

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL  
SAFETY AND HEALTH

+ + + + +

ADVISORY BOARD ON RADIATION AND  
WORKER HEALTH

+ + + + +

85th MEETING

+ + + + +

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012

The meeting convened telephonically  
at 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time, James M. Melius,  
Chairman, presiding.

PRESENT:

JAMES M. MELIUS, Chairman  
HENRY ANDERSON, Member  
JOSIE BEACH, Member  
BRADLEY P. CLAWSON, Member  
R. WILLIAM FIELD, Member  
MARK GRIFFON, Member  
DAVID KOTELCHUCK, Member  
RICHARD LEMEN, Member  
WANDA I. MUNN, Member  
DAVID B. RICHARDSON, Member  
GENEVIEVE S. ROESSLER, Member  
PHILLIP SCHOFIELD, Member  
LORETTA R. VALERIO, Member  
PAUL L. ZIEMER, Member  
TED KATZ, Designated Federal Official

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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (11:00 a.m.)

3 (Roll call.)

4 MR KATZ: Okay, just a couple other  
5 things to cover. The agenda for this meeting  
6 is on the web, on the Board Site, under  
7 Meetings. Minor correction, one of the agenda  
8 items has recorded out the number of votes  
9 from February meeting, it should be June  
10 meeting. I'll be covering that shortly.

11 And the FPC petition was covering  
12 Ventron Corporation, Beverly, Massachusetts.  
13 That is also on the web. It should be on the  
14 meeting site and it's also under the "SECs  
15 qualified" section of the Board Site. Just  
16 follow along with that material.

17 Otherwise let me just note, please  
18 mute your phones, everyone except people who  
19 are addressing the Board. Members of the  
20 Board, in this case, actually.

21 MEMBER ANDERSON: Hi, it's Andy,  
22 I'm sorry I'm a little late. If you've taken

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1 roll already, I'm here.

2 MR. KATZ: Yes, glad to have you,  
3 Andy. Great.

4 MEMBER ANDERSON: Okay.

5 MR. KATZ: So everyone, mute your  
6 phones, and please do not put the call on hold  
7 at any point, but hang up and dial back in if  
8 you need to leave the call.

9 And Jim, it's your agenda.

10 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, welcome,  
11 everybody, and we have a pretty  
12 straightforward agenda here today. So why  
13 don't we just move ahead, and we'll start?

14 Ted, you need to record the votes  
15 from the June meeting. I was wondering about  
16 that when I saw the agenda. We're moving  
17 backwards, but it's okay.

18 MR. KATZ: Right, sorry about that.  
19 Thank you. At the June meeting for periods of  
20 time during the full meeting, Messrs. Gibson  
21 and Griffon and Drs. Lemen, Richardson, and  
22 Ziemer were absent.

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1           They recorded their absentee votes,  
2 all completed by July 26, 2012. And they  
3 voted approving along with the Board on all  
4 actions that the Board voted on. And that  
5 includes Winchester Engineering, Hanford,  
6 Medina, Clarksville and Titanium Alloys. So  
7 all of those votes were unanimous, and that  
8 covers absentee votes.

9           CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, thanks,  
10 Ted. And now, let's move right on to the  
11 Ventron Corporation Site. And I believe Sam  
12 Glover's going to make the presentation.

13           DR. GLOVER: Yes, sir.

14           CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, go ahead,  
15 Sam.

16           DR. GLOVER: We haven't done one,  
17 or at least I haven't none one quite like  
18 this. So I guess I'll just ask folks to  
19 change to the next slide and we'll see how  
20 this goes. If you have any questions, feel  
21 free to stop me.

22           So we're going to discuss today the

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1 Special Exposure Cohort Petition Evaluation  
2 Report for Ventron Corporation. And let's go  
3 to Slide Number 2.

4 So, I thought it would be good to  
5 start out with a brief site description.  
6 Ventron Corporation, originally known as Metal  
7 Hydrides. Is listed as an Atomic Weapons  
8 Employer for the AEC, from 1942 to 1948.

