

Overview of

INTERPRETATION OF EXTERNAL DOSIMETRY RECORDS AT THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE (SRS) (OCAS-TIB-006, Rev. 1)

Workers have the potential to receive a radiation dose to their bodies from external sources of radiation due to the nature of work at many Department of Energy and Atomic Weapons Employer facilities. Technical Information Bulletin (TIB) *Interpretation of External Dosimetry Records at the Savannah River Site* (OCAS-TIB-006), provides guidance on how to assign external doses to workers at the Savannah River Site (SRS), who have no or limited radiation monitoring data; assignment is based on site coworker data.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS RESULTING FROM THE TECHNICAL REVIEW

The technical contractor for the Advisory Board of Radiation and Worker Health (the Board) reviewed the TIB and produced the three findings summarized below:

Finding #1: Guidance regarding the need to apply corrections to data from a certain type of dosimeter used to measure radiation exposure to personnel at SRS between 1954 and 1981 is complex, confusing, and does not clearly indicate which dosimetry data require modification.

Finding #2: It is unclear whether guidance supplied by the TIB replaces instruction contained in the SRS Site Profile, also referred to as the SRS Technical Basis Document.

Finding #3: Guidance is not clear on which timeframes require interpretation of shallow dose data.

RESOLUTION OF FINDINGS

In response to the findings identified above, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) initially proposed to review the TIB and the related guidance in the SRS Site Profile to clarify guidance about what information should appear in which document. After further discussion, NIOSH decided to revise the TIB to address the findings; Revision 2 was issued on October 4, 2007.

All issues were resolved to the satisfaction of the Board.