

US Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and  
Health  
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health  
127th Meeting  
Wednesday, February 27, 2019

The meeting convened via teleconference at 11:00  
a.m. Eastern Time, Ted Katz, Designated Federal  
Official, presiding.

## Present:

Henry Anderson, Member  
Josie Beach, Member  
Bradley P. Clawson, Member  
David Kotelchuck, Member  
James E. Lockey, Member  
David B. Richardson, Member  
Genevieve S. Roessler, Member  
Phillip Schofield, Member  
Loretta R. Valerio, Member  
Paul L. Ziemer, Member  
Ted Katz, Designated Federal Official

## Registered and/or Public Comment Participants:

Adams, Nancy, NIOSH Contractor  
Barrie, Terrie  
Barton, Bob, SC&A  
Buchanan, Ron, SC&A  
Gogliotti, Rose, SC&A  
Hinnefeld, Stu, DCAS  
Kotsch, Jeff, DOL  
Lewis, Greg, DOE  
Lewis, Mark, ATL  
Neton, Jim, DCAS  
Rafky, Mike, HHS  
Taulbee, Tim, DCAS

## Contents

US Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health 127th Meeting Wednesday, February 27, 2019	1
Roll Call/Welcome	4
Recording December 2018 Meeting Absentee Votes	4
Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition Status Update	6
Updates from Work Groups and Subcommittees (as necessary)	6
Plans for the April 2019 Board Meeting	8
Board Correspondence	11
Adjourn	12

## Proceedings

(11:00 a.m.)

## Roll Call/Welcome

Mr. Katz: So welcome everyone. This is the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health. A few times a year we have a teleconference to plan for the next in-person Board meeting which will be happening in April.

Let's get started first with roll call, and I won't be addressing conflict of interest because there are no items on the agenda that require that or that bring that into play. So I'm just going to run down the list alphabetically. I can answer for the people that I know are on, but otherwise, I will wait for your answer.

(Roll Call.)

Mr. Katz: Okay, on to the agenda.

## Recording December 2018 Meeting Absentee Votes

Mr. Katz: So, in December's meeting, we had a vote and recommended the addition of a Class at Y-12. We had a one missing member, Dr. Ziemer, Paul, and he has since, earlier in January, abstained, so that completed the vote, with one recused and one abstention, and it was a unanimous vote.

Since we didn't have the letter at the Board Meeting, let me read it into the record. So it's:

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health has evaluated SEC Petition 00251 concerning workers at the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, under the statutory requirements established by the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13.

The Board respectfully recommends that SEC status be accorded to:

All employees of the Department of Energy, its predecessor agencies, and their contractors and subcontractors who worked at the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, during the period January 1, 1958, through December 31, 1976, 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 Y-12 during the time period in question worked on nuclear weapons production and related operations.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health evaluation of available exposure data, which includes biological monitoring, air monitoring information, or process monitoring information, concluded that NIOSH lacked adequate information, to allow it to estimate with sufficient accuracy the potential internal exposures to thorium, including associated progeny, or plutonium-241 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 Y-12 during the time period in question. The Board also concurs with this determination.

Based on these considerations and the discussions held at the December 12-13, 2018, Board meeting in Redondo Beach, California, the Board recommends that this class be added to the SEC.

Enclosed is the documentation from the Board meetings where this SEC class was discussed. The

documentation includes copies of the petition, the NIOSH review thereof, and related materials. If any Enclosure of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely, and Dr. Anderson was kind enough to sign for the Board as the Chair of the SEC Issues Work Group.

So, that was sent up to the Secretary, and I'm also happy to report that yesterday the Secretary signed off on the designation to add this Class to the SEC. And I know Y-12, folks at Y-12, were very interested in this process. So let me remind them if they are covering this that Congress has 30 days after the Secretary sends a letter to Congress notifying them of the intent to add a Class. Congress can act on that. They never have, but those 30 days have to pass before the Department of Labor can actually implement the addition of the Class. So there you have it for Y-12.