9 It was one of the very original  
10 sites and actually they were one of the  
11 beginning sites to handle uranium in the  
12 United States, even before the Atomic Energy  
13 Commission.

14 They had a residual period from  
15 1949 to '85 and from '87 to '95. There were  
16 some residual clean-up time frames.

17 It is listed as a DOE site for 1986  
18 as well as 1996 to '97. Principal operations  
19 included the conversion of uranium oxide to  
20 uranium metal powder, and it was the primary  
21 facility for scrap recovery for the AEC as  
22 well as the Manhattan Engineering District.

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1           Next slide. Just a real quick idea  
2 how many claims we're talking about. We have  
3 19 claims submitted. Nine of which we worked  
4 during the SEC time frame. And a total number  
5 of claims at DOL is nine.

6           We have no internal or external  
7 records -- dosimetry records with the claims  
8 that have been submitted.

9           Petition SEC 00198 was received  
10 December 5th, 2011. The petition proposed the  
11 following Class: "all metallurgical operators  
12 and electric furnace operators who worked at  
13 Ventron Corporation in Beverley,  
14 Massachusetts, from January 1, 1942 to  
15 December 31, 1948."

16           The petition was qualified on  
17 January 20, 2012. And basically, the employees  
18 were never monitored, was the basis.

19           The Class evaluated by NIOSH was  
20 all Atomic Weapons Employees who worked at  
21 Ventron Corporation Site in Beverly,  
22 Massachusetts from August 13, 1942, through

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1 December 31, 1948.

2 We'll discuss a little bit about  
3 why we stopped at that and what we're doing  
4 post-1948 at the end of this.

5 The Ventron Site is located in  
6 Beverly, Massachusetts and occupies 3 acres on  
7 Massachusetts Bay, at the confluence of the  
8 Bass and Danvers rivers.

9 It was originally developed to  
10 produce metal for the Office of Science,  
11 Research and Development that preceded the  
12 Manhattan Engineering District.

13 And they did operation of producing  
14 metal from December 31, 1941 to November 1,  
15 1942. And those are not covered.

16 They produced about 7500 pounds of  
17 metal under this original contract. The  
18 Manhattan Engineering District took over that  
19 contract in November of 1942 and they produced  
20 the very first metal used in the CP1, the  
21 original Chicago Pile Number 1 reactors.

22 So they produced from the ores as

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1 well as oxides. So they had actual true ore  
2 as well as concentrates of ore, so they  
3 actually had radium on site.

4 In fact, it was later used to  
5 recast scrap metal. And this equipment  
6 remained on site in standby mode. It was the  
7 principle scrap recovery facility for the  
8 Manhattan Engineering District during this  
9 time frame.

10 Scrap recasting -- I'm sorry. Next  
11 slide, please. Scrap recasting contract  
12 expired on December 31, 1947. Following this  
13 date, all scrap was sent to Hanford for  
14 recasting.

15 In June '47, a contract called for  
16 the development of controlled source  
17 neutrons. And it looks like they were issued  
18 100 pounds of high-grade pitchblende ore to  
19 help with that.

20 Some more background. Next slide,  
21 please. Refinery operations, they had  
22 November 1<sup>st</sup> of 1942 through September 1, 1943

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1 and an estimated work force of about 107  
2 individuals plant-wide. Production rate of  
3 about 350 pounds of metal per day, in a three-  
4 shift schedule.

5 And they also had scrap casting  
6 operations which were subsequent to these  
7 metal refinery operations from September 1,  
8 1943, to December 31, 1947. Believed to have  
9 employed around 16 individuals. Production  
10 rates of about 3,000 to 3,200 pounds of  
11 material per day. The rate produced about  
12 1,800 pounds per day in April of 1947.

13 Next slide, please. There were  
14 three primary facilities. Building A/A-1; it  
15 was a conjoined structure. It contained  
16 furnaces, kilns, leaching equipment and  
17 machine shop.

