



## ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND WORKER HEALTH

4676 Columbia Parkway, MS: C-46

Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

(513) 533-6825

November 8, 2005

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (The Board) has evaluated SEC Petition -00044 concerning workers at Linde Ceramics Plant in Niagara Falls, NY in. under the statutory requirements established by EEOICPA and incorporated into 42 CFR Sec. 83.13 (c) (1) and 42 CFR Sec. 83.13 (c) (3). The Board respectfully recommends a Special Exposure Cohort be accorded to all Atomic Weapons Employees who worked at the Linde Ceramics Plant from October 1, 1942 through October 31, 1947. and whom were employed for a number of work days aggregating at least 250 work days, occurring under this employment or in combination with work days of employment occurring within the parameters (excluding aggregate work day requirements) established for other classes of employees included in the SEC. This recommendation is based on the following factors:

- These workers were employed at a facility that processed substantial amounts of radioactive materials during the early time period for the production of nuclear weapons.
- Monitoring for internal dosimetry was not implemented at this facility until November 1947. The other monitoring, process, and source information available for this facility is not sufficient for estimating internal radiation exposures in order to conduct individual dose reconstruction for workers at this facility during the earlier time period.
- NIOSH has determined that the health of employees at this facility may have been endangered by their radiation exposures. The Board concurs.

**CHAIRMAN:**

Paul L. Ziemer, Ph.D.  
Lafayette, Indiana

**MEMBERS:**

Henry A. Anderson, M.D.  
Madison, Wisconsin

Roy L. DeHart, M.D., M.P.H.  
Nashville, Tennessee

Richard L. Espinosa  
Española, New Mexico

Michael H. Gibson  
Franklin, Ohio

Mark A. Griffon  
Salem, New Hampshire

James M. Melius, M.D., Ph.D.  
Albany, New York

Wanda I. Munn  
Richland, Washington

Charles L. Owens  
Paducah, Kentucky

Robert W. Presley  
Clinton, Tennessee

Genevieve S. Roessler, Ph.D.  
Elysian, Minnesota

**STAFF:**

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:**

Lewis V. Wade, Ph.D.  
Washington, DC

**COMMITTEE MANAGEMENT:**

LaShawn D. Shields  
Atlanta, Georgia

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt

November 8, 2005

Based on these considerations, the Board recommends that this Special Exposure Cohort petition be granted.

Enclosed is supporting documentation from the Advisory Board Meeting held October 19, 2005 in Knoxville, Tennessee. This documentation includes transcripts of the meeting, the petition, copies of the petition and the NIOSH review thereof, and related documents distributed by NIOSH and the petitioners. If any of these items are unavailable at this time, they will follow shortly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul L. Ziemer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Paul L. Ziemer, Chairman  
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health

Enc.