All right then. Next we have LaVon Rutherford to give us the SEC petition status update.

#### Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition Status Update

Member Rutherford: Okay, thanks Ted. This is going to be even shorter than normal. We plan to present one new SEC evaluation. We will be presenting the remaining years on SEC-188 from Sandia National Labs. We'll address 1997 to May of 2011. That's the only new report scheduled for this meeting. That's all I have. Questions?

Mr. Katz: Okay. It looks like no questions. Thank you, LaVon. And now we have for any Work Groups or Subcommittees that want to update the group on their activities or upcoming activities, now is the time.

Updates from Work Groups and Subcommittees (as

necessary)

Member Beach: Hey, Ted, this is Josie. I'll just give a really brief update for the Subcommittee for Procedures. We had a meeting on February 13th, and I haven't had time to put together notes for it, so I'll give a more thorough report at the next meeting.

Mr. Katz: Sounds great. Thanks, Josie. That was a very productive meeting. We got a lot of procedures under the bridge with that discussion.

Member Beach: Yes, we sure did. And I looked at it this morning and thought I'd put something together quickly, and I thought, no, it deserves more attention than that.

Mr. Katz: Sounds good. Other Work Groups?

Member Kotelchuck: Ted, I think we're ready finally to have a Dose Reconstruction Reviews Subcommittee meeting. We have a number of blinds that have already been looked at in Set 25, so I expect to be calling you and then contacting members of the Subcommittee to have a meeting. I don't think we're going to be able to have the meeting before our Board meeting.

Mr. Katz: We won't. We definitely won't. That's understandable, that's just --

Member Kotelchuck: Right. I just want to alert people that we will be having a meeting sometime.

Mr. Katz: Dave, did you hear from Grady about readiness for the set of dose reconstruction reviews to respond to SC&A's? Have you heard that already?

Member Kotelchuck: No, I haven't. I've been out of town the last couple of days if it was sent in the last couple of days.

Mr. Katz: Okay, no. I haven't seen that. I thought you were awaiting that, but I'll check with Grady on that to see where we are. Okay, other Work Groups?

Member Clawson: Ted, can you hear me okay?

Mr. Katz: I hear you perfectly, Brad, yes.

Member Clawson: Okay. I want to give an update on Hanford. We're working on a data capture. I just reviewed what Chuck Nelson was looking at. SC&A has put out a little bit of help there, which we appreciate. We're working on that.

I'm still waiting for the coworker model to come. It should be coming any time for Savannah River. That's about on my two sites where we're at.

Mr. Katz: Thanks, Brad. Others? Okay, I'm not hearing anyone. Was somebody just speaking? No. And I just note a discussion caught before, Superior Steel SEC petition we discussed at the December meeting. That comes in to the TBD-6000 Work Group, and that will get addressed by that Work Group when there's material ready for the Work Group to meet. Right now, SC&A is reviewing the SEC petition evaluation by NIOSH.

#### Plans for the April 2019 Board Meeting

Okay, then. So then plans for April 2019 Board Meeting. I sent all of you, my Board Members that have -- I've sent you sort of an update on Work Groups that have work related to either, possibly the April meeting or the August meeting so you could see where we are and help you figure out when we should be holding Work Group meetings for that.

We will need to have some Work Group meetings before the April meeting, and let me run through what we expect there with regard to Work Group meetings. So we have Sandia as LaVon noted earlier in this meeting. This would have been for SEC petition consideration by NIOSH.

And I believe we are expecting that presentation pretty close, or that material for the review pretty close to the meeting. So we probably won't have time to look at meeting before the Board Meeting, and

we'll be hearing it first at the Board Meeting in April.

I should note, by the way, the Board Meeting in April is one day, one full day, April 17th, and it's in Pittsburgh.

So the next item of note is Santa Susana Area IV. SC&A recently concluded their review in response to the latest work we got from NIOSH at the December Board Meeting, in advance of the December Board Meeting. So we need to schedule a Work Group meeting for that at some point later in March or early April at the latest we'll be doing that.