18 It's good to note that uranium  
19 activities were not separated from other  
20 activities in the building.

21 They also had a foundry, as well as  
22 a machine shop. These were wooden

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1 structures, south of Building A.

2           There is, in the Evaluation Report,  
3 there's a map to help give you some feel for  
4 this. It was demolished somewhere around 1948  
5 to 1950.

6           Sources of exposure -- next slide,  
7 please -- included processing of black ore,  
8 which was a ore with all of its components and  
9 progeny. Later it was brown oxide by calcium  
10 hydride process. This included the potential  
11 for radium contamination.

12           It also had a production of uranium  
13 metal and oxide, and later melting and  
14 recasting of scrap and uranium metal.

15           There was a further, and it didn't  
16 for some reason make this slide, but there was  
17 a commercial thorium operation on site, and  
18 they were using thorium oxide to make some  
19 thorium components. And since we have to do  
20 all sorts of exposure, thorium would be  
21 included in this.

22           Now we see no discrete incidents

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1 involving high levels of radiation. However,  
2 we see lots of reports of spontaneous fires.  
3 There was a routine occurrence of powders  
4 being hand-scooped into tins.

5 Material was thrown outside and  
6 allowed to burn. Spontaneous ignition of  
7 metal left in leaching liquid discharged  
8 outside settling basin, which was reported to  
9 happen once every few weeks.

10 Next slide, please. External  
11 monitoring program and data availability.  
12 There's no evidence that a routine monitoring  
13 program ever existed. We do have some direct  
14 surveys, 1944, we have listed as gamma and  
15 beta-gamma measurements, where they took three  
16 measurements of outside stockpiled material.

17 They took three measurements of  
18 some work areas, and they took two additional  
19 measurements in the June/July of 1945 time  
20 frame, also in this gamma, beta-gamma type.

21 Later, at near the very end of  
22 this, after material started to be removed

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1 from the site, they had 24 measurements  
2 conducted around Ventron, which confirmed  
3 widespread contamination.

4 And in the January time frame, they  
5 made 25 additional measurements, after there  
6 was significant removal of equipment.

7 Next slide, please. So in December  
8 25th we have -- December 19th, 1947, there's  
9 25 measurements and then January 13th, they  
10 did 24 measurements. And these had -- you see  
11 again the processing equipment had been  
12 removed at that point.

13 Next slide. Internal dose  
14 monitoring programs and data availability.  
15 There's no evidence of any routine air  
16 monitoring program, uranium urinalysis, or  
17 radon monitoring program.

18 We have bioassay results from one  
19 individual in June 1945. That basically was a  
20 four-day span in August of 1945, which was  
21 requested as the result of significant weight  
22 loss of that individual.

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1           That's the only monitoring for  
2 internal dose that we have for bio-bioassay.  
3 There are a few air samples, on March 5<sup>th</sup>, '43  
4 there were 12 samples taken. June 5<sup>th</sup> of '44,  
5 there were also four samples taken June 15<sup>th</sup> of  
6 '44. These again are just very small  
7 snapshots.

8           Next slide, please. Just to let  
9 you know how gross the contamination of the  
10 facility was in 1943, an assay of the  
11 Manhattan Engineering District discovered the  
12 soil on site was -- "contaminated" is probably  
13 a mild word. The soil contained between 0.1  
14 and 79 percent uranium oxide.

15           120,000 pounds of soil was removed  
16 in '44 and shipped to DuPont for uranium  
17 recovery. So we also have, as I said, further  
18 information that thoriated tungsten filaments  
19 were produced from thorium powder. The  
20 complete details are sparse to us at this  
21 time.

22           Next slide, please. Summary of

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1 monitoring gaps. External, we have no film  
2 badge results. Limited area monitoring for a  
3 complex source term.

4 So this isn't just uranium metal,  
5 this has radium and significant contamination  
6 as well as lots of hands-on scooping. Just not  
7 a controlled environment.

