 times the median value.

4 And so in summary, you know, that  
5 illustrates that it does depend even if you're  
6 talking about low doses of millirem or so to  
7 an organ, you see that the values chosen --  
8 the parameters chosen does have a significant  
9 impact on the outcome.

10 And of course the resuspension  
11 factor has the largest, because it has the  
12 largest range that we've discussed in the  
13 past.

14 DR. NETON: This is Jim. A good  
15 summary, but I'd like to point out I don't  
16 think - I don't suspect that SC&A was  
17 suggesting that one would use the high value  
18 for all the parameters in the dose  
19 reconstruction.

20 That does counter every piece of  
21 advice one gets in doing these types of  
22 calculations and not take the high end of the

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1 value for each parameter and propagate that  
2 through the end result.

3 I think that would just not be  
4 good science.

5 DR. MAURO: And, Jim, this is John  
6 Mauro.

7 Bear in mind at least in the case  
8 of the resuspension factor where the range  
9 that we're looking at represents, you know,  
10 resuspension factor is observed and it's in  
11 the chapter on resuspension factors, you know,  
12 are quite variable.

13 But if we were to ask the question  
14 the average annual resuspension factor --

15 DR. NETON: Right.

16 DR. MAURO: -- it would bring this  
17 spread way down.

18 DR. NETON: Exactly.

19 DR. MAURO: So, that's an important  
20 point that is which one of these - which of  
21 these parameters would be the upper end?  
22 Would that represent a reasonable annual value

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1 and where the variables from day to day may  
2 change. That's an important consideration.

3 DR. NETON: 80,000 times is not a  
4 realistic number.

5 DR. MAURO: No, and I also agree  
6 that if you were to do a Monte Carlo and you  
7 would say what's the probability that every  
8 one of the parameters would be at the high  
9 end, it would be, you know, the probability -  
10 it would approach zero.

11 DR. NETON: Right. So, and the  
12 other thing I see missing from this table  
13 would be the effect of using the difference  
14 between the 50th percentile, 95th percentile  
15 in the comp rate distribution which is one  
16 thing we would weigh in on as well.

17 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, and I think  
18 it also should be added that - and we said  
19 this in the paper that we thought the change  
20 of the resuspension factor which by far is the  
21 most influential variable, was in the right  
22 direction.

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1                   We     agreed     it     was     overly<sup>114</sup>  
2     conservative in the first paper.     And even  
3     though it was changed two orders of magnitude,  
4     we thought the number had a better basis.

5                   This goes back to what John was  
6     saying     that     we     want     to     treat     the  
7     uncertainties, but recognize that making the  
8     call as to where is the proper place to fall  
9     in the range is an important thing.

10                  But     given     the     fact     it's     a  
11     theoretical model, we just wanted to emphasize  
12     since it really didn't get treated as much in  
13     the two NIOSH White Papers, that somehow that  
14     had to be built into whatever final approach  
15     as to how you would treat that, what  
16     percentile distribution.

17                  We     didn't     do     a     sensitivity  
18     analysis.     I mean, that's clearly what this  
19     could have gone into.     But, you know, frankly  
20     we just wanted to raise the question and to  
21     make sure it was clear that certainly these  
22     play into it.

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1 DR. NETON: And again I just point<sup>115</sup>  
2 out for consistency purposes, I think what  
3 we've done here is very consistent with TIB-70  
4 approach. And it's nowhere that we have ever  
5 ended up using uncertainties about the  
6 resuspension factors in our calculations. We  
7 typically pick 95th percentile which we  
8 believe tends to bound the intakes.

9 We have some debate as John knows  
10 about the resuspension factor, but I think  
11 this one is quite reasonable. And I think  
12 there was some discussion in the NIOSH report  
13 as to why this one was selected.

14 But point taken, there is  
15 variability in these parameters. We have not  
16 selected a final model yet. Obviously we put  
17 a couple out there, the 50th percentile, the  
18 95th percentile. And how we address against  
19 these other parameters I think we need to talk  
20 about.

21 So, I think that should be an  
22 action item for NIOSH which is to describe a

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1 finalized approach for this model that would<sup>116</sup>  
2 either incorporate or use the 95th percentile  
3 or do the full distribution, you know,  
4 whatever.

5 We've left a couple ideas on the  
6 table.

7 CHAIR BEACH: So, describe the  
8 final approach for the model.

9 DR. NETON: Right. Whether it's  
10 the 95th, 50th to full distribution or, you  
11 know, that sort of thing.

12 DR. MAURO: And, Jim, this is John.  
13 To help frame this problem within the things  
14 we're talking about within an SEC context is,  
15 you know, again when we look at the  
16 variability in the swipe data in just the  
17 numbers and we see how spread they are, there  
18 were also some, what I would say, important  
19 qualitative questions that we don't want to  
20 lose sight of.

21 The swipe data you're getting a, I  
22 guess, the total data count per hundred

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1 centimeters squared. And it's important that  
2 we don't lose sight that what you're looking  
3 at in terms of the tritium whether you're at  
4 the 50th percentile, 95th or whatever, there  
5 are holes that need to be filled, et cetera,  
6 keep in mind what that data are.

7 And that is we're assuming it's  
8 all hafnium tritide.

9 DR. NETON: Right.

10 DR. MAURO: And I would like to  
11 alert everyone that there is a real - there is  
12 a plausibility question, in other words, and  
13 this is something that we have to deal with.

14 The swipe sample data, and it is a  
15 widespread value that would - the spread we're  
16 seeing and the holes we're seeing, we don't  
17 want to lose sight of the fact that we're  
18 making an assumption here that all those  
19 counts on the swipe sample are hafnium  
20 tritides.

21 And I think intuitively for me,  
22 that seems to be probably very unlikely that a

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1 very significant fraction of whatever counts<sup>118</sup>  
2 you're getting might very well be tritiated  
3 water.

4 And I know Ron may want to weigh  
5 in a little bit on that. So, I don't want to  
6 lose context. You can easily get lost into  
7 the numbers and forgetting about the context.

8 Same thing goes with the  
9 resuspension factor and the spread. I don't  
10 want to lose context on that.

11 The resuspension factor data that  
12 we summarize in the chapter, are data that  
13 really come from uranium, plutonium, dust  
14 itself, not radioactive material, and did not  
15 come from data that represent hafnium tritide.

16 I have no idea how it behaves, but  
17 certainly intuitively in this case we're  
18 really talking about hafnium as, I guess, some  
19 kind of metal, particulate metal of some size  
20 distribution that settled out.

21 The fact that it is attached to  
22 tritium, you know, we have to understand that

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1 the numbers we have for resuspension factor<sup>119</sup>  
2 literature are for very specific types of  
3 particulate material that settled out and  
4 particulate size distributions of that  
5 material.

6 How important that is in building  
7 a bridge and applying that to this particular  
8 problem related to tritides, we have to keep  
9 that in mind as a conceptual challenge and the  
10 degree to which we're comfortable making those  
11 assumptions.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Jim, I think there  
13 was some commentary in our review about what  
14 exposure duration and latency period was used.

15 I know we kind of raised that as a question,  
16 but is there a specific reason for the ten-  
17 year latency?

18 DR. NETON: No, I think -

19 MR. FITZGERALD: I mean, I'm just -

20 DR. NETON: I got a little confused  
21 when I saw your comment on that, because then  
22 I got to thinking about latency in risk

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1 models, but it's really nothing to do with  
2 that.

3 It's just saying that the cancer  
4 occurred ten years after -

5 MR. FITZGERALD: As a hypothetical.

6 DR. NETON: -- exposure as a  
7 hypothetical situation.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay.

9 DR. NETON: So, all it really meant  
10 was there was ten years' worth of exposure.  
11 You only construct the dose until you get the  
12 cancer.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

14 DR. NETON: So, they could have  
15 easily just said let's assume the cancer  
16 occurred ten years after exposure. Latency  
17 really didn't play in there.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. So, I  
19 mean, in other words it's just an example -

20 DR. NETON: It was an example of a  
21 case study which was put out there to attempt  
22 to demonstrate that the doses were indeed -

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: And clearly

2 suggested that you did the -

3 DR. NETON: Did the 20 years, 10

4 years --

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Right, right.

6 DR. NETON: -- five years, six

7 years of exposure.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay.

9 DR. NETON: And that's when, you

10 know, I realized you could start getting into

11 doses that far exceed a millirem because this

12 was the one isolated case study. It was

13 illustrative though, which demonstrated the

14 doses are indeed in the millirem range.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I don't think

16 there's any debate about the fact that they

17 are relatively small. It's just a question -

18 DR. NETON: And I think throwing in

19 latency got me all confused because I

20 immediately start thinking of risk model, the

21 apportionment of latency between zero and ten

22 and the S-shaped curve and all that kind of

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1 stuff. It doesn't even come into play. 122

2 MR. FITZGERALD: Ron, do you have  
3 anything else?

4 DR. BUCHANAN: Yes, I did want to  
5 address Jim's statement about the - no, I was  
6 not suggesting we use the 8,000 upper limit or  
7 anything like that.

8 This came about simply for two  
9 reasons. Number one was we wanted to give the  
10 Working Group an idea of how things change.  
11 That this was an equation that you could get  
12 an exact answer depending on the parameters  
13 putting in. That was to illustrate that.

14 And number two is that, you know,  
15 we were at the time, the mind set was we were  
16 looking at this one millirem magic number and  
17 we wanted to illustrate that, you know,  
18 depending on the parameters, you could come up  
19 with less than a millirem or more than a  
20 millirem.

21 And on the committed dose and the  
22 latent -- the exposure period and the latent

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1 period, we just went into that area to see, <sup>if</sup><sub>1,2,3</sub>  
2 it was really important in their case study.

3 Your scenario had two years of  
4 exposure and ten-year latent period. And so  
5 we said, well, is this important? Even though  
6 it's not in the first equation, is it  
7 important?

8 And so, we looked at it and we  
9 said, well, you know, it's kind of intuitive.

10 If you increase your exposure time, double  
11 it, you get about twice the dose. If you half  
12 it, about half. If your latent period is  
13 greater, you know, you'll get not quite double  
14 the dose and stuff.

15 And so, we found that those were  
16 parameters you chose to illustrate the case,  
17 but it wasn't really influential on our  
18 overall umbrella analysis of the situation.

19 DR. NETON: Appreciate that. My  
20 only concern with the 8,000 is someone can  
21 read that and say the doses could be 8,000  
22 times higher when in fact I don't think anyone

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1 would agree that they could be that much  
2 higher.

3 I admit there's a lot of  
4 uncertainty there, but it's not that great.

5 DR. BUCHANAN: Right. I was  
6 looking at what more could it range and did  
7 these parameters, really, the details in  
8 there, what should we be concerned with, you  
9 know?

10 We don't want to worry about  
11 breathing rate and time. Those don't have a  
12 big influence. And, you know, it's the  
13 factors that influence the outcome the most  
14 that we want to spend the resource on.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: And I think the  
16 other cautionary note is that you see some of  
17 these dose estimates, two or three significant  
18 figures, and I just sort of realize that we're  
19 operating in a realm where we say several  
20 millirem. That's probably as precise as one  
21 gets.

22 And that was a little bit, you

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1 know, I didn't want there to be construed<sup>1,2,5</sup> a  
2 level of precision that doesn't exist when  
3 dealing with this much -

4 DR. NETON: Agreed.

5 MR. STIVER: This is John Stiver.  
6 I'd like to kind of weigh in a little bit on  
7 this.

8 You know, back when they were kind  
9 of grappling with how to present this, we  
10 thought about possibly doing a full-blown  
11 uncertainty analysis and doing Monte Carlo,  
12 Crystal Ball simulations for all the different  
13 distributions and we thought it would probably  
14 be better just to give more of an illustrative  
15 example.

16 But this is something I was kind  
17 of concerned with that putting out the extreme  
18 values out there could be misconstrued as to  
19 being realistic possibilities as opposed to  
20 what you might actually get in an uncertainty  
21 analysis.

22 MR. KATZ: This is Ted. In general

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1 I think down the road not for this<sup>126</sup>  
2 particularly, but generally when SC&A does  
3 these, I think it would be better to use  
4 reasonable assumptions to give a sense of the  
5 range of uncertainty instead of sort of  
6 theoretical limits or whatever that has been  
7 used here, which is giving a wildly broad  
8 range of uncertainty.

9 So, I mean, it's unreasonable to  
10 those choices you're making if you're going to  
11 try to illustrate to a Work Group, you know,  
12 how much uncertainty there could be in these  
13 figures realistically as opposed to tweaking  
14 every parameter to an extreme.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Ron, anything  
16 else?

