



ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

4676 Columbia Parkway, MS: C-46

Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

(513) 533-6825

January 30, 2008

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Lafayette, Indiana

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The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt
Secretary of Health and Human Services
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition-00092 concerning workers at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore and Tracey, California under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13 and 83.14. The Board respectfully recommends Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) status be accorded to all employees of the Department of Energy (DOE), its predecessor agencies, and DOE contractors or subcontractors who were monitored for radiation exposure while working at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days from January 1, 1950 through December 31, 1973, or in combination with work days within the parameters established for one or more other classes of employees in the SEC. The Board notes that although NIOSH found that they were unable to completely reconstruct radiation doses for these employees, NIOSH believes that they are able to reconstruct other components of the internal dose (except for mixed fission and activation products) and all external doses.

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- People working at the LLNL facility during this time period worked on research and production activities related to nuclear weapons production.
- The NIOSH review of the available monitoring data as well as the available source term and other information found that they lacked adequate information necessary to conduct accurate individual dose reconstructions for internal doses from exposures to mixed fission and activation products during the time period in question.

- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for these LLNL facility workers. The Board concurs with this determination.

Enclosed is supporting documentation from the recent Advisory Board Meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada where this class of the special exposure cohort was discussed. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul L. Ziemer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.
Chairman

Enc.