8 Internal dose, we have virtually no  
9 bioassay. Very limited air monitoring for  
10 single operation.

11 Data for refining completely  
12 absent. So that puts us in a position where  
13 there's no TBD-6000 approach for these  
14 operations. Limitations of TBD-6000 for very  
15 hands-on scooping and very physical  
16 operations.

17 We have no evidence that any  
18 monitoring is available for the numerous fires  
19 and combustion events. And these fires  
20 outside the building further broaden the  
21 exposure potential for process and non-process  
22 workers. Next slide, please.

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1           So sort of summarizing Ventron SEC  
2           Petition 198: why the Class workers were  
3           potentially exposed to radium, radon and  
4           uranium who were not monitored, nor does a  
5           suitable dose reconstruction method exist.

6           Decision was based on a lack of  
7           adequate biological monitoring data,  
8           sufficient air monitoring information, and/or  
9           sufficient process and radiological source  
10          term data to reconstruct dose with sufficient  
11          accuracy. Next slide, please.

12          Why everyone? Based on reports by  
13          the AEC facility layout, the process areas  
14          were not isolated from the non-process  
15          facilities. Airborne dust issues from  
16          processes were noted to be extending into non-  
17          process areas. As we noted earlier, the fires  
18          also were outside and weren't controlled. Next  
19          slide, please.

20          What about employees not included  
21          in the SEC? NIOSH intends to use any internal  
22          or external monitoring data that may become

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1 available for an individual claim that can be  
2 interpreted using existing dose reconstruction  
3 processes or procedures.

4 Dose reconstructions for  
5 individuals employed at the Ventron Site  
6 during the period from November 1 -- and that  
7 should actually be -- yes, November 1, 1942,  
8 to December 31, 1948, but who do not qualify  
9 for inclusion in the Special Exposure Cohort,  
10 may be performed using these data as  
11 appropriate.

12 Further, NIOSH intends to estimate  
13 doses from medical X-rays using information  
14 from medical employee files and claimant-  
15 favorable medical dose reconstruction  
16 assumptions and methods, as we would for other  
17 AWE facilities.

18 So why stop in 1948? That was  
19 obviously the end of the contract periods, and  
20 at that, we would add a residual period.  
21 NIOSH has obtained additional contract  
22 information during its data capture for

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1 Ventron, which may support additional covered  
2 time.

3 This information has been submitted  
4 to the Department of Labor and the Department  
5 of Energy. NIOSH reviewed the post-1948  
6 period upon receiving the response to this new  
7 information by DOL and DOE.

8 Health endangerment: evidence  
9 reviewed in this evaluation indicates that  
10 some workers in the Class may have accumulated  
11 chronic radiation exposures through intakes of  
12 radionuclides and direct exposure to  
13 radioactive materials. Consequently, NIOSH is  
14 specifying that health may have been  
15 endangered. Next slide, please.

16 Proposed Class: "All Atomic Weapons  
17 Employees who worked at Ventron Corporation in  
18 Beverly, Massachusetts, from November 1, 1942  
19 through December 31, 1948, for a number of  
20 work days aggregating at least 250 work days  
21 occurring either solely under this employment  
22 or in combination with work days within the

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1 parameters established for one or more Classes  
2 of employees included in the Special Exposure  
3 Cohort."

4 So our recommendation is that, from  
5 the period November 1, 1942, through December  
6 31, 1948, NIOSH finds that radiation doses  
7 cannot be reconstructed for compensation  
8 purposes. So we say that the feasibility is  
9 no, and health endangerment, yes.

10 And that's the end of it. Thank  
11 you very much.

12 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Thank you, Sam.  
13 Board Members have any questions for Sam?

14 MEMBER BEACH: Yes, Jim, this is  
15 Josie. I do have a question. Back on Slide  
16 21, you talked about why stop in '48, and that  
17 was one of the things that I highlighted in  
18 the ER on Page 18. It talks about the AEC and  
19 the ongoing contracts. Can you elaborate a  
20 little bit more of the dates? Is it all the  
21 way to '54?

