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ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

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September 23, 2019

The Honorable Alex M. Azar II Secretary Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition 00252 concerning workers at the West Valley Demonstration Project in West Valley, New York, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA) and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.14.

The Board respectfully recommends that SEC status be accorded to:

"All Atomic Weapons Employees who worked at the West Valley Demonstration Project in West Valley, New York, during the period January 1, 1969, through December 31, 1973, for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days, occurring either solely under this employment or in combination with work days within the parameters established for one or more other classes of employees in the Special Exposure Cohort."

This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- Individuals working at West Valley Demonstration Project during the time period in question worked on nuclear weapons production and related operations.
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) evaluation of available exposure data, which includes biological monitoring, air monitoring information, and process monitoring information, concluded that NIOSH lacked adequate personal and workplace monitoring data to allow it to estimate with sufficient accuracy the potential internal exposures to uranium and mixed fission products to which the proposed class of employees may have been exposed. The Board concurs with this conclusion.
- NIOSH determined that health may have been endangered for the employees exposed to radiation at the West Valley Demonstration Project during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussions held at the August 21, 2019, Board meeting in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the Board recommends that this class be added to the SEC.

Enclosed is the documentation from the Board meeting(s) where this SEC class was discussed. The documentation includes copies of the petition, the NIOSH review thereof, and related materials. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

Henry Anderson, M.D.

Chair, SEC Issues Work Group

Henry A. Anderson on a

on behalf of the

Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health

Enclosure