

This transcript of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health, Board Meeting, 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 Advisory Board for accuracy at this time. The reader should be cautioned that this transcript is for information only and is subject to change.

Centers for Disease Control
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH)
147th Meeting

Wednesday, August 17, and Thursday August 18, 2022

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

Summary Proceedings

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health meeting convened via teleconference at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Dr. Henry A. Anderson, Chair, presiding.

Attendees

Members

Henry Anderson, Chair
Josie Beach, Member
Bradley Clawson, Member
R. William Field, Member
David Kotelchuck, Member
James Lockey, Member
David Richardson, Member
Phillip Schofield, Member
Paul L. Ziemer, Member
Loretta Valerio, Member

Non-Members, Registered and/or Public Comment Participants:

Rashaun Roberts, Designated Federal Official
Nancy Adams, NIOSH contractor
Zaida Burgos, NIOSH contractor
Bob Barton, SC&A
Kathy Behling, SC&A
Finn Black
Ron Buchanan
Grady Calhoun, DCAS
John Cardarelli, DCAS
Nancy Chalmers, ORAU Team
Frank "Chris" Crawford, DOL
Denise DeGarmo
Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A
Joe Guido, ORAU Team
Donna Hand

Greg Lewis, DOE
Mark Lewis, Subcontractor DCAS
Chuck Nelson, DCAS
Steve Ostrow, SC&A
Stephen Pittman
Michael Rafky, HHS
LaVon Rutherford, DCAS
Muttly Sharfi
S. Siebert
Tim Taulbee, DCAS
Dianne Whitten

Roll Call/Welcome - Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health at 1:00 pm EDT on August 17, 2022, via teleconference. A roll call of all ABRWH members confirmed that a quorum was present. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. Attendees declared conflicts of interest during roll call. Dr. Roberts turned the meeting over to Dr. Anderson, Board Chair.

Program Updates: NIOSH, DOL, and DOE

Grady Calhoun (NIOSH), Chris Crawford (DOL), and Greg Lewis (DOE) gave updates of each organization's activities for the EEOICPA Program and responded to questions from Board Members. Mr. Lewis also made a statement recognizing worker advocate Terry Barrie, who passed away recently. His statement was endorsed by Board members Ms. Beach and Dr. Ziemer.

SEC-00188 Sandia Petition Addendum 2; Jan. 1, 1997 – May 21, 2011 – Mr. Bob Barton, SC&A

Mr. Barton introduced the topic then asked Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A, to summarize SC&A's review of Addendum 2, which had been presented to the Board at its last meeting. Mr. Fitzgerald described the main lines of inquiry that SC&A had pursued. Their investigation concluded that some revisions to dose reconstruction approaches might be warranted, but dose reconstruction is feasible.

Mr. Barton then presented SC&A's finding and observations from their review, and the discussion among SC&A, DCAS, and the Work Group that followed. After the discussions, the Work Group concluded that dose reconstruction is feasible for workers at Sandia during this period.

During his presentation Mr. Barton pointed out that SC&A and DCAS agreed that it was impossible to determine how what percentage of Sandia breathing zone air sampling data had been captured. Consequently, there was no opinion on how complete the data was. Because of that, the Work Group recommended that the SEC Issues Work Group consider developing criteria for completeness to be used in SEC discussions. Dr. Tim Taulbee, DCAS, reported that DCAS was in the process of drafting a document on this topic for the SEC Issues Work Group's consideration.

At its April 2022 meeting the Board had tabled a motion from the Sandia WG to determine that dose reconstruction is feasible for Sandia workers from January 1, 1997, to May 21, 2011. Following Mr. Barton's presentation, the Board untabled that motion, then voted to approve it, determining that dose reconstruction is feasible.

Since the meeting was significantly ahead of schedule, the Board started on a Board Work Session/

Board Work Session

Subcommittee and Work Group Chairs reported on progress and planned activities. In a few cases Work Group progress, particularly SC&A's ability to thoroughly review DCAS documents, has been significantly impacted by the Cybersecurity Modernization Initiative. Board members emphasized the importance of having the SEC Issues Work Group take up the question of data completeness. After some discussion, the Board decided that the location for their in-person December 7 and 8 meeting would be at or near Tampa, Florida, in proximity to the former Pinellas site.

Idaho National Laboratory SEC-00219 Update; Argonne National Laboratory SEC-00224 Update – Dr. John Cardarelli, II, NIOSH

Dr. Cardarelli summarized the SEC work that has been completed and the work that is underway for Idaho National Laboratory. Idaho National Laboratory (INL) has several distinct areas. SEC classes have been added for one of those areas, the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant, for the years 1963 – 1974. When DCAS completed its Evaluation Reports that added those classes, it reserved judgment on three areas of INL: 1) Test Area North; 2) Auxiliary Reactor Area; and 3) drum retrieval at the Burial Ground.