22 DR. GLOVER: Yes, right now that is

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1 the covered time. That's when it's covered  
2 through '48 at this time. And after that it  
3 goes to a residual contamination time frame.

4 And so at that point we can only  
5 deal with materials that were produced, you  
6 know, from the previous operations. The new  
7 operations aren't considered. And so right  
8 now we're working with the DOE and DOL, to  
9 make sure that we have the appropriate cover  
10 time.

11 MEMBER BEACH: Okay, so you're  
12 talking about the contracts that you found?

13 DR. GLOVER: Yes, ma'am.

14 MEMBER BEACH: Okay, so it could be  
15 additional, besides residual period that would  
16 be covered potentially?

17 DR. GLOVER: Exactly, we could look  
18 at perhaps from '49 through '54. But that  
19 would be based on their decision, basically.

20 MEMBER BEACH: Sure, I understand  
21 that part. Okay, thanks.

22 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Other Board

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1 Member questions?

2 MEMBER VALERIO: Yes -- go ahead.

3 MEMBER MUNN: This is Wanda.

4 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, Wanda.

5 MEMBER MUNN: LaVon, in your  
6 presentation, although you gave us source term  
7 data, you never gave us any information with  
8 respect to the actual surveys, and what we saw  
9 in respect to dose monitoring from those  
10 surveys. Were the gamma and beta-gamma  
11 measurements that we had predictive in any  
12 way?

13 DR. GLOVER: This is Sam, and I  
14 could pull those. They are in the Evaluation  
15 Report. And didn't emphasize them because they  
16 only took like a snapshot of -- they had  
17 material in the yard. So they didn't try to  
18 actually like measure a wide breadth of the  
19 source terms. They were very, very limited.

20 And so they really didn't let you  
21 to put your hands around all the different  
22 kinds of things that they were doing.

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1           You know, since they were handling  
2 metal they would have increased dose rate,  
3 because of the progeny. You also then had the  
4 radium. You had the ore operations. So we  
5 really just didn't have a handle. Yes, ma'am.

6           MEMBER MUNN: Yes, I realize that.  
7 All right, I'll go to the ER if I want to  
8 check it.

9           CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Somebody else had  
10 a question?

11          MEMBER VALERIO: Yes, this is  
12 Loretta.

13          CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, Loretta.

14          MEMBER VALERIO: Dr. Glover, I  
15 actually have two questions for you. You  
16 indicated that in 19 -- and I'm going back  
17 through the slides, bear with me. At one  
18 point they believed there was 42, 43, that  
19 there 100, approximately 107 employees on  
20 site. And I'm wondering, do you know, did  
21 that stay consistent through 1948? That  
22 number?

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1           That's the first question, and the  
2 second question is: the fires that were  
3 outside of the buildings, was there a  
4 subcontract, say with county firefighters?  
5 How did they address the issues with the  
6 fires?

7           DR. GLOVER: So on the two  
8 questions. I don't know, you know, these  
9 things are so far back in antiquity, that we  
10 find little bits of information like the 107.  
11 But I don't know if we found any additional  
12 information to give us how many people as a  
13 function of time were at that facility.  
14 Certainly, if you'd like it, I could double-  
15 check.

16           For fires, because this is an AWE  
17 facility, only employees of Ventron are  
18 covered. And Bomber or LaVon, if I'm wrong,  
19 please correct me.

20           MR. RUTHERFORD: I think you're  
21 correct.

22           CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes. Just for

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1 everyone's information, if you turn to Page 15  
2 of the Evaluation Report, there's a little bit  
3 more information on the number of employees.  
4 At least as estimated by number of people that  
5 had chest X-rays and some other medical  
6 testing done.

7 But again, as Sam was saying, in  
8 these situations we often find it very hard to  
9 estimate how many people, you know, really  
10 worked there. Over time, because of turnover,  
11 and in fact this is more information than  
12 we've found on many other similar sites.

