

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH)
Savannah River Site (SRS) Work Group
Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2026

Summary Proceedings

The SRS Work Group meeting convened via teleconference at 11:22 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), with Mr. Brad Clawson, Chair, presiding.

Attendees

Members

Brad Clawson, Chair
Jim Lockey, Member
Dave Pompa, Member
Paul Ziemer, Member

Non-Members

Rashaun Roberts, Designated Federal Official (DFO)
Matt Arno, Oak Ridge Associated Universities Team (ORAU)
Bob Barton, Sanford Cohen & Associates (SC&A)
Kathy Behling, SC&A
Ron Buchanan, SC&A
John Cardarelli, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Nancy Chalmers, ORAU Team
Denise DeGarmo, Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petitioner Representative
Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A
Rose Gogliotti, SC&A
Malia Holzberger, Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)
Lara Hughes, NIOSH
Amy Mangel, SC&A
Lori Marion-Moss, NIOSH
Charles Nelson, NIOSH
Steve Ostrow, SC&A

LaVon Rutherford, NIOSH
Zachariah Tribbet, ORAU Team

Roll Call/Welcome - Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Savannah River Site Work Group (SRS WG) at 11:22 a.m. EST on March 17, 2026, via videoconference. A roll call of Work Group members confirmed that a quorum was present. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. None of the Work Group members or participating staff had conflicts of interest. After introductory remarks, Dr. Roberts turned the meeting over to Brad Clawson, Work Group chair.

Mr. Clawson noted that the WG last met about 1 ½ years ago, and so some time would be spent reviewing the discussion up to that point. He then called on Bob Barton, SC&A, to begin his presentation. Mr. Barton suggested that the WG dispense with item 1 on the agenda (status of SRS WG discussions) and proceed to SC&A's agenda item 2 presentation, but he did ask if NIOSH wanted to make any comments related to agenda item 1. Dr. John Cardarelli, NIOSH, responded briefly that it remains NIOSH's position that dose reconstruction is feasible from 1991 on. He did not plan a specific presentation but might want to speak based on presentations that NIOSH has previously made to the WG, if that discussion was warranted. The WG agreed to proceed to item 2 on the agenda.

Brief Review: Data sufficiency for the proposed Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) period of 1991 to 2007 for subcontractor construction trades - Bob Barton, SC&A

Bob Barton, SC&A, presented information about WG meetings and technical papers exchanged between NIOSH and SC&A since an SEC class was recommended by the Board for 'Subcontractor construction workers at SRS from October 1, 1972, through December 31, 1990.' When that class was added the WG and Board felt that the end date for the class would likely be extended to a later date after additional research. There was a general consensus that Westinghouse started implementing radiation control practices that would generate records sufficient to reconstruct doses when it took over the SRS contract on April 1, 1989, but that it would take some time to implement those practices. At the last SRS WG meeting on September 25, 2024, SC&A presented several possible end dates for the class, based on records that indicated various stages of Westinghouse's implementation of improved processes, but the WG did not vote on a preferred end date at that time. During deliberations at this meeting, WG members expressed support for several potential ending dates, from December 31, 1990, to extend it to December 31, 1996. Through extended discussion, members narrowed the choice to extend the end date to December 31, 1992, or December 31, 1993. Ultimately the WG decided to recommend an end date of December 31, 1993, to the Board. The key factor in choosing this date was that a large percentage of Radiation Work Permits from 1994 specified bioassay requirements for the job, whereas this was not true in earlier years. Brad Clawson made a motion to recommend December 31, 1993, to the full Board, and Dave Pompa seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, with one member supporting this date to provide for a unanimous recommendation to the Board.

SC&A Presentation – “A Review of ORAUT-TKBS-003-03 for Savannah River Site – Occupational Medical Dose” – Dr. Ron Buchanan, SC&A

Dr. Ron Buchanan, SC&A, presented the results of SC&A's review of the most recent revision of this document. TKBS-003-03 contains information about x-ray exam frequency, equipment used, and technique factors that uses information to estimate doses to various organs and to B-lymphocytes. SC&A's review did not generate any findings or observations, and SC&A concurs with the doses prescribed in the TKBS-003-03 document. SC&A then reviewed the resolution of issues in 66 previously completed dose reconstruction reviews and searched for NIOSH commitments to revise the SRS site profile. This review did not find any NIOSH comments that would impact the guidance in the newly issued TKBS-003-3.

SC&A Presentation – “A Review of ORAUT-TKBS-003-07 for Savannah River Site – Internal Dosimetry Co-exposure Data”

Dr. Ron Buchanan, SC&A, presented the results of SC&A's review of TKBS-003-07. NIOSH and the ORAU Team initially published the SRS internal dosimetry co-exposure data in ORAUT-OTIB-081. TKBS-003-07 incorporates those data into the SRS site profile. SC&A reviewed the initial version of OTIB-081 and identified 5 findings and 8 observations. All the findings and observations from that review had been closed prior to this review of TKBS-003-07, with the exception of one that pertained to variability in trivalent bioassay results. NIOSH and the ORAUT Team addressed that remaining finding in TKBS-003-07, and SC&A recommended as part of this review that that finding be closed.

The review of TKBS-003-07 identified no findings and 9 observations. The observations addressed unclear origins for some data; some apparent mistaken entries in the tables; and mistaken text, some apparently missing data; and a question as to whether some plutonium data should have been recoded before TKBS-003-07 was prepared. As was done in the review of TKBS-003-03, SC&A reviewed the resolution of issues in 66 previously completed dose reconstruction reviews and searched for NIOSH comments to revise the SRS site profile. The review did not find any comments that would impact the guidance in the newly issued TKBS-003-07. The observations from this review will be entered into the Board Review System application, and NIOSH will provide its responses there.

Work Group Discussion and Path Forward

Dr. John Cardarelli, NIOSH, informed the Board that there would be a joint outreach meeting involving Department of Labor, Department of Energy, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Augusta, Georgia, about the Savannah River Site on April 22, 2026. Dr. Cardarelli agreed to find out if there would be a way to participate remotely and inform WG members. Dr. Roberts will work with WG chair Brad Clawson about how the WG's recommendation for the SRS SEC class end date will be presented to the full Board at its April 29, 2026, meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.