Also then we have Idaho National Lab, we have a couple items recently delivered by SC&A related to the Class that's been recommended by NIOSH, 83.14 for the period from '63 to '70, and also related to the Class that's already been added. These are the V&V, or the Validation and Verification reports from SC&A. So those will be helpful and we should be having an INL work group meeting sometime in March.

I think the reports from SC&A are fairly straightforward on those so that should be practical.

And then the fourth SEC could be discussed at April Board Meeting is Superior Steel. And that's really going to be an update because SC&A as I've noted is in the middle of doing their evaluation for that, but it will be a chance for Megan at NIOSH to give a sort of briefer recap of the NIOSH Evaluation Report to the people there in Pittsburgh since we'll be there.

And there will be an opportunity for then SC&A to give us an update on how their work is going. And then, obviously, we'll be able to hear from the public on that.

Member Ziemer: Question, Ted.

Mr. Katz: Yes, Paul.

Member Ziemer: Yes, so it's not likely that we'll have material for the Work Group to review prior to the

April meeting, is that what's my understanding?

Mr. Katz: Yes, that's absolutely right, Paul. SC&A is just in the middle of it now.

Member Ziemer: So the only thing that will happen is for NIOSH to report on their -- meeting in Pittsburgh.

Mr. Katz: Yes, NIOSH will report on their evaluation, just give a briefer report than they gave in December to the people that are local there. And also SC&A will give us an update on how their work is going and what they're up to.

Member Schofield: This is Phil. I have got one quick question. Do you know if Bob Barton was going to release the stuff on Santa Susana, and there's going to be some other stuff on INL posted tomorrow. Has that already been posted on the A: drive?

Mr. Katz: Yes. The INL materials are released. They haven't been PA cleared yet, Privacy Act cleared. So they're not posted but they're available to you. They've been sent to you.

Member Schofield: Okay, thanks.

Mr. Katz: And then for Santa Susana, we don't have new material at this point. That's still on the way.

Member Schofield: Okay.

Mr. Katz: So we will not be expecting to take up De Soto Avenue at the April meeting, only Area IV. And just to remind all of you, that's just a two-year period, '91 to '93, Area IV.

Okay, so that covers all you're expecting to address in April in Pittsburgh. Are there any other matters anyone wants to raise?

Member Beach: Ted, this is Josie. Can you give us an update on the contract for the --

Mr. Katz: Absolutely, yes, for SC&A. So the contract is almost done and SC&A is operating under an

extension, a one-month extension. So they're sort of in the same situation they were in before. They can do new work within the month of March, a one month extension, but they don't have a contract for a full year yet.

So that should happen sometime in March. I couldn't tell you when. But I'll just rely upon folks in the Grants Office, and CDC Atlanta will get this done.

Member Ziemer: What will be the contract times for the new contract?

Mr. Katz: So it's likely it will start sometime in March, and it's a 12-month and 5-year, no, it's a 1+4 contract.

Member Ziemer: Okay, got you. Okay, that's what I was asking. 1+4.

Mr. Katz: 1+4, just like it's always been. Any other questions? All right then.

Well, thank you all for attending, and, yes?

#### Board Correspondence

Member Ziemer: Ted, before you go, we have Board correspondence on the Agenda. I just wanted to call attention to the fact that we did get a letter from Terrie Barrie, and I think all we all saw Stu's response. I don't think there's anything new on that. But since you had this on the Agenda, I thought it would be okay to call attention to that.

Mr. Katz: All right. Thank you, Paul. You're talking about the correspondence between --

Member Ziemer: The Grand Jury sealed documents that NIOSH is trying to obtain.

Mr. Katz: Right, for Rocky Flats. Okay. Thank you, Paul. And if there are no other matters, I think we can adjourn.

Adjourn

(Whereupon, the foregoing matter went off the record at 11:20 a.m.)