17 DR. BUCHANAN: No. That was it.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. I don't  
19 know if we -

20 DR. MAURO: Joe, this is John. I  
21 just - I'd like to just bring one thing up I  
22 guess with Ron.

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1 I think we talked about it before,<sup>127</sup>  
2 but it would be good to put it on the table  
3 here.

4 Am I correct when we take those  
5 swipe samples, am I correct that it's  
6 difficult to judge what fraction might be  
7 hafnium tritide and would you - now, this  
8 would be just your experience in this matter  
9 or anyone around the table, around the phone,  
10 or would you expect that most of that count  
11 that you would get from the swipe is tritiated  
12 water?

13 MR. BARTON: Well -

14 DR. MAURO: You may not be able to  
15 - no one may be able to answer that. I don't  
16 know.

17 MR. STIVER: I think that the  
18 questions we're grappling with is what is the  
19 fraction --

20 DR. NETON: I mean I point, John,  
21 to your report that actually says that a  
22 significant fraction of the activities could

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1 be tritides in the room. I mean, if that's<sup>1,2,8</sup>  
2 true then there's some significant -

3 DR. MAURO: Perhaps for some of  
4 them, you know, I don't - my problem is I  
5 don't know, you know.

6 When you have a swipe taken in a  
7 room where there may be some tritides and  
8 there was also tritiated water, that was, you  
9 know, and you take a swipe there, I have no  
10 sense whether there may be certain time  
11 periods and locations where it's predominantly  
12 the tritide, or maybe it's not, you know.

13 Something tells me, and this is  
14 terrible to say, but instinctively something  
15 tells me it's probably dominated by tritiated  
16 water. But, you know, and there's a - and  
17 this goes toward the uncertainty that Joe  
18 brought up in the beginning, you know.

19 We build a model, we try to probe  
20 it and say, well, listen, is this a good way  
21 to come at the problem? And I think it's  
22 important that we all understand the embedded

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1 assumptions even in the spread and <sup>in</sup><sub>129</sub>  
2 uncertainties that we just talked about, you  
3 know.

4 We're being quantitative here, but  
5 in reality there are these issues that we are  
6 troubled by.

7 In my mind, quite frankly, there's  
8 no doubt that by using the upper 95th  
9 percentile for a given time period where you  
10 have data and you use the upper 95th  
11 percentile and assume it's all hafnium  
12 tritide, there's no doubt in my mind that for  
13 the purpose of that month of exposure you're  
14 off-the-charts high, you know. That's how I  
15 come at this.

16 Now, so I believe there are some  
17 issues here that the Board will have to  
18 struggle with. That is, you know, once you  
19 recognize that this could be an off-the-charts  
20 high characterization of how much tritide,  
21 namely hafnium tritide, was on surfaces in a  
22 given time period using the data that we start

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1 with, I mean, this is something we have <sup>130</sup> to  
2 struggle with, all of us.

3 DR. NETON: But, John, don't you  
4 agree though even if that's the case and the  
5 doses come out to be three millirem that it's  
6 -

7 DR. MAURO: Oh, I got to tell you -

8 DR. NETON: You got to take that in  
9 consideration, I think.

10 DR. MAURO: Oh, yes. Very  
11 important. I'm glad you brought it up.  
12 You're absolutely right. That is that, you  
13 know, by assuming it's all hafnium tritide, I  
14 would say that it's an extraordinarily  
15 conservative assumption.

16 And even then, I agree with you,  
17 you're coming in with doses that are  
18 relatively low.

19 DR. NETON: I would think if you  
20 were in very high doses where it could put  
21 someone on the borderline, you know, factor of  
22 ten would make it 70 percent TC versus a seven

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1 percent TC, I mean, then you've got some  
2 issues there.

3 DR. MAURO: That's very important  
4 to put out on the table, and that's why I'm  
5 bringing this all up.

6 DR. NETON: You have to take into  
7 account the magnitude of the source term, I  
8 guess, is what I'm -

9 DR. MAURO: Yes, yes.

10 MEMBER CLAWSON: Well, John, this  
11 is Brad. I'm glad you brought that up because  
12 my question now leads into this.

13 The swipe data that we have, do we  
14 really have any swipe data that calls it out,  
15 this is tritium?

16 CHAIR BEACH: No.

17 DR. MAURO: No, isn't this all  
18 tritium? I mean, Jim, or, Ron, this is what's  
19 -- how is this counted? I assume this is  
20 counted in a way that -

21 MR. STIVER: John, this is counted  
22 in a PC-5 gas proportional counter, but it's

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1 adjusted and calibrated to - 132

2 DR. NETON: It's assumed that it  
3 was all in one particle, John. So, the  
4 efficiency was based on that.

5 DR. MAURO: Oh, I see. Okay.

6 MEMBER CLAWSON: And we're looking  
7 at hafnium because it's the worst actor,  
8 right?

9 DR. MAURO: Yes.

10 MEMBER CLAWSON: We're not looking  
11 at any of the other tritides that -

12 DR. MAURO: No.

13 DR. NETON: We have urine samples  
14 that would indicate that the HTO component,  
15 and that's what we would use to calculate  
16 doses to the organs if the tritides wasn't  
17 bounding.

18 So, we have both ends of the  
19 spectrum. We have actual biological bioassay  
20 data that we can use, or we can use the  
21 tritide intake. That's our choice depending  
22 on whichever ends up with the higher dose.

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1                   MR. STIVER: Is there a situation<sup>133</sup>  
2 where you would use them both? I mean where  
3 you could have people who were being exposed  
4 to tritiated water in addition to the tritide?

5                   So, it's kind of -

6                   DR. NETON: Well, I would think you  
7 have multiple cancers maybe.

8                   MR. STIVER: Yes.

9                   DR. NETON: So, I guess there's a  
10 little bit of a conundrum. We've run into  
11 that before where you have two cancers and you  
12 can't be exposed to two different sources at  
13 once. I'm not sure how we would handle that.

14                  MR. STIVER: Well, this situation  
15 would be, I mean, you have tritiated water  
16 basically permeating the work space, but you  
17 also have this other component of this -

18                  DR. NETON: Well, we would maximize  
19 one way or the other. Tritiated water would  
20 bound the dose - assume tritiated water bound  
21 the dose. We would use that. If tritides  
22 bound the dose, we would use that.

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1 MR. STIVER: Yes, but to such<sup>1,3,4</sup> a  
2 small increment, mostly.

3 DR. NETON: It depends on the  
4 cancer, I think. I think mostly it's going to  
5 be lung cancers, but I did notice that the  
6 lower large intestine tend to be irradiated  
7 more over the long term because of the -

8 MR. STIVER: Yes, insoluble  
9 particles being cleared -

10 DR. NETON: Yes.

11 MR. STIVER: -- through the  
12 digestive tract.

13 DR. NETON: So, yeah, we were doing  
14 both models to get the higher of the two. So,  
15 we've covered both exposure scenarios, I  
16 think, or the extreme end of exposure  
17 scenarios.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Did you have anything  
19 more, Joe?

20 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, Bob Barton,  
21 are you still on the phone?

22 MR. BARTON: I'm here, Joe.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Can you spend<sup>1,35</sup> a  
2 few minutes just summing this thing up  
3 relative to the DOE handbook 2008 method just  
4 to contrast that quickly?

5 CHAIR BEACH: Which is on Page 67  
6 if anybody is looking at that in the report.

7 MR. STIVER: Actually, I did that  
8 section there.

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Oh, I'm sorry.  
10 Never mind, Bob.

11 CHAIR BEACH: Thanks, Bob.

12 MR. BARTON: No problem.

13 MR. STIVER: You can relax now,  
14 Bob.

15 Basically what we wanted to do is  
16 find a paper out there that would be kind of a  
17 benchmark study that would help to validate  
18 the NIOSH report and we did find one.

19 This is the 2008 DOE report called  
20 the DOE Handbook, Tritium Handling and Safe  
21 Storage. And there's an appendix in there,  
22 and I think it was Appendix E that describes a

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1 method of calculating dose to the respiratory<sup>136</sup>  
2 tract from these insoluble tritiated  
3 particles.

4 And so, we looked at the DOE model  
5 in comparison with the NIOSH model and they  
6 both use the same basic approach.

7 The DOE and NIOSH both take a look  
8 at this self-absorption factor. And what this  
9 really does is when you're looking at  
10 particulate forms of insoluble tritides,  
11 you're looking at an average beta energy of  
12 about six keV.

13 And so, the fraction of beta  
14 particles that actually escape the surface of  
15 that particle could be quite small and be  
16 limited to the surface area.

17 And so, the actual observed  
18 activity compared to the actual activity in  
19 the particle can go down quite significantly  
20 as particle size increases.

21 And so, to account for this using  
22 a liquid scintillation counter, basically any

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1 - almost any beta particle that makes it into  
2 a cocktail is going to be registered as a  
3 count.

4 And so, what you're looking at  
5 really is this idea of observed activity. And  
6 NIOSH took kind of a slightly different  
7 approach than DOE. I can kind of talk about  
8 that a bit.

9 What they did was they corrected  
10 the PC-5 counts, basically the gas  
11 proportional counts by calibrating those to  
12 the liquid scintillation counting efficiency  
13 in the first paper.

14 In the second paper, they looked  
15 at this self-absorption factor for energy, and  
16 they basically corrected the PC-5 by dividing  
17 that by the absorption factor to get the total  
18 activity for the - that was in that particular  
19 particle.

20 And then from that, went through a  
21 series of calculations. And then at the tail  
22 end of the calculation, they then corrected

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1 for the observed activity for the respiratory<sup>138</sup>  
2 tract doses by taking a look at this  
3 distribution of these self-absorption factors  
4 for energy. I believe the geometric mean was  
5 about 0.12.

6 And so for the lung dose or any of  
7 the respiratory tract doses, mainly lung in  
8 the ICRP 66 model, they went ahead and  
9 multiplied that back by the 0.12 to account  
10 for the fact that only the particles that  
11 actually escape the surface are going to be  
12 able to interact with the tissue in the  
13 effective dose.

14 The DOE paper took a kind of  
15 similar approach, but with DOE they were  
16 really concerned with effective dose as  
17 opposed to individual organ doses.

18 And they used the same basic  
19 construct. They produced a self-absorption  
20 factor which was about a factor or two higher  
21 than the NIOSH calculation.

22 I think NIOSH used a method by -

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1 in a paper by Knopf, I believe, in 1988, I  
2 believe, but that's kind of beside the point.

3 DOE then went through and they  
4 graphed everything into the tail end in their  
5 dose conversion factors for effective dose.

6 And so, what they did was they  
7 accounted for all these things in the  
8 intermediate steps. And then for the  
9 component for lung, they went ahead and added  
10 in, they multiplied by their self-absorption  
11 factor. And then those individual components  
12 were then weighted by the tissue weighting  
13 factors in some to yield the effective dose  
14 component.

15 But when you look at the  
16 individual organ doses for lung for NIOSH  
17 versus the DOE construct, the weighted values  
18 come in with about a factor of two to each  
19 other.

20 And this really gets back to just  
21 - the scale is almost exactly by the self-  
22 absorption factor for energy. I think the DOE

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1 value was about 0.26 and the NIOSH value<sup>140</sup>  
2 geometrically is about 0.12.

3 And so, this kind of gave us a  
4 fairly higher degree of confidence that this  
5 particular approach NIOSH is taking is indeed  
6 a reasonable one.

7 We thought that it was based on  
8 our initial reading of it. It seemed to be  
9 perfectly scientifically reasonable.

10 And by being able to benchmark it  
11 against an existing study which is a fairly  
12 comprehensive study, we felt pretty strongly  
13 that they're kind of on the right track here,  
14 but there really are big issues in terms of  
15 the methodology that were employed.

16 So, that's really it in a  
17 nutshell. Are there any other questions about  
18 it?

19 MR. FITZGERALD: I mean, in terms  
20 of self-absorption factor, which way would be  
21 preferable or is there even a difference  
22 really?

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1 MR. STIVER: Between the beta and <sup>141</sup>  
2 the energy?

3 MR. FITZGERALD: Yeah.

4 MR. STIVER: Basically, it - NIOSH  
5 felt that -

6 MR. FITZGERALD: It's just a  
7 judgment call.

8 MR. STIVER: Yes, the fraction of  
9 beta at the surface. In any case, you're  
10 going to get a potential with that. And  
11 obviously for dosimetric purposes, you want to  
12 look at the energy that escapes those  
13 particles.

14 So, I think we're on pretty good  
15 grounds there.

16 CHAIR BEACH: Any questions,  
17 comments on that?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. Phil, are you  
20 still with us? Any comments or questions?

21 MEMBER SCHOFIELD: No questions at  
22 this time.

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1 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, then we're<sup>142</sup>  
2 ready to move on to the adequacy and  
3 completeness of the internal dosimetry.