13 MEMBER BEACH: Yes, Jim, this is  
14 Josie again. I was going to point out to  
15 NIOSH that it was nice that they did include  
16 that information on how many employees.  
17 Because that's always a question that we ask.

18 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes. I actually  
19 emailed Sam about this, but I thought that the  
20 -- I believe it's the ORAU group, whoever  
21 prepared this report did a very good job and  
22 provided a lot of, I thought, helpful detail

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1 that at least fills in and gives you a little  
2 bit more confidence on sort of what steps  
3 we're taking and our evaluation of this report  
4 and of the facility.

5 Any other Board Member questions?

6 MEMBER VALERIO: This is Loretta  
7 again, I'm sorry. It's not a question, it's  
8 more that I want to compliment NIOSH. When I  
9 was reading through the Evaluation Report and  
10 the presentation, one of the first questions  
11 that, you know, that came to my mind was of  
12 course the contaminated soil, which I thought  
13 that they addressed very well. So thank you.

14 DR. GLOVER: Thank you very much.

15 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Any other  
16 comments or questions?

17 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: Dave  
18 Kotelchuck.

19 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Oh, yes, go  
20 ahead.

21 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: There are typos  
22 on Page 13 and 19. You'll correct them before

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1 the June meeting? We don't need to go into  
2 them, it's just editorial. Just wanted to  
3 mention.

4 DR. GLOVER: I'm sorry, sir, you  
5 mean on the slides?

6 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: On slides 13  
7 and 19.

8 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: "Manhattan." Us  
9 New Yorkers are sensitive on that.

10 (Laughter.)

11 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: Oh, that's  
12 another one. Oh, yes, 13 -- "conducted."

13 MR. RUTHERFORD: As long as it  
14 isn't a dangling participle, then we're all  
15 right.

16 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: Okay, I don't  
17 want to raise, it's not worth a lot of time.  
18 Just to mention it so you'll correct it by the  
19 later presentation.

20 DR. GLOVER: Actually, I believe  
21 this will be the only presentation.

22 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: Ah, okay, well,

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1 then I'm glad I mentioned it.

2 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: It's on the  
3 website, so.

4 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: Okay, good.

5 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Any other  
6 comments or questions? If not, do I hear a  
7 recommendation from the Board? Or a motion?

8 MEMBER CLAWSON: This is Brad. I  
9 recommend that we accept NIOSH's evaluation.

10 MEMBER MUNN: This is Wanda.  
11 Second.

12 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, any further  
13 discussion? If not, then Ted, you want to do  
14 roll?

15 MR. KATZ: Sure, very good. Dr.  
16 Anderson?

17 MEMBER ANDERSON: Yes.

18 MR. KATZ: Ms. Beach?

19 MEMBER BEACH: Yes.

20 MR. KATZ: Mr. Clawson?

21 MEMBER CLAWSON: Yes.

22 MR. KATZ: Dr. Field?

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1 MEMBER FIELD: Yes.

2 MR. KATZ: Let me just check. I  
3 checked earlier, we didn't have Mr. Gibson.  
4 Mr. Gibson, have you joined us?

5 MEMBER GRIFFON: Yes. And yes.

6 MR. KATZ: Okay. That was Mike.

7 MEMBER GRIFFON: No, that was Mark.

8 MR. KATZ: Okay, I had called for  
9 Gibson, but I got yes for Mr. Griffon. So Mike  
10 is still absent. Dr. Kotelchuck?

11 MEMBER GRIFFON: Sorry.

12 MEMBER KOTELCHUCK: Yes.

13 MR. KATZ: Dr. Kotelchuck, yes. Dr.  
14 Lemen?

15 MEMBER LEMEN: Yes.

16 MR. KATZ: And Dr. Lockey, I assume  
17 is still absent. Dr. Melius?

18 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes.