DCAS is currently working on several tasks in order to complete the evaluation of INL. One of these is to finalize the approach for estimated doses from the INL and Argonne West reactors. DCAS is finishing RPRT-100, which should be the final step. A second task is to look for environmental monitoring results and bioassay results that can be associated with the Burial Ground. DCAS is seeking permission for certain DCAS, ORAU, SC&A staff and Work Group members to have access to INL's electronic records system. With access, individuals could refine key word searches in order to find truly applicable documents. Two individuals have access so far and efforts are underway to grant it to others. DCAS expects that the data obtained may provide sufficient information for dose reconstruction at the Burial Ground. The third task is the development of six co-exposure models that conform to the Implementation Guide on co-exposure modelling.

Dr. Cardarelli next reported on Argonne National Laboratory – West (ANL-W), which is located on the Idaho National Laboratory complex. He described the locations of ANL-W facilities, as well as their operations. DCAS intends to reconstruct some internal doses at ANL-W using general area air sampling results. To support this effort DCAS has prepared two reports, RPRT-089 and RPRT-097. One summarizes the general area air sampling data at ANL-W, and the other evaluates several air sampling studies where general area air sampling results are compared to breathing zone air concentrations. SC&A is currently reviewing those reports.

Board Work Session

Dr. Roberts reminded Board members that a Board teleconference is scheduled for Feb 15, 2023, and an in-person meeting is scheduled for April 19 and 20, 2023. The Board proceeded to schedule a teleconference for June 14, 2023, at 11:00 eastern time and an in-person meeting for August 16 & 27, 2023.

Public Comment

Members of the public provided comments related to the Pinellas Plant SEC Petition, the fact that DCAS staff has answered questions that were sent to the Board. After public comment Dr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

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SEC Petition Status Update & SEC Qualification Process – Mr. Chuck Nelson, DCAS

Mr. Nelson reported DCAS has received one petition that is in the qualification process. DCAS is working with the petitioner to confirm the Energy Employee's employment location. DCAS is continuing to prepare

an addendum to the evaluation report for petition SEC-0221 for Lawrence Livermore National Lab for the years 1990 to 1995. DCAS is coordinating with Lawrence Livermore to schedule visits. DCAS and SC&A are continuing work on SEC petitions from Hanford, Savannah River, Los Alamos National Lab, Idaho National Lab, Argonne National Lab-West, Area IV Santa Susanna, Metals & Controls, DeSoto Avenue Facility, the Y-12 Plant, and the Pinellas Plant. At yesterday's session the Board voted to agree with DCAS's position that dose reconstruction is feasible for Sandia National Lab for the years 1997-2011. DCAS continues to evaluate records for West Valley Demonstration Project to decide if an 83.14 petition is warranted for the years 1966-1968.

Procedures Review Finalization/Document Approvals – Ms. Kathleen Behling, SC&A

After introductory remarks Ms. Beach called on Ms. Kathy Behling, SC&A to describe the Subcommittee's completed review of five documents. Those documents are:

- DCAS-PER-049, rev. 0, "Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant"
- OCAS-PER-008, rev. 0, "Modification of NIOSH-IREP Lung Cancer Risk Model: Effect of 'Combined' Lung Model on Non-compensable Lung Cancer Claims"
- OCAS-PER-006, rev. 0, "External Dosimetry Target Organ for Prostate Cancer"
- ORAUT-OTIB-0023, rev. 00, "Assignment of Missed Neutron Doses Based on Dosimeter Records"
- DCAS-PER-066, rev. 0, "Huntington Pilot Plant"

After Ms. Behling presented the Subcommittee's work on each document, the Board voted to close the reviews of all seven documents.

Board Work Session

Dr. Roberts reported that she would be working with Subcommittee and Work Group chairs to schedule meetings as discussed at yesterday's session. She also asked Board members who are interested in serving on a Lawrence Livermore Work Group to identify themselves to her and Dr. Anderson.

Dr. Roberts explained that public comments that were made at the April meeting and at this meeting about the Pinellas site would be addressed by the re-constituted Pinellas Work Group. She also reported that four new Board members have been selected, and the onboarding process for them should begin shortly. NIOSH is working on an orientation session for them once that have completed the process of becoming special government employees.

Board member Phil Schofield announced that he was regretfully resigning from the Board effective September 1, 2022, because of his declining health. Dr. Anderson thanked Mr. Schofield for his contributions to the Board and offered best wishes for the future. Other members and meeting attendees expressed their gratitude and friendship as well.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 pm EDT.