4 And I know there was some  
5 comments, questions, there are a couple papers  
6 out. What's left here is the thorium issue,  
7 the early time period, the February '49 to  
8 September '49 polonium issue, and then of  
9 course the tritide issue that we just  
10 discussed.

11 Let's see. So -

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Do you want to  
13 maybe broach the thorium because -

14 CHAIR BEACH: I was just going to  
15 say let's look at the thorium. Yes, let's  
16 look at the thorium.

17 So, we had several papers on  
18 thorium. And the latest one was sent out May  
19 30th, by SC&A. And it actually captured  
20 SC&A's comments, NIOSH's comments and then  
21 SC&A's replies.

22 So, if you have that, we should

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1 work to that. 143

2 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, we were  
3 trying to keep this in real time in the sense  
4 that with this meeting coming up that we  
5 wanted to at least provide some reaction to  
6 the report that we got from NIOSH. I guess it  
7 was May 8th.

8 And I think what it comes down to  
9 is for want of a better term, you know,  
10 whether or not one is confident on the  
11 reliability of the program that was in place  
12 because it sort of comes down to that in a way  
13 that there isn't - this is reminiscent of a  
14 lot of the other internal dose issues.

15 And if Brant was here, we both  
16 would wince because we went through this for a  
17 couple years and I don't propose we go through  
18 it again.

19 CHAIR BEACH: Well, can I say, Joe,  
20 to that -

21 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

22 CHAIR BEACH: -- this actually

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1 goes back before that to the January 8th, 2012<sub>144</sub>  
2 White Paper.

3 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

4 CHAIR BEACH: Which had a table  
5 that had a lot of different open items, which  
6 is what we asked Brant -

7 MR. FITZGERALD: On thorium.

8 CHAIR BEACH: On thorium.

9 DR. NETON: Thorium was one of  
10 those.

11 MR. FITZGERALD: Was one of those,  
12 right.

13 CHAIR BEACH: One of them. So, we  
14 had actually given your - SC&A's  
15 recommendation was to totally close  
16 everything, but we wanted to tie all these up  
17 and make sure -

18 DR. NETON: I think those were  
19 considered to be dose reconstruction Site  
20 Profile issues, is my understanding.

21 CHAIR BEACH: But there was a  
22 couple SEC issues embedded in there that we

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1 were trying to - 145

2 DR. NETON: I understand. I  
3 thought Joe's memo that came out most recently  
4 clarified that the thorium is the only  
5 remaining issue. The other ones were Site  
6 Profile issues.

7 CHAIR BEACH: Well, and then but  
8 there's also the polonium in there -

9 DR. NETON: Well, the polonium one  
10 I can address.

11 CHAIR BEACH: -- as well.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: There's three  
13 issues. And I apologize. I think the preface  
14 to that matrix was not crystal clear. But we  
15 did say in that preface that there was three  
16 SEC issues outstanding; the tritides, the  
17 polonium was the early years, and this thorium  
18 issue.

19 And the other ones which clearly  
20 we need to wrestle with a little bit is the  
21 baseline for the Site Profile issues. But  
22 beyond those three central SEC issues at least

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1 from SC&A's standpoint, we didn't see anything<sup>146</sup>  
2 that stood as an SEC-significant issue. The  
3 Work Group may disagree, but we kind of went  
4 through that and that's where we came out.

5 And this analysis of course is a  
6 response to the thorium White Paper that we  
7 received not too long ago. And we had some  
8 questions, and we went ahead in real time and  
9 posed those questions back to NIOSH and we got  
10 a response. And this is sort of a response to  
11 the response.

12 So, I think we pretty much have  
13 wrestled this as far as we can. I want to -  
14 not to be glib, but again I think where we  
15 came out in terms of what actual data and  
16 evidence is available, it does come down to  
17 accepting that the oversight and controls were  
18 adequate and working in terms of who got  
19 urinalysis, who did not.

20 I mean, there's no way that we can  
21 really pin that down too well.

22 DR. NETON: Exactly. I don't want

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1 to cut you short, but I think it comes down<sup>147</sup> to  
2 whether or not it's a believable scenario that  
3 Mound actually did have appropriate  
4 administrative control.

5 I went and looked through all the  
6 data I could find in the last week or so to  
7 try to have a fresh pair of eyes on it. And  
8 Brant was looking at it as well and -

9 MR. KATZ: Jim, sorry. There's a  
10 conversation going on, on the phone. Please,  
11 someone on the phone is talking. Two people  
12 are talking on the phone. Can you put your  
13 phone on mute, please?

14 The lady that's speaking right  
15 now, can you put your phone on mute? \*6.  
16 Thanks.

17 DR. NETON: And this has been  
18 discussed by Brant before, but I went and  
19 looked, went back and looked at the Herb Meyer  
20 reports that talk about redrumming being done  
21 on a periodic basis. Personnel were assigned,  
22 were provided contamination control equipment,

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1 clothing and monitoring surfaces.

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2 This is Meyer summarized this over  
3 a period of years, and then I went back and  
4 looked at the - there's a lot of quarterly  
5 Health Physics reports out there that span  
6 from 1948 to 1960 something.

7 And each of these reports, at  
8 least the ones I was looking at in the 1960  
9 time frame, have a very nice statement that  
10 I'd just like to read that says: Personnel  
11 working with radioactive isotopes or in areas  
12 containing radioactive materials are required  
13 to submit urine samples. The urine specimens  
14 are analyzed quantitatively for radioisotopes,  
15 to which employees may have been exposed, and  
16 results are used to estimate employee's body  
17 burden.

18 And they go on further and explain  
19 what happens if there's what they call a hot  
20 sample.

21 Each of these reports have that  
22 statement, and then they go through and report

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1 on all the various activities that occurred<sup>149</sup>  
2 and the monitoring that was done in that  
3 quarter.

4 And in the periods that we know  
5 that redrumming was done, we see that there's  
6 a report on thorium analyses in the report  
7 that there were, in this case, three 24-hour  
8 urine specimens were analyzed for thorium  
9 content. The maximum concentration was 0.7  
10 dpm, that sort of thing.

11 So, there's a consistent body of  
12 documents out there that points to the fact at  
13 least in our opinion, that the workers were  
14 monitored.

15 And the Meyer document also talks  
16 about a small number of workers being involved  
17 and we see that in the quarter reports, where  
18 there are anywhere from three to four or so  
19 people monitored per quarter for thorium in  
20 urine, which is very unusual.

21 I have not seen this level of  
22 thorium in urine monitoring on a routine

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1 basis. I can't think of any other site. 150

2 And, in fact, there is a database  
3 out there that had 350 total thorium and urine  
4 samples that were taken at Mound. And Brant  
5 actually went through for that last White  
6 Paper and picked 20 of those workers and did  
7 some dose reconstruction.

8 So, I don't know whether we just  
9 end up agreeing to disagree on this, but in  
10 our opinion it appears that the thorium  
11 project was monitored pretty well.

12 I'd also point out most of the  
13 thorium activity where there was - outside the  
14 drumming, the original refinery-type project  
15 that was done back in the mid-1950s all  
16 occurred during the - prior to or during --  
17 just at the cusp of the original SEC that  
18 stops in 1958.

19 So, there were some thorium  
20 activities that were not redrumming that  
21 occurred. But if they would have occurred in  
22 the original SEC period, those people are in

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1 the SEC already.

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2 So, any reconstruction that we're  
3 talking about for thorium, in my opinion, is  
4 going to be either redrumming or there's just  
5 one - as far as I could find, there is one  
6 miscellaneous piece where they did something  
7 else which was using thorium, coating thorium  
8 with molybdenum or something as a surrogate  
9 for the plutonium-238 microspheres.

10 And the thorium particles in that  
11 particular experiment were a hundred micron in  
12 size which is respirable, to my knowledge.

13 So, I mean, that's where we're at.

14 I don't know, you know, maybe this is one of  
15 those glass half empty, half full situations.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: I suspect that's  
17 the way it's ended up with internal.

18 Ron, short of going through these  
19 one by one which I think the responses are  
20 before the Work Group anyway, is there any -  
21 you spent some time on this.

22 Do you want to add anything?

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1 DR. BUCHANAN: Yes. This is Ron<sup>152</sup> of  
2 SC&A.

3 Essentially it boils down to we  
4 looked at the dose reconstruction model and we  
5 don't have a problem with that. We do not  
6 have a problem with what NIOSH has said.

7 It's just that we don't have any  
8 assurance one way or the other. We don't have  
9 any red flag saying, hey, we've got a group of  
10 workers saying that they worked with it and  
11 weren't bioassayed. On the other hand, we  
12 don't have anything to say, yes, you know,  
13 it's like an operating - if you got a reactor  
14 operating accelerator, you can say, okay, how  
15 long did it operate or were people monitored,  
16 who was there, were they monitored, and you  
17 can go back over some of the claims and stuff.

18 In this case, we really can't  
19 prove a negative. We can't prove that people  
20 worked with it or were inadvertently exposed  
21 to it that weren't directly connected with  
22 redrumming or some other use of thorium that

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1 weren't monitored.

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2           So, you know, like Joe said, we've  
3 done about all we can do on it. And if they  
4 were monitored, you know, the procedure is  
5 there to assign them the dose. And so, we  
6 don't have any way one way or the other to  
7 prove that some people worked with it, weren't  
8 monitored.

9           CHAIR BEACH: As the report states.  
10 Paul, anything?

11           MEMBER ZIEMER: Well, one part of  
12 this, the concept is accepting that oversight  
13 was in place. The existence of those samples  
14 tells you that there was some oversight in  
15 place.

16           I suppose you can always argue  
17 that could there have been someone working  
18 there that didn't have monitoring, but that's  
19 - you're probably going to raise that issue  
20 anywhere.

21           And I suppose if someone made the  
22 claim that they did redrumming as part of

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1 their operation in their CATI or something and  
2 they said, yeah, I redrummed thorium, I worked  
3 with those folks, we can always, I don't know,  
4 do a coworker model or what would you do?

5 DR. NETON: Well, we have 350  
6 samples. There are also some air  
7 concentration data. Although, most of the  
8 data I saw were in the 50s and they were  
9 fairly low.

10 There was a lot of high activity,  
11 but I don't think those were necessarily the  
12 redrumming operations. I couldn't really  
13 quite tell. That was in Brant's report.

14 So, I agree with you. You really  
15 don't know and then what do you do? Do you  
16 add a Class of people who weren't monitored?

17 Those who were monitored are not  
18 in the Class, and then those who weren't are  
19 in the Class. It could be an issue.

20 CHAIR BEACH: That takes us into  
21 most of our internal and why we are where we  
22 are with just thorium left, because -

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1 DR. NETON: Yes. 155

2 CHAIR BEACH: -- it's the same  
3 case.

4 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, because  
5 we've gone through the saga of trying to go  
6 through the Meyer report and the King report.  
7 And basically there just isn't any other  
8 information that can pin this down. So,  
9 I think we agreed to disagree to some extent,  
10 but also agreed that you would need something  
11 that would be clearly corroborating.  
12 Otherwise, you would get into the same  
13 scenario Jim suggested that he would -

14 MR. KATZ: Excuse me, Joe. Please,  
15 there are people on the phone that are  
16 carrying on conversations.

17 If you don't want to listen to  
18 this, then I would suggest that you  
19 disconnect. But you're interrupting everyone  
20 who's trying to listen to the discussion here,  
21 including other people on the phone who may  
22 have a harder time than the people in the room

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1 hearing what's being said. 156

2 So, please, mute your phone or  
3 disconnect.

4 CHAIR BEACH: Thank you.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: But again that  
6 avoids the circumstance that Jim just alluded  
7 to that otherwise you're recommending SECs for  
8 periods where that data is lacking, but you  
9 have to, you know, you don't know one way or  
10 the other what it means whether it's  
11 operationally there wasn't anything or whether  
12 in fact the monitoring wasn't done.

13 So, I think that's the  
14 circumstance here, but there is information  
15 which actually there's more information on  
16 thorium than we found for some of the exotics.

17 CHAIR BEACH: Phil, are you still  
18 on the line? Do you have any comments or -  
19 hopefully you were able to hear the  
20 discussion.

21 MEMBER SCHOFIELD: I notice that  
22 you were talking about the size of the

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1 thorium. How long has that material been<sup>157</sup>  
2 will the records show -

3 CHAIR BEACH: That was just one  
4 operation. One separate from the redrumming.

5 DR. NETON: Which one?

6 CHAIR BEACH: The size. The  
7 particle size.

8 DR. NETON: I read that in a  
9 report. There's a report titled "Uses of  
10 radionuclides." I forget the author, but they  
11 talked about the particle size that were used  
12 to coat these microspheres that were 100  
13 microns in diameter.

