

**From:** [name redacted]  
**To:** NIOSH OCAS (CDC)  
**Subject:** submitted Claim Denied

March 22, 2012

Dear Board Members ,

I'm writing this letter in the hopes of you helping the American nuclear test workers who were put at risk to serve the national security interests of the United States.

At the present time there are several programs to aid the nuclear test workers in our country, the Veterans Administration (VA), the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program (EEOICP) and the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).

The programs have served their participants well but there is a gap in the compensation, the hole in the donut if you will.

The VA obviously covers the Veterans. The EEOICP covers the workers but only if they were employed by the Department of Energy or one of its several contractors and RECA is covering the Department of Defense workers and its several contractors during above ground testing in the 1950's and 1960's.

During the 1980's nuclear testing was still being performed at the Nevada Test Site. During this time DoD employees and its contractors were *literally* working side by side with the DoE employees. The DoE employees and its contractors are receiving compensation from the Department of Labor under the EEOICP for their efforts while the DoD employees and its contractors receive **nothing**. All claims denied because we were DoD contractors. This is my problem as I'm sure you see it also. We have no one giving us aid in our time of need.

We worked in tunnels which had over 1400 toxic chemicals and substances, including radioactive particles. We removed heavily radiated test articles and decontaminated them for testing. All this was going on but no one informed us of any of the toxic chemicals or substances of which we were being exposed too. I had my radioactive exposed clothing removed from me after a decontamination process task. I was never told what my exposure numbers were but when I inquired the data was returned to me and read "Zero." I found it hard to believe. This weighs heavily on my conscience every day. I saw what it did to my father and I feel that it's just a matter of time that something may happen to me.

My father worked at the Nevada Test Site in the 1980's. I also worked there in [redacted]. He passed away from cancer which was riddled throughout his body. He had a wife, [redacted], [redacted] grandchildren who saw their grandfathers life cut short for their protection and the security of others and [redacted] children, who will never see their dad again.

I'm hoping that this letter can persuade the members of Congress to amend the Acts and help compensate the men and women of the Department of Defense and it's contractors who gave their lives for their country during the 1980's.

Sincerely yours,

[name redacted]