19 MR. KATZ: Ms. Munn?

20 MEMBER MUNN: Yes.

21 MR. KATZ: Dr. Poston is absent. Dr.  
22 Richardson?

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1 MEMBER RICHARDSON: Yes.

2 MR. KATZ: Dr. Roessler?

3 MEMBER ROESSLER: Yes.

4 MR. KATZ: Mr. Schofield?

5 MEMBER SCHOFIELD: Yes.

6 MR. KATZ: Ms. Valerio?

7 MEMBER VALERIO: Yes.

8 MR. KATZ: And Dr. Ziemer?

9 MEMBER ZIEMER: Yes.

10 MR. KATZ: So the motion passes  
11 unanimately with a couple -- three absent  
12 Members. And I'll collect the absentee votes  
13 between now and the next meeting.

14 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: And then for  
15 Board Members, I circulated a letter, our  
16 standard letter for this. If anybody has  
17 comments on it, if you want to get back to me.  
18 I think that should cover us on it.

19 I did two versions, so it's the  
20 second email that I sent. There's a few  
21 changes in the Class Definitions and so forth  
22 as we were working through it yesterday.

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1                   MEMBER MUNN:     And thank you for  
2 those changes.     The original raised that  
3 question in my mind.   Thanks.

4                   CHAIRMAN MELIUS:    So, good.    One  
5 other thing that I just want to put on the  
6 record is if NIOSH, if you can be sure to  
7 follow up with this and inform us on what the  
8 decision is on the Class Definition of the  
9 years covered period.   Changes and so forth,  
10 and this may be something we need to get back  
11 to.

12                   And there's also a residual period,  
13 and given the amount of contamination in what  
14 we've seen about the site from this report, I  
15 think it's something that also warrants some  
16 further attention also, at some period to  
17 follow up on that.

18                   I don't know if you're planning a  
19 separate report or what the plan is. That will  
20 obviously depends on what happens with the  
21 covered period, but if you can just keep us  
22 informed on what's going on with this site, it

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1 would be helpful.

2 MR. HINNEFELD: We definitely will  
3 do that.

4 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes, thanks.  
5 Find my agenda here. The next item we have on  
6 our agenda is a Dose Reconstruction  
7 Subcommittee Review Update from Mark Griffon.  
8 Mark?

9 MEMBER GRIFFON: Yes, I can give a  
10 report. We had a meeting on August 6th, and  
11 amongst other things we went through some of  
12 the QA/QC things that were brought up in the  
13 ten year follow-up report. We also discussed  
14 some of NIOSH's current efforts. Internally,  
15 with the DCAS blind dose reconstruction  
16 quality review, so that's their internal  
17 review. And then the last item that we  
18 discussed, other than our normal going through  
19 all the cases, the last item that we discussed  
20 was possible modifications to our procedures  
21 for reviewing the cases.

22 And this was brought up by Paul and

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1 Jim and some others over a period of time.  
2 And we thought it was a good time to look back  
3 at the original protocols and reexamine those.

4 Jim joined us on the phone. We  
5 basically have a path forward to look at a few  
6 things. One is the blind reviews. We want to  
7 consider whether the approach that we use --  
8 we've only done two blind reviews -- we want  
9 to look back at those and consider whether the  
10 approach was appropriate and whether we should  
11 do more of those. That's certainly on the  
12 table as a possibility.

13 And the other item was to look back  
14 at at least some subsection of cases that  
15 we've done, prior to, you know, up to this  
16 point. I think we have gone through about 200  
17 completed cases.

18 And we want to look back at those  
19 to see sort of the final disposition of those  
20 cases and consider our findings as compared to  
21 the final disposition.

22 In other words, if these cases

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1 ultimately were put in a Special Exposure  
2 Cohort Class, you know, and we found that the  
3 case was adequate, we might have to discuss  
4 that in terms of scientific validity. What  
5 are we finding through our reviews?

6 So those are the two aspects that  
7 we want to sort of look at going forward and  
8 we might use those little samples to modify  
9 our protocol for reviews.