14 But those people were also  
15 presumably under the monitoring program as  
16 well. Because like I say, Mound is a little  
17 different in the sort of sense it's not quite  
18 in my opinion seemingly expansive as some of  
19 these other large DOE sites.

20 There were a number of buildings,  
21 but the operations were, I don't know,  
22 somewhat - not as many individual operations

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1 going on at the time. 158

2 There were other campaigns with  
3 other small things, but I don't think anything  
4 like you would see at a larger, more national  
5 lab-type situation.

6 One of the reports -- I mentioned  
7 these quarterly Health Physics reports I think  
8 are particularly instructive. This is just  
9 out of a quarterly report that was issued in  
10 1960 again.

11 And I'll read this section called  
12 Other Areas, which is sort of outside the  
13 polonium/plutonium ones. And this statement  
14 reads: The thorium redrumming work was  
15 undertaken again this spring. Approximately  
16 2,500 drums of thorium will be redrummed yet  
17 this year. Work is being done in the area  
18 close to the railroad spur west of the oil  
19 pump house. A portable change house has been  
20 set up in the area. Personal monitoring will  
21 be carried out as in the past, you know.

22 So, there's clearly an awareness

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1 of what's going on and an indication that  
159  
2 workers were monitored. And in fact, we have  
3 350 samples.

4 So, it's a nice, little tight  
5 package there, at least in my opinion, based  
6 on what I've read.

7 MEMBER CLAWSON: Well, that 250  
8 samples -

9 DR. NETON: 350.

10 MEMBER CLAWSON: 350, excuse me.

11 It covers how many years?

12 DR. NETON: It covers a number of  
13 years out through -- maybe 20 years.  
14 Something like that.

15 The thorium, remember, we're only  
16 worried about thorium reconstruction  
17 necessarily after '58 and the material was  
18 actually put into the Building 21  
19 configuration. I believe in '64 they actually  
20 dumped all the drums.

21 They got tired of redrumming, in  
22 fact. They redrummed all the drums three

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1 times. And then they finally developed this<sup>160</sup>  
2 - it's sort of an igloo, in my opinion, like  
3 an open structure where they dump in all the  
4 drums into the igloo.

5 And after that point from the  
6 records I read, it pretty much sat dormant  
7 until 1975 when it was removed.

8 CHAIR BEACH: A company bought it  
9 or came in and -

10 DR. NETON: Someone bought it. And  
11 Gray and Associates was in charge of the  
12 shipping operations. I'm not even sure Mound  
13 was involved in the removal of the thorium.

14 So, there was about a period, you  
15 know, '58 to '64, six years or so where there  
16 was active outdoor -- well, actually it's  
17 probably late '50 to '64 active outdoor  
18 drumming in the good-weather months outdoors  
19 removed from the site - or onsite, but in a  
20 remote area of the site.

21 MEMBER CLAWSON: So, basically  
22 about five or six - well, six years of

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1 monitoring for that.

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2 I appreciate the paper that you  
3 read that this is how it is at the summary,  
4 but I'll always caution you of what goes out  
5 in the site is sometimes very different than  
6 the way it really did.

7 I hate to use that as this is how  
8 it was run, because today I still chuckle when  
9 I read the reports that go out.

10 So, I just caution some fan of,  
11 yes, that's the way it is.

12 DR. NETON: I appreciate that,  
13 Brad. I'm aware.

14 MEMBER CLAWSON: I know, and they  
15 didn't -- well, that's what we can go with.

16 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, SC&A's  
17 recommendation to the Work Group is to close  
18 this item. And I guess I'm going to throw  
19 that out to the Work Group what your thought  
20 is on that.

21 MEMBER CLAWSON: I don't have a  
22 warm, fuzzy feeling on it myself. I've

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1 listened to too many different interviews that  
2 contradict what was said, but that's just my  
3 personal opinion.

4 My opinion is that is that they've  
5 got 350 - I'm still - the people, are they  
6 exactly called out who was actually involved  
7 with -

8 CHAIR BEACH: Brant said at the  
9 last meeting that they could identify the 20  
10 people that did the redrumming effort. I do  
11 remember that from -

12 (Simultaneous speaking.)

13 CHAIR BEACH: Yeah, they have the  
14 samples.

15 DR. NETON: He identified 20  
16 people, 20 claimants that had -

17 (Simultaneous speaking.)

18 DR. NETON: Out of the three  
19 hundred and 50 or so samples, I believe about  
20 a third of them were positive.

21 MEMBER ZIEMER: One third.

22 DR. NETON: Were positive.

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1                   MEMBER ZIEMER: That represents how  
2 many workers?

3                   DR. NETON: I don't know how many  
4 workers. There were 350 samples. I didn't do  
5 that count. I was surprised there was that  
6 many positives, to be honest with you.

7                   Thorium is - inherently it doesn't  
8 excrete very well from the body. Only about  
9 10 percent, by the old models. I'm not sure  
10 about the new ones.

11                   But anyway, so, there was clearly  
12 positive exposures measured from them.

13                   CHAIR BEACH: I have Brant's report  
14 here. And he said this report presents  
15 internal dose estimates for 20 workers  
16 involved in the thorium operations at Mound.

17                   DR. NETON: Right.

18                   CHAIR BEACH: And I would tell you  
19 the date, but it is not listed, as you pointed  
20 out at the last meeting that it would be nice  
21 if NIOSH would put dates on these.

22                   So, I guess this just goes back

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1 to, I mean, this was kind of for all the <sup>164</sup>  
2 internal - you might - you're not comfortable  
3 with it and I agree with that, but then where  
4 does that take us or where does that lead us  
5 for a recommendation?

6 I guess I would have to say that I  
7 would take SC&A's recommendation to close  
8 this. That would be my vote.

9 MEMBER ZIEMER: I would agree with  
10 that. This is a case where we have monitoring  
11 data, we have identified individuals, we have  
12 a description of the work site and the  
13 restrictions not entering and so on.

14 It's not like some of the others  
15 that we've had and I think it's Oak Ridge  
16 Hospital, where there's no indication that  
17 there's any control about who went in and out.

18 I mean, you can only speculate  
19 that someone might get past controls, but at  
20 least they existed here and it's much tighter  
21 than we've seen in many of these.

22 The SEC to me becomes very clear

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1 if you can't show it, if there was some - at  
165  
2 least a reasonable level of control.

3 I don't think it excludes - but  
4 the idea that anyone on the site is going to  
5 be wandering into this area.

6 And the only other thing is that  
7 on these with what apparently is in these  
8 drums, I'm not sure.

9 DR. NETON: Very high percentage of  
10 thorium by weight.

11 MEMBER ZIEMER: Was it?

12 DR. NETON: Yes, I was surprised it  
13 was that high. Not all of them. Some. There  
14 was a mixture, but I know a large number of  
15 them were monazite ores. I don't know if it  
16 was Brazil or India.

17 MEMBER ZIEMER: But I'm wondering  
18 if the ingestions were actually inhalations  
19 versus oral.

20 DR. NETON: That's possible.

21 MEMBER ZIEMER: If it's oral, you  
22 get a very different excretion pattern than

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1 inhalation. 166

2 DR. NETON: The fl value for  
3 thorium -

4 CHAIR BEACH: Well, I think in this  
5 case from what I remember from Brant's report,  
6 was that the redrumming was done in the summer  
7 months and that uses of respiratory equipment  
8 was maybe a little haphazard.

9 Sometimes they wore them,  
10 sometimes they didn't, based on how hot it  
11 was.

12 DR. NETON: How many were exposed?

13 CHAIR BEACH: And I think we  
14 captured those particular workers. I agree  
15 that based on the urine samples, I think what  
16 we were really grappling with was the ones  
17 that weren't within those 20 people and how do  
18 you pinpoint those.

19 DR. NETON: Well, there were more  
20 than 20 people that were monitored. I mean,  
21 the 20 that Brant selected -

22 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

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1 DR. NETON: -- were just the ones<sup>167</sup>  
2 that he picked out of the population to do  
3 some case studies.

4 Dr. Ziemer has a good point. Out  
5 of 350 samples, I don't know exactly how many  
6 workers that covers.

7 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

8 DR. NETON: Presumably it's more  
9 than 20.

10 MEMBER CLAWSON: Well, and this is  
11 - my concern with it was we have nothing to  
12 let us know that the hundred percent of the  
13 people over these time periods were done.  
14 We've got 60 different people, but -

15 DR. NETON: Well, again, you know,  
16 and you could argue they do follow their own  
17 procedures, but they set up a change house,  
18 they cordoned off the area.

19 I mean, when you have controls  
20 like that, it's a little different like Dr.  
21 Ziemer says -

22 MEMBER CLAWSON: And that's true.

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1 DR. NETON: You're restricting<sup>168</sup>  
2 people coming into the area. You know who's  
3 been in there. And at least there's a proviso  
4 in there that everyone working with  
5 radioactive material is supposed to get their  
6 sample done.

7 It can't be proved a hundred  
8 percent here, but it appeared to me that there  
9 was a fairly good for that time frame, health  
10 physics practices in place for this operation.

11 I've known a lot of people who  
12 worked with thorium early on and they had zero  
13 monitoring. It's unusual to see this many  
14 samples for a thorium operation.

15 MEMBER CLAWSON: And I agree  
16 because partly I think that Mound was the  
17 reason for a lot of this because the issues  
18 could -- have arose with the thorium.

19 DR. NETON: I mean, if you look at  
20 the report and personnel descriptions, I was  
21 actually impressed that for the quarter they  
22 had six man-months of bioassay support for

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1 bioassay programs in that 1962 area, which I<sup>169</sup>  
2 thought was pretty good for, you know, that  
3 time period.

4 MEMBER ZIEMER: Well, these people  
5 are for the most part already in the SEC  
6 unless they don't meet the criteria, right?

7 DR. NETON: No, prior to '58  
8 they're in the SEC. We have an SEC through  
9 1980, but they would have to have also worked  
10 in the SW building handling tritium.

11 MEMBER ZIEMER: Oh, okay.

12 DR. NETON: But as I -

13 MEMBER ZIEMER: You don't know that  
14 the -

15 DE. NETON: The early thorium  
16 activities - the thorium program started in  
17 the mid-1950s and there was an intent to make  
18 like a pilot plant to purify the thorium.

19 That only lasted less than a year,  
20 I believe. So, that was sort of a chemistry  
21 pilot plant operation and then the project was  
22 terminated.

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1                   And so, the only activities<sup>170</sup>  
2 associated with thorium here would then be the  
3 redrumming operation.

4                   MEMBER ZIEMER: right.

5                   DR. NETON: They weren't doing the  
6 processing of the thorium as they had intended  
7 to in the early years.

8                   MR. KATZ: I think we need Brad and  
9 Phil's final words on this.

10                  MEMBER CLAWSON: You know, it's  
11 fine with me. I just, you know, I'm not  
12 always going to feel a hundred percent good on  
13 it. I have no problem with closing this  
14 following SC&A's request.

15                  I just wanted it to go on the  
16 record that I don't - I personally really  
17 don't think it's that clear-cut, but I'll go  
18 with the rest of the Board.

19                  MR. KATZ: Phil.

20                  MEMBER SCHOFIELD: I'm good at this  
21 time.

22                  MR. KATZ: Thank you.

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1                   MEMBER ZIEMER: I think you sort<sup>1</sup> of  
2 weight where it is. Is it past the tipping  
3 point in your mind. For me it is past the  
4 tipping point.

5                   MEMBER CLAWSON Right. And I  
6 understand, Paul, and I'm not questioning it.

7                   CHAIR BEACH: That's kind of where  
8 I'm at too and you can't, I mean, where would  
9 you go from here? That's what I was grappling  
10 with.

11                   So, Phil, what were you saying?

12                   MR KATZ: Phil said okay.

13                   CHAIR BEACH: Phil, okay. Okay.  
14 So, thorium then will stay as closed.

15                   And, Jim, that takes us to - you  
16 said you had a report on polonium.

17                   DR. NETON: I'll be very brief.

18                   CHAIR BEACH: No, please take your  
19 time.

20                   DR. NETON: Let me take the easier  
21 one first. The two years where we're missing  
22 polonium logbooks, we are actively in the

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1 process of developing an 83.14 for that. 172

2 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. You're talking  
3 the radon.

4 DR. NETON: The radon, right. I  
5 forget which two years those were.

6 CHAIR BEACH: I have it right here.  
7 So, let's make it very clear because I think  
8 one of the reports was incorrect for radon.

9 It is -- the missing logbooks were  
10 September 1st, 1972, through December 31st,  
11 1972. And for January 1st, 1975, through  
12 December 31st, 1976.

