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March 28, 2011

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

Dear Madam Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition 00043 concerning employees who worked at the Chapman Valve Manufacturing Company in Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA) and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has recommended that individual dose reconstructions are feasible for workers at the Chapman Valve Manufacturing Company (i.e., Building 23 and the Dean Street facility) in Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, from January 1, 1948 through December 31, 1949, and from January 1, 1991 through December 31, 1993.

NIOSH found that it has access to adequate exposure monitoring and other information necessary to do individual dose reconstructions with sufficient accuracy for members of this group, and therefore a class covering this group should not be added to the SEC. The Board concurs with this determination.

Enclosed is supporting documentation from the February 23-25, 2011 Board meeting held in Augusta, Georgia, and earlier meetings where this potential class for the SEC was discussed. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

[Signature on file]

James M. Melius, M.D., Dr. PH
Chairman, ABRWH

Enclosure