

DRAFT MEMO

TO: Linde Work Group
FROM: Steve Ostrow, SC&A
DATE: October 17, 2011
SUBJECT: Follow-up to the October 11 Action Item Report

On October 11, 2011, SC&A responded to several action items arising from the August 15, 2011, Linde Work Group meeting in its draft report, *Linde Work Group Meeting on Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition 00154, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 15, 2011 – SC&A Action Items*. The first action item concerned utility tunnels. Section 2.1 of the report explored the issue of when different segments of the tunnel system were constructed. The section concludes: *(1) The documents and worker statements appear to indicate that the only portion of the tunnel that existed before the SEC period of concern (1947–1953) is the 1936 tunnel shown in Figure 2.*

SC&A received affidavits from two former Linde workers on October 12, 2011, subsequent to issuance of the SC&A report. One of the workers, Mr. [REDACTED], provided additional information regarding the tunnel timeline discussion. He states that he was employed at Linde from [REDACTED], 1953–[REDACTED], 1991, which overlaps with the SEC-00154 period of November 1, 1947–December 31, 1953, and that:

In all of that time frame the Utility Tunnels from Building #10 to Junction box located north of the road way between Building #39 & Building #58 where an exit and entrance ladder existed and was in existence to the best of my knowledge and experience. In fact the tunnel had to be there in order for utilities such as Electricity, Steam, condensate, water, air pressure, telephone lines to supply these utilities to the Ceramics Plant Buildings 30, 31, 37, 38, & 39.

This statement is not clear or definitive with respect to the tunnel complex timeline. However, it can be interpreted to imply that most of the tunnel complex beginning in Building 10 and continuing north and east to Buildings 30 and 31 was in existence and in use at the start of Mr. [REDACTED]'s employment in 1953, rather than constructed later in 1957 or 1961. This assertion casts some doubt on NIOSH's conclusions in Revision 2 of its technical basis document, and also SC&A's conclusions regarding when each portion of the tunnel was constructed and what portions might have become radioactively contaminated at what time.