13 Because I think the other report  
14 just says '77, which was wrong. So, okay.  
15 Thank you.

16 DR. NETON: And I spoke to LaVon  
17 Rutherford who is the keeper of the SECs. And  
18 he indicated to me that we intend to present  
19 this at the September Board meeting to be the  
20 next Board meeting after -

21 CHAIR BEACH: So, an 83.14 for that  
22 time period.

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1 DR. NETON: An 83.14. It would be<sup>173</sup>  
2 all workers who worked in those two time  
3 frames would be eligible to enter the SEC  
4 because we can't - we have no definitive way  
5 of documenting potential for exposure in the  
6 SW building.

7 As far as the early period for  
8 polonium between February '49 and September  
9 '49, this is the era when Monsanto transferred  
10 polonium work over to Mound.

11 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

12 DR. NETON: And it perceived the  
13 initiation of the SEC Class at Mound. We  
14 intend to add that piece, but I checked last  
15 week. And as of last week we have no  
16 claimants that are affected by this.

17 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

18 DR. NETON: So, you know, we will  
19 be monitoring for what we consider to be a  
20 litmus case, someone who would be eligible to  
21 file for an 83.14.

22 We keep our eyes open. I think

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1 there's probably computer checks as they come  
2 in to make sure we don't miss someone.

3 But at such time as we get a case  
4 in, this will remain suspended until -

5 CHAIR BEACH: So, are we talking  
6 about an 83.14 that will -

7 DR. NETON: It would be an 83.14,  
8 but we can't proceed unless we have a case  
9 that's affected.

10 CHAIR BEACH: So, is there going to  
11 be any - I don't know. We're probably dealing  
12 with survivors possibly in this case.

13 DR. NETON: That's true.

14 CHAIR BEACH: So -

15 DR. NETON: You mean an advertising  
16 campaign or something of that nature?

17 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

18 DR. NETON: We haven't done that.  
19 We don't normally advertise. We could put the  
20 word out through the Board, notify - I have  
21 notified the Department of Labor about our  
22 intent to add an 83.14 for the logbook error.

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1 I did not bring up with them the <sup>175</sup>  
2 polonium error. I can mention that in our  
3 interagency calls and ask them to distribute  
4 that information however they can.

5 We just sort of let our ombudsman  
6 know, 'identifying information redacted', of  
7 our intent to be soliciting --

8 MEMBER ZIEMER: What are the years  
9 on that?

10 CHAIR BEACH: February 1st, 1949,  
11 through September 30th, 1949.

12 And then the other question is, is  
13 that going to be a Monsanto or a Mound?

14 DR. NETON: That would be a Mound.

15 CHAIR BEACH: It would be a Mound.

16 DR. NETON: Mound was in operation  
17 and they transferred that to Monsanto - or  
18 Monsanto transferred that operation to Mound.

19 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

20 DR. NETON: And there's no reason  
21 to believe that the procedure was any less  
22 messy than it was at Monsanto when it

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1 transferred at that time period. They were<sup>176</sup>  
2 irradiating slugs and dissolving them.

3 The other thing that was going on  
4 at Monsanto, as I mentioned a few meetings  
5 ago, is Monsanto is becoming a DOE facility.

6 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

7 DR. NETON: There's also a campaign  
8 out to - Jenny, correct me if I'm wrong, but I  
9 think we need to do an 83.14 there to solicit  
10 anyone - well, there's a potential Class of  
11 workers out there who were contractors that  
12 had worked at Monsanto who were not eligible  
13 for the SEC at Monsanto by nature of it being  
14 a DOE facility.

15 So, an 83.14 could be done to  
16 recruit - we can't just change the Class  
17 definition. There's a Class out there already  
18 as an AWE. Now, it would have to be a DOE  
19 Class.

20 And so, we're working on that  
21 aspect as well. So, there's a few things in  
22 the early periods that are going on.

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1 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. 177

2 MR. FITZGERALD: You mentioned just  
3 to go back, you mentioned the logbooks in the  
4 context of SW.

5 Are you talking about the - anyone  
6 who got a tritium bioassay, it wasn't to SW  
7 per se, was it?

8 DR. NETON: Well, what we're saying  
9 is we don't have any logbooks for tritium  
10 monitoring in those years. So, you have no  
11 way of establishing if they worked in the SW  
12 building or not.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, I'm just  
14 saying, though, the Class Definition was  
15 broader than SW. I think it was fall of - or  
16 anyone who got a -

17 DR. NETON: Yes.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: Right, right. When  
19 I heard you say SW, I wasn't quite sure if -

20 DR. NETON: Well, what I meant was  
21 that anyone - we don't know who had tritium  
22 bioassays in those years.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. 178

2 DR. NETON: So, therefore,  
3 everybody on site is in the Class -

4 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

5 DR. NETON: -- by definition.

6 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

7 DR. NETON: But you're correct.

8 There was another building that had tritium  
9 samples that was sort of brought into the  
10 Class.

11 (Simultaneous speaking.)

12 DR. NETON: So -

13 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay.

14 DR. NETON: It gets confusing at  
15 times.

16 CHAIR BEACH: It does.

17 DR. NETON: Because there's tritium  
18 samples to cover radon exposure. I mean, that  
19 right there tells you how confusing --

20 CHAIR BEACH: So, this will be all  
21 workers.

22 DR. NETON: All workers who were

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1 onsite during that time period.

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2 CHAIR BREACH: So, I would suggest  
3 that we take our lunch break and then give  
4 anyone on the phone a chance if there's any  
5 public comments before we get into Site  
6 Profile - or maybe we should - is there  
7 anything else with data adequacy?

8 We do have that list May 29th that  
9 NIOSH sent out. And I was trying to go  
10 through it briefly to see if there was  
11 anything missing.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: That's going to  
13 get into Site Profile issues.

14 CHAIR BEACH: That's what I  
15 suspected.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: That would be  
17 better after lunch.

18 DR. NETON: I think we should  
19 ignore NIOSH's response in those areas because  
20 they're redundant to what's going to be in -

21 CHAIR BEACH: In the Site Profile,  
22 okay.

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1 DR. NETON: We were somewhat<sup>180</sup>

2 confused as to which were SEC and which were -

3 CHAIR BEACH: Absolutely.

4 DR. NETON: Site Profile issues.

5 But I think if we go over this entire list,

6 it's going to take a little while especially

7 because I need to refresh my memory on some of

8 these. I wasn't intimately involved with

9 these as much as I am going to be now.

10 MR. FITZGERALD: We can use this as

11 an opportunity to do that because I think some

12 of us haven't actually looked at these in a

13 couple of years either.

14 CHAIR BEACH: Right, right.

15 DR. NETON: This just came out

16 recently. I haven't looked at the gamut of

17 the issues in a while.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So,

19 essentially other than the tritide issue, we

20 have cleared up all the SEC issues.

21 And can I ask a time frame? You

22 knew I was going to ask that on the tritides.

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1 DR. NETON: Can I get back to you  
2 on that, because I have not worked with this -  
3 I don't know what's on people's plates and I  
4 know this is a working product of one of our  
5 contractors. I can't speak for their time  
6 frame.

7 CHAIR BEACH: Right.

8 DR. NETON: I don't expect it would  
9 take long, but I'll -

10 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

11 DR. NETON: -- take commitment.  
12 It's one of my action items to get back to the  
13 Working Group within a week or so with a time  
14 frame. I just want to get a chance to talk to  
15 the people -

16 CHAIR BEACH: Sure.

17 DR. NETON: -- that are actually  
18 going to do the work.

19 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

20 DR. NETON: I'm very good at giving  
21 short commitments and then learning that -

22 (Laughter.)

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1 CHAIR BEACH: Right, right. And  
182  
2 we'll revisit recommendations and timing and  
3 stuff after lunch.

4 So, let's go ahead and break for  
5 an hour. Perfect timing. 12 o'clock.

6 MR. KATZ: So, thank you, everyone.

7 (Whereupon, the proceedings went  
8 off the record at 12:56 p.m. for a lunch  
9 recess and went back on the record at 1:03  
10 p.m.)

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A-F-T-E-R-N-O-O-N S-E-S-S-I-O-N

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1:03 p.m.<sub>183</sub>

MR. KATZ: All right. We are back after lunch. This is the Mound Work Group of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health.

Let me check on the line and see, do we have you back, Phil Schofield?

MEMBER SCHOFIELD: Yes. Yes, you do.

MR. KATZ: That's great. Thank you.

And while we have everyone else on the line at the outset, let me remind you again we had a lot of problems with people carrying on conversations on non-muted phones during the morning session. So, please, everyone, basically everyone except Phil and the SC&A staff, should have their phones muted. And if you don't want to mute your phone, then just cut out when you want to have a discussion, and dial back in.

And to mute your phone, you just

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1 press \*6. Every phone has a \*6. Press \*6<sub>184</sub>  
2 And then to unmute it, press \*6 again. Thank  
3 you.

4 And, Josie, it's your meeting.

5 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. So, where we  
6 are in the agenda is Work Group  
7 recommendations. And the only thing I want to  
8 say about that is we already closed out  
9 thorium. We know where we are with the  
10 tritide.

11 As far as this Work Group is  
12 concerned, I will do a presentation at the  
13 Board meeting in June in Santa Fe and  
14 basically just lay out what we've done over  
15 the last four to five years.

16 I did a presentation, I was trying  
17 to remember the date, but it was quite  
18 extensive a year or two ago, also.

19 And I'm hoping, and of course Jim  
20 is going to give us the okay on that, is to  
21 report out on the tritides issue in September  
22 at our next Board meeting after this one in

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1 June. So, that's what I'm hoping and shooting<sup>185</sup>  
2 for.

3 DR. NETON: I'm going to report  
4 out, or --

5 CHAIR BEACH: No, you're going to  
6 tell us when you're going to give us the  
7 tritides model. So --

8 DR. NETON: I should have that date  
9 before the June meeting.

10 CHAIR BEACH: Hopefully, yes. And  
11 then we'll decide on the next Work Group  
12 meeting and -

13 MR. KATZ: But our aim would be to  
14 be done before the September meeting. That's  
15 what Josie is saying, Jim.

16 CHAIR BEACH: The final --

17 MR. KATZ: So, our aim would be to  
18 be -- to wrap up tritides before the September  
19 Board meeting.

20 DR. NETON: I would hope so.

21 MR. KATZ: If that's possible.

22 DR. NETON: It doesn't seem to me

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1 to be that complex an assignment on our part<sup>186</sup>

2 CHAIR BEACH: Right. Okay. So,  
3 that's just the star I'm shooting for  
4 basically.

5 Okay. Is there anyone on the  
6 phone that has any comments or questions,  
7 would like to make any comments?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIR BEACH: If not, then the next  
10 item on the agenda is the Site Profile issues.

11 I asked SC&A just to give us kind of an  
12 updated Site Profiles matrix.

13 The reason we're going to do that  
14 now is just to kind of go through the items  
15 and get some clarification. We're not going  
16 to solve anything, I don't imagine, today, but  
17 just to rehash the past four or five years and  
18 see where we are with the Site Profile matrix  
19 to move this forward.

20 MEMBER ZIEMER: And in that  
21 connection, what is the latest version of the  
22 matrix?

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1 CHAIR BEACH: Joe -- 187

2 MEMBER ZIEMER: The 26th. May 26<sup>th</sup>.

3 Let me double-check here.

4 DR. NETON: I can send it to you.

5 MEMBER ZIEMER: No, let's see. It  
6 was sent out on the 25th?

7 DR. NETON: Yes, I believe so.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, pretty  
9 close.

10 MEMBER ZIEMER: I must have moved  
11 it into my Mound file. Let me see.

12 CHAIR BEACH: If you're like me,  
13 you have two Mound files.

14 MEMBER ZIEMER: Oh, wait. I'm  
15 actually looking at the wrong file. I'm  
16 looking at the inbox instead of the Mound  
17 file.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. And, Joe, are  
19 you going to --

20 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, let me give a  
21 little background. This is really two  
22 efforts.

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1                   One, you know, we did a status<sup>188</sup>  
2 summary of outstanding issues associated with  
3 the internal dose side of things. That was  
4 back a couple years ago: October of 2010.

5                   That was when we were combining  
6 all these White Papers and all these issues  
7 into a consolidated internal dose item. And I  
8 think at that time the Work Group asked for,  
9 you know, what is the status of all these.

10                  So, we didn't lose anything when  
11 we consolidated all these White Papers and we  
12 came out with that matrix. And I -- and we  
13 never did anything really with that.

14                  We got involved with the -- just  
15 closing out SEC questions. So, that sort of  
16 stood as a status that was two years old  
17 essentially.

18                  So, I started with that and added  
19 to it the items that fell out of each of the  
20 SEC discussions. There was a number of SEC  
21 discussions where certain things were put in  
22 the parking lot, so to speak, as likely Site

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1 Profile issues and kind of verified that  
189  
2 through the transcripts and made sure that we  
3 didn't lose anything in that process.

