

Division of Compensation Analysis and Support Program Evaluation Report	Document Number: DCAS-PER-048 Effective Date: 9/27/2013 Revision No. 0
Wah Chang	
Page 1 of 2	
Author: <u>Signature on file</u> Date: <u>9/27/13</u> Dave Allen, HP Team Leader	Supersedes: None
Approval: <u>Signature on file</u> Date: <u>9/27/13</u> J.W. Neton, Associate Director for Science	

RECORD OF ISSUE/REVISIONS			
ISSUE AUTHORIZATION DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE	REV. NO.	DESCRIPTION
9/27/2013	9/27/2013	0	New document to determine the effect on previously completed claims due to changes to Wah Chang dose reconstructions.

1.0 Description

No Technical Basis Document exists for Wah Chang claims. The following changes, however, have occurred that could affect claims from this site:

- The dates of the operational and residual periods have changed;
- A Special Exposure Cohort was designated; and ,
- Some previous dose reconstructions utilized values from ORAUT-OTIB-0070 which was revised on 3/5/2012.

2.0 Issue Evaluation

The change to operational and residual periods for Wah Chang occur prior to the first Wah Chang dose reconstruction being drafted and only reduced the operational and residual periods for the site. Therefore this change would not affect any previously completed claims.

The designation of a Special Exposure Cohort for Wah Chang occurred on April 29, 2011. The designation determined that NIOSH was unable to estimate internal and external dose from thorium during the entire covered period which is designated from 1/1/1971 to 12/31/1972. During the SEC evaluation process, additional information was discovered and used in subsequent dose reconstructions. The information consisted of a contemporary estimate of the amount of uranium remaining in the arc furnace after the weapons related work in 1971 and 1972. The resulting external dose estimate starting in the residual period was higher for some job categories of workers.

Also, Wah Chang dose reconstructions utilized ORAUT-OTIB-0070 to estimate the reduction of residual contamination over time following the end of weapons related

Division of Compensation Analysis and Support Program Evaluation Plan	Document Number: DCAS-PER-048
Effective Date: 9/27/2013 Revision No. 0	Page 2 of 2

operations. This document was revised on 3/5/2012 lowering the contamination reduction rate. This causes the dose estimates to increase in some years of the residual period.

3.0 Plan for Resolution or Corrective Action

Since almost all Wah Chang claims included employment in the residual period and since the last change (ORAUT-OTIB-0070 revision) affected the residual period dose estimates, all claims with Wah Chang employment and a probability of causation less than 50% were considered. Those completed after the revision to ORAUT-OTIB-0070 were reviewed and eliminated if the current version of ORAUT-OTIB-0070 was used. The dose for the remaining 114 claims was recalculated using all currently approved methods and information. During this process, one claim was returned by the Department of Labor based on an additional cancer diagnosis. Since a new dose reconstruction was to be calculated using current methods, the claim was eliminated from further consideration for this PER.

As a result of this process, dose for all of the 113 remaining claims was recalculated and all resulted in a probability of causation below 45%.

NIOSH will provide the Department of Labor with the identity of the claims evaluated under this PER.