4 So, combining those items with  
5 what was in the October matrix is the source  
6 of what you see today.

7 Now, saying that and I think as  
8 Jim and I have discussed, it's kind of  
9 complicated in the sense that there were  
10 issues raised and the response to the issues  
11 sometimes were broader than the questions  
12 raised. Sometimes they dealt with a couple of  
13 the questions, that kind of thing.

14 So, when we go through this, some  
15 of the clarification's just to figure out if  
16 in fact some of these have gone away by virtue  
17 of the broader treatment of the issues, but  
18 some of the specific ones stand as outstanding  
19 Site Profile questions.

20 So, what you have is a combination  
21 of what's come out of the SEC discussions, and  
22 also what came out of the consolidation of all

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1 those internal dose White Papers, which were<sup>190</sup>  
2 quite a few of them.

3 And as I said earlier, this is --  
4 I'm sure this could stand some scrutiny. And  
5 that was the intent was to give the Work Group  
6 and all of us a chance to go through this and  
7 just make sure that this is a reasonable  
8 baseline.

9 CHAIR BEACH: Joe, let me be clear.  
10 The earlier one you were talking about, was  
11 that the actual Site Profile matrix, the one  
12 that came out March 10th, or is that something  
13 different?

14 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, back --  
15 there was an October 2010 document called  
16 Mound Internal Data Adequacy and Completeness,  
17 Issue Status Report. And I think the concern  
18 there was that, because we were going to  
19 consolidate all these different internal dose-  
20 related issues into one, which was this  
21 omnibus internal issue that the Work Group was  
22 going to deal with, your concern was not to

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1 lose anything in that process. Because, quite  
2 frankly, these White Papers had a combination  
3 of clear SEC questions, as well as issues  
4 which were clearly Site Profile in nature  
5 pointing out perhaps inaccuracy questions,  
6 questions of consistency and those that are  
7 clearly more Site Profile-related.

8 So, we wanted to sort of divide  
9 that up and we have since dealt with the SEC,  
10 central SEC questions, but trying to pull out  
11 all those Site Profile questions is what we  
12 did in that October 2010 document. I have a  
13 copy of it, by the way.

14 And that's -- you know, the  
15 internal piece of this matrix, you know, leans  
16 heavily on that piece, but I'll be the first  
17 to tell you that again is a combination of  
18 clear SEC issues -- I'm sorry -- clear Site  
19 Profile issues, the ones which are sort of in  
20 between.

21 So, rather than making the  
22 judgment on priority to leave stuff out, I've

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1 left more in. So, some of this is going to  
2 have to be one where we distinguish, try to go  
3 through and figure it out.

4 CHAIR BEACH: I'm sure it wasn't an  
5 easy task.

6 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, it was a  
7 little complicated, but mostly on the internal  
8 side, I might add. The rest of it was much  
9 clearer. Internal was a bit of a nightmare.

10 So, do you want to go through  
11 these and just --

12 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: One by one?

14 CHAIR BEACH: Yes, if that's okay  
15 with the rest of the Work Group.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: Starting with  
17 Issue 5, this is one of the earlier ones,  
18 plutonium-240, -241 in which we closed out.  
19 However, there was an action. This came from  
20 transcripts for NIOSH to confirm the bounding  
21 intake for Pu-241. It was just a to-do that  
22 was in the transcripts.

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1                   And other than that, I tried <sup>to</sup><sub>193</sub>  
2 give a little bit of a picture of the issue  
3 that was the basis for the action being levied  
4 by the Work Group. And that's what the basis  
5 and source means.

6                   In terms of plutonium-240 and -  
7 241, that particular issue, that was closed  
8 out as an SEC issue, but the Work Group agreed  
9 that there was some question about discrepancy  
10 and the relative concentrations of the  
11 isotopes, the 240, 241. And NIOSH offered to  
12 confirm the bounding intake for 241 that would  
13 be in fact used in the dose reconstruction  
14 program.

15                   And that would be included in the  
16 TBD if it weren't there, and I guess it wasn't  
17 there.

18                   DR. NETON: From our perspective, I  
19 can only agree that we will pursue this and  
20 close it out.

21                   I don't know that anything has  
22 been done. It may have been worked on and

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1 closed, to my knowledge, but I haven't had<sup>194</sup>  
2 time to go back and look at it.

3 But this has to do with the amount  
4 of plutonium-241 that could have been the  
5 isotopic mix. Could have been -- looks like  
6 it could have been higher 241 which would I  
7 guess increase your accumulation of americium-  
8 241.

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I think it  
10 was just the detail that --

11 DR. NETON: I can just accept this  
12 as an open item on our part. And like I  
13 mentioned earlier, I'll be taking this back to  
14 the Working Group -- I mean the Site Profile  
15 folks who handle these type things and go over  
16 this list. And then hopefully we can get some  
17 sort of a time commitment.

18 This will go onto our -- what we  
19 call our Gantt chart -- actually, we don't  
20 call it the Gantt chart. We call it our  
21 tracking matrix.

22 MR. FITZGERALD: And as far as

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1 background and the source of the item, I tried<sup>195</sup>  
2 to be very specific about the transcript  
3 itself and the reference and the page numbers.

4 CHAIR BEACH: Yes, I was going to  
5 comment on that.

6 DR. NETON: That's very good.

7 CHAIR BEACH: That is good.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: So, you can go  
9 right back to the actual citation and find  
10 that particular loose end.

11 Okay. Well, the sixth one is  
12 tritides. And the only issue there is  
13 something that came up, actually, several  
14 years ago when we got into this distinction  
15 between hafnium and the insolubles and the  
16 intermediates.

17 And a comment was made that there  
18 was a lot more intermediates that were being  
19 handled at Mound than -- actually, the hafnium  
20 was a small fraction of what they actually  
21 dealt with.

22 Then the question came up from the

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1 Work Group, well, these are clearly not <sup>as</sup><sub>196</sub>  
2 insoluble as hafnium. But nonetheless, you  
3 know, would there be any need to perhaps apply  
4 a solubility factor beyond what is being added  
5 now?

6 And I think the offering was NIOSH  
7 was going to look at that and see if it was  
8 necessary to include that into the revision.  
9 And that was the item.

10 DR. NETON: It seems like that  
11 right now we've got a situation where we've  
12 bounded the extremes, the very soluble and the  
13 hafniums. And I'm not sure what benefit there  
14 would be in adding this intermediate Class of  
15 which we would not know the fraction anyway.

16 So, I don't really see a need at  
17 this point to do that unless I'm missing  
18 something. But it's either -- again, we have  
19 the two extremes. I don't know that it would  
20 make any difference in our dose  
21 reconstruction.

22 I do vaguely recall, though, that

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1 there was a -- some of these nuclides did not<sup>197</sup>  
2 have a determined solubility class. And there  
3 was some research being done at the time by --  
4 I want to say Savannah River was contracting  
5 Lovelace or -- I try -- to do some solubility  
6 studies, but that's all I recall.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: And I think the  
8 other issue, and again the transcript  
9 discussion's illuminating, you know, it's --  
10 there are some extremes. But I think in terms  
11 of the intermediate, some of them clearly  
12 aren't hafnium, but they do have -- it's a  
13 continuum and they do have --

14 DR. NETON: Right.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: -- a degree of  
16 insolubility which it would look -- it would  
17 be useful to see whether or not any adjustment  
18 would be claimant-favorable or not.

19 I don't know. I think we left it  
20 that way.

21 DR. NETON: I don't think so  
22 because, you know, I looked at the lung model

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1 this morning to confirm that the tritium lung  
2 model -- the way we handle tritium is the  
3 matrix is inhaled, the metal that the tritium  
4 was bound to, we actually account for the  
5 tritium dissolving off of the metal and  
6 becoming systemic.

7 And so once that happens, then all  
8 you would do is reduce the lung dose if you  
9 had a more moderately soluble material. So, I  
10 don't see that it would really affect  
11 anything.

12 But I'll tell you we will take  
13 that up, we'll go and run that to ground and  
14 just respond to it.

15 CHAIR BEACH: Yes, I was just going  
16 to suggest that.

17 DR. NETON: To get it in writing or  
18 in a more formal piece of communication.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: And whether  
20 there's any particular, whether it's titanium  
21 or some of these that fall just short of  
22 hafnium whether there be any value to applying

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1 it, because I think that it is a bit of<sup>1,99</sup>a  
2 continuum for some of these. It's not one  
3 over the other.

4 DR. NETON: We'll put some kind of  
5 formal response --

6 MR. FITZGERALD: Titanium is one  
7 that comes to mind, but there may be some  
8 others that fall in that upper range.

9 Okay. This is an old favorite,  
10 Issue 9. Brings back fond memories. The  
11 high-fired Pu-238 and Type L excretion model.

12 And that was simply -- I think we  
13 -- after we kind of banged that thing down, I  
14 think NIOSH agreed that, okay, there might  
15 perhaps be a Type L that might come up on  
16 occasion, but we always have those excretion  
17 curves if we need to. And we will apply it if  
18 the phenomena shows up.

19 And I just put that down as a --  
20 just to acknowledge that that was the  
21 commitment to add a Type L and make it  
22 available through dose reconstruction if in

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1 fact that phenomenon shows up in terms of the <sup>200</sup>  
2 urinalyses results that they kept. I think  
3 that's how we left it.

4 DR. NETON: I think I remember  
5 recently adding a proviso in the Site Profile  
6 indicating that this type possibly does exist  
7 and we're aware of it.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

9 DR. NETON: Don't try to force it  
10 in one of our standard models if it doesn't  
11 seem to fit the basic.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. Exactly.

13 DR. NETON: Strangely, I do  
14 remember that.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. So, that  
16 was kind of it and there was a couple of cases  
17 that we conveyed it back and forth.

18 MR. KATZ: So, that sounds like an  
19 issue that's, in effect, in abeyance. It just  
20 hasn't shown up in the TBD.

21 CHAIR BEACH: Yes, and there's  
22 several meetings and then I know that you

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1 wrote up kind of a status in the matrix. 201

2 DR. NETON: Yes, I would want to go  
3 back and review the material. We're all based  
4 on recollection here.

5 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

6 DR. NETON: So, it's better to go  
7 back and, you know, it's going to take some  
8 work on our part to go and more definitively  
9 outline what -- who said what and what we're  
10 going to do. It's got to be done.

11 DR FITZGERALD: Okay. Those are  
12 the easy ones. Now, we get to internal  
13 dosimetry data completeness: 11, 12 and 13.  
14 That was consolidated.

15 On A, uncertainties and low  
16 recovery for polonium bioassay procedures, I  
17 think that's one where I would say that would  
18 be one of the things to take a look at  
19 specifically. I don't know.

20 It would be a value to go through  
21 and repeat some of the discussions that we've  
22 had. But the citation that's in Section 3.1,

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1 that's one of our White Papers. 202

2 So, I went back and looked at the  
3 NIOSH White Papers that came back in response  
4 and did not see that treated specifically. It  
5 was in broad responses, but I think that would  
6 be one where -- unless you could find the  
7 particular citation.

8 DR. NETON: I might have it right  
9 here, actually.

10 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay.

11 DR. NETON: Section 3.2.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Do you have that  
13 one?

14 DR. NETON: Yes.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Which response --

16 DR. NETON: Well, you list it as  
17 Section -- this is the 2009, April 2009 NIOSH  
18 Internal Dosimetry Data Completeness.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, 9A.

20 DR. NETON: The polonium response I  
21 have is Section 3.2, not 3.1. Maybe this is  
22 not the right one.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: Let's see. 203

2 DR. NETON: This talks more about  
3 the availability of records and not the  
4 recovery. So, that was just fortuitous that  
5 it seemed to line up.

6 Never mind. That's not the one.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, this is the  
8 section that's labeled Uncertainties in Load  
9 Recovery for Polonium Samples.

10 DR. NETON: Which one is that?

11 MR. FITZGERALD: This is on the  
12 April 2009.

13 DR. NETON: Okay. There were two  
14 pieces here.

15 MR. FITZGERALD: Right. I cross  
16 walked it with the responses we've gotten  
17 afterwards. And there were general responses,  
18 but that specific question I couldn't find in  
19 the -- but granted there's a lot of paper that  
20 came afterwards.

21 So, I went through and didn't find  
22 it. But if it's there, then that's fine. We

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1 can go ahead and put that down. 204

2 DR. NETON: Yes, we can address  
3 this. This is a matter of what recovery is  
4 used.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: That reference is  
6 correct. It's 2009,A, Section 3.1.

7 DR. NETON: Yes, it's the other  
8 document. There's a completeness, and then  
9 there's an adequacy.

10 MR. FITZGERALD: On B, I got your  
11 response on that and actually I went back to  
12 double-check that and I think the first two  
13 bullets are responded to in the general  
14 framework.

15 I mean, you almost have to step  
16 back because those issues are a little  
17 broader, are answered by the White Papers, but  
18 not specifically, but in general on this  
19 question of 95 percent of the data was found  
20 for selected individuals collected in 1990 and  
21 later, you know. This gets to the gross  
22 alpha, gross beta.

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1 DR. NETON: Right. 205

2 MR. FITZGERALD: Sort of  
3 radionuclide-specific versus gross alpha and -

4 DR. NETON: Yes, yes.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: And when I went  
6 back and thought about it and read that thing  
7 through, I said, okay, this is really that  
8 issue and we are pretty much satisfied on  
9 that.

10 And the same thing with the next  
11 one that the majority of pre-1990 results  
12 again even though the original White Papers  
13 focused in on radionuclide-specific, I think  
14 as the dialogue went on we accepted the gross  
15 alpha and beta. So, those issues were  
16 responded to.

17 Now, the next ones I did not --  
18 these were a lot more specific and I think  
19 clearly were Site Profile in nature to begin  
20 with in terms of the units and the  
21 radionuclides didn't match.

22 DR. NETON: Right.

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1 see a specific response to some of these<sup>207</sup>  
2 discrepancies that were raised.

3 So, again I went back and checked  
4 that given your -- when you came back with  
5 your response.

6 DR. NETON: Right.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: So, anyway, that  
8 can be found in this 2009 C, which is a  
9 different White Paper. That's why I said the  
10 crosswalk is important. That's where the  
11 reference is.

12 2009 C, this is -- this is the QA  
13 document, Mound Internal Dosimetry Data  
14 Quality Assurance. That's April 2009. Same  
15 dates.

16 There are three documents of the  
17 same date just to make things more  
18 complicated. One was Internal Dosimetry Data  
19 Accuracy, the other was Internal Data  
20 Completeness, and the third was Dosimetry Data  
21 Quality Assurance.

22 DR. NETON: And this had to do, I

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1 think, with the MJW. 208

2 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

3 DR. NETON: MJW did their post --  
4 pre-1986 or whatever dose reconstructions.

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

6 DR. NETON: And Kathy identified  
7 some issues with the data in the database.  
8 And so --

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, it was the  
10 question of if one is going to rely upon that  
11 MJW evaluation, should one reflect the fact  
12 that there were some issues that I think MJW  
13 itself raised.

14 A lot of these weren't issues that  
15 we originated. These were issues that MJW  
16 acknowledged in their report or were issues  
17 that they had dealt with.

18 So, I think the question in  
19 general was how does NIOSH see the report, MJW  
20 database, given some of these issues or  
21 questions.

22 DR. NETON: Right.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: How do you  
2 reconcile those issues in terms of making use  
3 of that database?

4 And that was the broad issue that  
5 she raised and these are -- these are actually  
6 more specifically some of the illustrative  
7 examples of things that she thought NIOSH  
8 should treat in its TBD or at least  
9 acknowledge.

10 DR. NETON: Don't disagree.

11 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. On D, I  
12 think this has been addressed already,  
13 tritium, missing tritium logbooks for --

14 CHAIR BEACH: The only thing I want  
15 to point out here is that the dates are wrong.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: The dates are  
17 wrong, okay.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: I carried this  
20 over. So, I guess we got that wrong. '72 and  
21 '76.

22 CHAIR BEACH: Yes, December '72

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1 through '75, and then -- or excuse me -- <sup>172</sup><sub>210</sub>  
2 through, and then '75, '76.

3 MR. FITZGERALD: '75, '76.

4 CHAIR BEACH: Do you want the exact  
5 dates, Joe? September 1st, 1972, through  
6 December 31st, 1972. And then January 1st,  
7 1975, through December 31st, 1976.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: 1976, okay. Yes,  
9 we've carried that over for a couple years now  
10 that way.

11 Okay. But anyway that's -- I  
12 think that's encompassed by the action that's  
13 being addressed. So, I don't know how you  
14 want to treat that. You can maybe remove it  
15 from the Site Profile list as that's being  
16 addressed explicitly.

17 Moving on to E, tritium, this gets  
18 to tritium bioassay in general. There were a  
19 couple of issues in two different reports  
20 dealing with the early dose calculations in  
21 terms of algorithm and compounds.

22 Now, compounds other than HTO is -

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1 - that drops out. Okay. That's tritides<sup>211</sup>  
2 basically. So, it's just the -- it's the  
3 first issue in that particular session.

4 DR. NETON: I'm not sure why we  
5 don't have an algorithm for those  
6 calculations. I'm not sure what --

7 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I think it  
8 goes with the context in the actual report

9 DR. NETON: I'll have to look at  
10 the document. For tritium HTO we definitely  
11 have algorithms. I don't know what this is.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: This is -- becomes  
13 the early dose calculation. It may have to do  
14 with the availability of the data there.

15 DR. NETON: Or maybe the Mound  
16 calculations that calculated the dose, we  
17 don't have the algorithm, but we're not using  
18 that.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, that may be  
20 the response. I mean, some of these like this  
21 one in particular came from that early October  
22 2010 listing. So, that may have been

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1 responded to. 212

2 MEMBER ZIEMER: Excuse me. What's  
3 going to happen on D; did you say? I mean,  
4 sorry to back up a minute. On those missing  
5 logbooks, what --

6 MR. KATZ: Where at?

7 (Simultaneous speaking.)

8 MR. FITZGERALD: So, that would  
9 disappear from our Site Profile matrix as  
10 something that's being addressed explicitly.

11 CHAIR BEACH: The answer, too.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes.

13 MEMBER ZIEMER: Yes, that is.

14 MR. FITZGERALD: Two years ago, it  
15 was sort of an open question. That's been  
16 addressed.

17 MEMBER ZIEMER: All right.

18 MR. FITZGERALD: E, I think, is a  
19 matter of checking back. This was an early  
20 finding that we're not too sure about, but may  
21 very well have been addressed along the way as  
22 well on tritium bioassay data accuracy in the

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1 early years.

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2 So F, plutonium data comparison,  
3 this is another Site Profile question that was  
4 embedded in some of the analyses and again a  
5 question of some gaps in the sources as far as  
6 information for dose reconstruction for  
7 claimants essentially.

8 The same thing with G for  
9 polonium, and this came from a data  
10 completeness review and raising questions  
11 about potential gaps.

12 DR. NETON: Yes, I don't know if  
13 this has a gross alpha issue with it or --

14 MR. FITZGERALD: I didn't get the  
15 sense. Like I said, I have the documents  
16 right here. We can go back and check, but I  
17 think this is different from that.

18 DR. NETON: Okay. I'll look.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: H gets into fecal  
20 bioassay data, the question of -- this is  
21 going back quite a ways now. Few results in  
22 PURECON, poor overlap in logbooks, notion of -

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1 - I'm not even sure what -- 214

2 (Simultaneous speaking.)

3 MR. FITZGERALD: Right, right.

4 MEMBER ZIEMER: You're not using it  
5 anyway, are you?

6 MR. FITZGERALD: So, that may be  
7 the answer to the observation in the data  
8 completeness review.

9 I, again on tritium data  
10 comparison. Two individuals from the data  
11 completeness evaluation -- this is the  
12 evaluation of a sample of the claimant  
13 database that had bioassay data not reflected  
14 in the MESH tritium database. Again, sort of  
15 a very specific sampling issue that was done.

16 And I think because it was a  
17 limited sampling, the question was does this  
18 reflect a broader question --

19 DR. NETON: Now that we've  
20 reproduced the entire set of tritium logbooks,  
21 I think that this might be addressable. We'll  
22 look.

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1 MR. FITZGERALD: J, again this -<sub>215</sub> I  
2 don't know if there's anything we did not  
3 address, but the thorium bioassay data -- yes,  
4 this is a little different than what we just  
5 did. This is more Site Profile in nature in  
6 terms of procedures and the uncertainties.

7 This Super S or YY thorium is one  
8 that's come up before. In that particular  
9 case, I think --

10 DR. NETON: YY is the first time  
11 I've seen it.

12 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I know. I'm  
13 saying it should be Super S maybe. But there  
14 was one scientific paper, I think, that was  
15 raised in one of the White Papers saying this  
16 sort of broaches this question.

17 And the response was, well, but  
18 the authors sort of downplayed it because  
19 there was a limited sampling where they found  
20 this phenomenon.

21 And I think the NIOSH conclusion  
22 was, well, because it was qualified that way,

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1 that you couldn't -- you couldn't really use<sup>216</sup>  
2 it as a reliable source for this question of  
3 whether this was a prevalent issue or not.

4 This seems to keep coming up and I  
5 don't --

6 DR. NETON: We just responded to  
7 this for another site last week.

8 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, I'm not quite  
9 sure. It almost is more smoke than fire. But  
10 anyway this came up in the White Paper, that  
11 one should at least address whether or not the  
12 Super S thorium, the high-fired thorium was a  
13 dosimetry question.

14 DR. NETON: I think we just  
15 addressed this very issue at another site. I  
16 remember looking at it and we'll just  
17 incorporate the --

18 MR. FITZGERALD: It's an old  
19 question. It was one that came up two years  
20 ago.

21 Anyway, that's all contained in  
22 this one section. These are issues that are

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1 clearly not the same issue we just discussed,<sup>217</sup>  
2 but ones that have the thorium bioassay in  
3 general.

4 And that's it for internal dose.  
5 This carries over from what was generated two  
6 years ago, updated it, tried to weed out as  
7 much as possible things that were covered in  
8 the SECs.

9 CHAIR BEACH: So, we didn't have  
10 anything on exotics? Nothing that would have  
11 been a Site Profile nature?

12 MR. FITZGERALD: No.

13 Now, keep in mind the exotics  
14 figure prominently in the SEC discussion. I  
15 mean, in the memo from January, it says right  
16 here, deals with the exotics and the fact  
17 that, you know, after much hand-wringing one  
18 could not figure that out.

19 (Simultaneous speaking.)

20 MR. FITZGERALD: I think that was -  
21 - that was a large part of the discussion on  
22 the consolidated internal issues that the memo

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1 addressed.

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2 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

3 MR. FITZGERALD: Nothing left from  
4 that, but these two are companion pieces.  
5 Because in essence, this hands off to what  
6 Site Profile issues are left.

7 The matrix that was attached to  
8 that memo in January is in essence this list  
9 from the internal side.

10 Okay. On neutrons, Ron, did you  
11 ever -- Ron Buchanan, are you still here?

12 DR. BUCHANAN: Yes, I'm here.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: My God. Okay.  
14 Actually, I forgot that you had -- I had Ron  
15 take a look at -- because he had been very  
16 much involved in the back and forth on neutron  
17 issues, to try and scrutinize what would be  
18 left on that.

19 DR. BUCHANAN: That goes way back.

20 MR. FITZGERALD: That goes way  
21 back, but also there were a number of Site  
22 Profile questions that were parked because of

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1 discussions on the -- remember the 12-inch<sup>219</sup>  
2 MCNP and all that?

3 DR. NETON: Oh, yes.

4 MR. FITZGERALD: So, Ron is the  
5 reservoir of that institutional memory. So,  
6 I'm going to rely on him to walk us through  
7 that portion.

8 DR. NETON: That's when I was still  
9 young.

10 DR. BUCHANAN: Okay. Well, you  
11 know, we addressed the common problems on  
12 neutron monitoring and NTA film. And we came  
13 to a solution where the threshold issue and  
14 NIOSH did some MCNP calculations, SC&A did  
15 some, we discussed them and we came out in  
16 agreement to incorporate those correction  
17 factors in the recorded neutron dose to  
18 compensate for the neutron dose missed because  
19 of the threshold of the NTA film.

20 And so that's A, Item A under  
21 Number 15. And so, we came to agreement on  
22 that. We just need to have that incorporated

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1 in the revised TBD.

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2 And some annotations follow at the  
3 bottom of the page there or a couple pages  
4 down that explains the interchange of papers.

5 There's quite a few papers went back and  
6 forth between NIOSH and SC&A. And it was  
7 discussed in several of our Work Group  
8 meetings.

9 So, you know, I don't think that  
10 we have further discussion on it. It just  
11 needs to -- we just need to see it in the  
12 revised TBD.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: As Ron pointed  
14 out, we did put a couple, two, three pages of  
15 annotations in the back of this matrix just to  
16 try to reconstruct the history because it's a  
17 little hard to understand unless you know the  
18 history. So, that's what that is.

19 DR. BUCHANAN: So, Jim, is that  
20 your understanding as to --

21 DR. NETON: Yes.

22 DR. BUCHANAN: -- correction

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1 factors will be in the revised TBDs? 221

2 DR. NETON: Yes.

3 DR. BUCHANAN: Okay. So, Item  
4 Number B, Item B is that neutron-photon ratio  
5 values were not consistent.

6 In the first TBD-6, the N over P  
7 values in one place is two-to-one, in another  
8 place is one-to-one.

9 And so, again that's -- the action  
10 item on that was to get the appropriate value  
11 in the revised TBD.

12 Okay. And then Item C, this was a  
13 quality factor in the original TBD. And the  
14 values listed in that came from Meyer's work  
15 notebook and such papers, but they listed  
16 variations in the number of neutron flux that  
17 provided 300 millirem per week.

18 And the first explanation was  
19 that, well, if you had a 40-hour week or 50-  
20 hour week or you had one calibration source or  
21 another. However, if you went back and looked  
22 at the calculations, we see that this wouldn't

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1 account for such a wide swing in the number<sup>222</sup> of  
2 neutrons that created the weekly dose. It  
3 ranged from 30 to 250. So, that's a factor of  
4 five between 1947 and 1969.

5 And so, what needs to be done now?

6 Perhaps this doesn't affect the way NIOSH  
7 creates, reconstructs the dose and that's  
8 fine, but we need to document it that NIOSH  
9 uses a method that doesn't depend upon those  
10 conversion factors. Or if it does, that it  
11 comes out in the wash. It comes out  
12 correctly.

13 And so, that was an issue that  
14 needed to be addressed and I assumed it would  
15 be either responded to or in the revised TBD  
16 to correct that.

17 DR. NETON: Now, does this have a -  
18 does this have a reference where we can look?

19 DR. BUCHANAN: Well -

20 DR. NETON: Some of these are - I'm  
21 going to have to go back. I mean, the other  
22 ones had like sort of a reference of where the

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1 issues came from.

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2 MR. FITZGERALD: The annotations  
3 do, I think.

4 DR. NETON: Do they?

5 MR. FITZGERALD: Ron, your  
6 annotations, do you indicate or identify the  
7 source? It looks like you do.

8 CHAIR BEACH: He does.

9 MR. FITZGERALD: Yes, in the  
10 annotations.

11 DR. NETON: Yes, yes, under  
12 neutrons.

13 MEMBER ZIEMER: I don't understand  
14 the concern about Item C. I mean, those  
15 numbers vary with the energy of the neutrons.

16 Is the question here that we don't  
17 know the energies, or what was -

18 DR. BUCHANAN: Well, the original  
19 TBD in 2004 states that Mound Lab used between  
20 30 and 150 neutrons centimeters squared per  
21 second per 300 millirem per week between 1947  
22 and 1969.

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1                   And the question was, why did <sup>it</sup>~~it~~<sub>2,24</sub>  
2 fluctuate back and forth? And it fluctuated  
3 several times in there -

4                   MEMBER ZIEMER: For a specified  
5 energy or -

6                   DR. BUCHANAN: Well, that's what  
7 we're trying to find out is -

8                   DR. NETON: There was a difference  
9 in source term or the energy of the source  
10 term or -

11                  MEMBER ZIEMER: The conversion  
12 factor, I mean, you can find tables of these.  
13 And they go from about 30 for real fast, up  
14 to, I don't know, over a thousand. I don't  
15 remember the number, but this looks like it's  
16 an energy-dependent issue.

17                  DR. NETON: And we'll take a look  
18 at it. I don't recall this one at all,  
19 really.

20                  DR. BUCHANAN: And the point is,  
21 you know, if you're just quoting what Meyer  
22 had in his document, but it doesn't influence

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1 the dose reconstruction, then it just needs<sup>2,25</sup> to  
2 be explained that way in the revised TBD.

3 DR. NETON: We pull out - the  
4 quality factors were actually pulled out, and  
5 then added back by us because the modern  
6 quality factors are not reflective of the  
7 historical quality factors.

8 So, I've got to look and see how  
9 we dealt with this.

10 DR. BUCHANAN: Okay.

11 DR. NETON: And then actually they  
12 get pulled out again in a distribution  
13 assigned in IREP.

14 DR. BUCHANAN: Okay.

15 DR. NETON: I'll look into it. I  
16 don't recall this one very well at all.

17 DR. BUCHANAN: That was one of the  
18 original ones way back. A number of years ago.

19 Okay. And then Item D, which was  
20 NTA film fading, and we had a lot of  
21 discussion, probably too many to keep track  
22 of, on this issue. And it got included in the

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1 Monte Carlo correction - not in the correction<sup>226</sup>  
2 factor, but was being addressed at the same  
3 time. And we came up with the agreement of  
4 when it would be applied and - as such as  
5 illustrated in the annotations.

6 The original TBD addresses on Page  
7 30, it recommends 33 percent fading per week  
8 and 56 percent for two weeks to NTA film  
9 between '49 and '76.

10 However, then in the SEC  
11 evaluation and in a 2009 paper it says, okay,  
12 we'll do fading correction at nine percent a  
13 week.

14 And so, you know, we agree with  
15 the original TBD and to apply that fading  
16 factor, because that came directly from Meyer  
17 document.

18 The nine percent came from a  
19 related document, but it wasn't really Meyer's  
20 work.

21 And so, what we would like to see  
22 in the revised TBD is the original value and

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1 not have it changed to nine percent. 227

2 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay.

3 DR. BUCHANAN: Okay. And then Item  
4 E was the coworker database, okay, for people  
5 that didn't have neutron dose recorded that  
6 meets the assigned neutron dose.

7 There was a coworker database that  
8 was created using categorical data in one of  
9 the papers referenced there. However, this  
10 was like somebody had a dose between zero and  
11 a hundred millirem, another one had a dose  
12 between a hundred and 200 instead of exact  
13 numbers.

14 MR. FITZGERALD: Right.

15 DR. BUCHANAN: And if you look at  
16 the data, there is NTA-recorded neutron doses  
17 available to create a database of individual  
18 results. And I believe that was in Table 4-4  
19 of the '09 paper.

20 And so, what we would like - we  
21 recommended was that that be used to create a  
22 coworker database as opposed to using

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1 categorical data. 228

2 DR. NETON: I remember this.

3 DR. BUCHANAN: And I know we  
4 discussed it, but, you know, it had never been  
5 done. And so, we wanted to keep that on the  
6 books.

7 CHAIR BEACH: Ron, this is Josie.  
8 Didn't we have something also on the inches  
9 for the glove boxes? Didn't that end up being  
10 a Site Profile issue?

11 DR. NETON: I think that was  
12 resolved.

13 DR. BUCHANAN: I think that was  
14 resolved. Brant's latest paper on that  
15 agreed, okay, it doesn't make much difference.  
16 You hit kind of a plateau between eight and  
17 12. We'll use the 12 and move on.

18 CHAIR BEACH: Okay.

19 DR. BUCHANAN: I don't think there  
20 was a further issue on that.

21 CHAIR BEACH: Okay. Thank you.

22 DR. BUCHANAN: And so, that is

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1 where we stand on the neutron issues. 229

2 MR. FITZGERALD: And you also went  
3 ahead and addressed Issue 16, which is the  
4 next one which deals with shallow dose which  
5 was one of the early ones that was sort of  
6 taken off the SEC list, but I think we had a  
7 remaining issue on that too, didn't we?

8 DR. BUCHANAN: Yes. Number 16 or  
9 shallow dose Site Profile Issue Number 8, that  
10 was - the problem was originally there was  
11 beta dose could not be reconstructed in the  
12 early days because there was no reliable  
13 dosimetry records.

14 However, we found out that it  
15 needed to be extended to a further period up  
16 into the '70s before beta dose is actually  
17 recorded and dosimetry was verified.

18 And so, in past discussions that  
19 was agreed upon to extend it up to the DOELAP  
20 accreditation in 1991. And that's quoted  
21 there in NIOSH's paper in 2009.

22 And so, again that's a bookmark

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1 we agree with and NIOSH agree. We just need<sup>2,30</sup>  
2 to see that that's done in the revised TBD to  
3 extend that up to a later date.

4 DR. NETON: Yes.

5 DR. BUCHANAN: And so, that was all  
6 on that issue.

7 MR. FITZGERALD: Okay. Thank you,  
8 Ron.

9 The last item is Issue 20 which we  
10 haven't talked about in eons, but has to do  
11 with the Environmental Occupational TBD and  
12 the wording in that TBD in terms of ambient  
13 environmental internal dose.

14 And we had this what seems to be  
15 an obscure date now, but the question of  
16 whether site-wide contamination existed and  
17 whether there needed to be a statement removed  
18 that Mound did not experience site-wide  
19 ambient contamination.

20 And maybe that was the peace  
21 offering, but I think that was just an item  
22 for TBD to remove that one statement that

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1 factor might be in fact instances where you<sup>231</sup>  
2 had some broader contamination to the site.  
3 And that was that one.

4 CHAIR BEACH: I mean, I do remember  
5 that discussion.

6 MR. FITZGERALD: It seemed like it  
7 was a long discussion.

8 (Simultaneous speaking.)

9 MR. FITZGERALD: It seemed like a  
10 long discussion to get to a point where, yeah,  
11 okay, we'll take that sentence out, but that  
12 was the resolution. I think weariness stepped  
13 in at that point.

14 DR. NETON: Well, we went through  
15 them quickly, but there's a lot of work  
16 embedded -

17 CHAIR BEACH: There's a ton of  
18 work.

19 MR. FITZGERALD: But that  
20 represents a pretty good scrub based on the  
21 transcripts and the midterm analysis done on  
22 internal.

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1                   So, I think it's a pretty good<sup>2,32</sup>  
2                   like I said, it might, you know, once NIOSH  
3                   goes through it there might in fact be some  
4                   things that were missed. And that will take  
5                   care of some of those issues readily, but  
6                   that's pretty much it.

7                   CHAIR BEACH: Thanks for pulling  
8                   that together on short notice.

9                   That's the end of our agenda  
10                  unless - and we can't really try to schedule  
11                  another meeting.

12                  MR. KATZ: So, do you need any  
13                  discussion about the presentations in June or  
14                  do you -

15                  CHAIR BEACH: I actually have a  
16                  start on the presentation. Bill put one  
17                  together for me. I looked at it and I was  
18                  asking what we were going to do with tritides.

19                  We'll send it out in the next  
20                  week.

21                  MR. KATZ: Do you need any support  
22                  from DCAS on that front?

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1 CHAIR BEACH: I think just <sup>if</sup><sub>2,3</sub>  
2 there's questions.

3 MR. KATZ: Okay.

4 CHAIR BEACH: I'll definitely send  
5 it to Ted, and then he can send it out. And  
6 if there's any -

7 (Simultaneous speaking.)

8 MR. KATZ: Why don't you just go  
9 ahead and send it to the whole Work Group for  
10 everyone to take a look at.

11 CHAIR BEACH: It's pretty  
12 straightforward.

13 MR. FITZGERALD: Well, I think the  
14 tritides might require some consensus on how  
15 the -

16 DR. NETON: But when it's ready as  
17 soon as you feel it's finalized, if you send  
18 it at least to me so I can get it to Chris  
19 Ellison because she needs to -

20 MR. KATZ: Well, that's at the end  
21 of the process.

22 DR. NETON: Well, but it's getting

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1 close to the end. 234

2 MR. KATZ: It is. We have a couple  
3 weeks.

4 DR. NETON: Once it's done.

5 CHAIR BEACH: Well, and hopefully  
6 by the end of next week maybe, Joe, between us  
7 -

8 MR. FITZGERALD: And LANL.

9 (Simultaneous speaking.)

10 CHAIR BEACH: A week. Well, and  
11 I've got some notes and that's what I'm going  
12 to work on the rest of the day. And then -

13 DR. NETON: Is there a LANL Work  
14 Group?

15 CHAIR BEACH: No.

16 MR. FITZGERALD: No, but it's a  
17 presentation because it's in Santa Fe and -

18 (Simultaneous speaking.)

19 MR. FITZGERALD: Mark's been in  
20 Australia. So, there's a little bit of -

21 MR. KATZ: And Mark wanted to do a  
22 presentational update in this case.

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1 CHAIR BEACH: Well, let's go ahead<sup>235</sup>  
2 and pull off there then since we're done with  
3 Mound and - unless anybody has any other  
4 comments or -

5 MR. KATZ: No.

6 Adjourned?

7 CHAIR BEACH: Yes.

8 MR. KATZ: Thank you everyone on  
9 the line for bearing with us.

10 CHAIR BEACH: Thanks, Phil.

11 MR. KATZ: Thanks, Phil.

12 MEMBER SCHOFIELD: Thanks.

13 MR. KATZ: Thanks everyone at SC&A  
14 too and have a good afternoon.

15 (Whereupon, at 1:51 p.m. the  
16 meeting was adjourned.)

17

18

19

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