10 And if I'm missing anything, other  
11 Members of the Subcommittee can chime in.

12 I guess I covered it.

13 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Good, Mark, and I  
14 think we will have further updates on this.

15 MEMBER GRIFFON: Yes, I was  
16 planning on a more in-depth report at the full  
17 meeting, a presentation and we can have an  
18 open discussion with the whole Board.

19 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay. Thanks.  
20 The next item on the agenda is the SEC  
21 Petition status update.

22 MR. KATZ: Before we get to that,

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1 just let me just note for all the Board  
2 Members, with respect to the Dose  
3 Reconstruction Subcommittee. They completed a  
4 preliminary review of set 16 of new dose  
5 reconstruction cases to be reviewed by SC&A  
6 and then by the Board. So I just wanted to  
7 note for all of you, you'll be receiving two  
8 sets.

9 One, the complete set that they  
10 reviewed, the Subcommittee reviewed, and the  
11 set that they pre-selected for your  
12 consideration. You'll be receiving those  
13 before the June Board meeting. Please give us  
14 some attention and take into account whether  
15 of any of the cases that were not collected  
16 might ought to be collected for the final  
17 Board decision at the June meeting. Thank  
18 you.

19 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: The June meeting  
20 or the September meeting?

21 MR. KATZ: The September meeting,  
22 excuse me.

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1 MEMBER GRIFFON: Yes.

2 MR. KATZ: I'm going backwards  
3 again.

4 MEMBER GRIFFON: Thanks, Ted, I  
5 forgot to mention that.

6 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: I thought we were  
7 having to start over again. We did something  
8 wrong with our reviews or something.

9 MR. KATZ: I'm going to start  
10 talking backwards.

11 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes, okay. I  
12 should add that Ted is taking time off from  
13 his vacation this week, so he can be forgiven  
14 for being --

15 MR. KATZ: Thank you.

16 MEMBER MUNN: Sorry about that,  
17 Ted.

18 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: -- out of touch.  
19 LaVon.

20 MR. RUTHERFORD: All right, I'm  
21 going to go ahead as Dr. Melius thinks I'm  
22 going to provide an update on the Petition

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1 Evaluations we plan to present at the  
2 September meeting. Also, try to give you an  
3 idea of when we expect those reports to be  
4 completed.

5 We have five evaluations we plan to  
6 present at the September meeting. They are:  
7 Oak Ridge National Lab. The Petition  
8 Evaluation covers the periods from January 1,  
9 1943, during July 31, 1955. And the report is  
10 in its final stages of review and approval. I  
11 do expect the report to go to the Board  
12 sometime late next week.

13 Los Alamos National Lab. This is a  
14 revision to our previous report, and covers  
15 the time period of January 1, 1976 through  
16 December 31, 1995. The report is in final  
17 approval and should go to the Board later this  
18 week or early next week.

19 Rocky Flats. Petition Evaluation  
20 evaluates the ability to reconstruct tritium  
21 exposures for the period of April 1, 1953  
22 through December 31, 2005.

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1           Actually expanded the Class during  
2 the evaluation because of the recognition of  
3 that tritium exposure potential exists in  
4 broader periods than what we were looking at  
5 originally.     So through our review, we  
6 actually expanded our evaluation period.

7           I'm not saying we're recommending a  
8 Class, just saying that the evaluation  
9 expanded through that period. The report is  
10 in review now, the current schedule has the  
11 report going to the Board and the petitioner  
12 on September 4.

13           Mound Plant, this is an 83.14 that  
14 we started to modify the Class Definition.  
15 We're modifying the Class Definition for years  
16 where we do not have log books with tritium  
17 bioassay results.

18           Therefore, it will go from the  
19 tritium results to an "all employees" during  
20 all those years. We're working on the report  
21 now and should have the report out in early  
22 September.

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1                   And the last one is Nuclear Metals  
2                   Inc.       This Petition Evaluation covers the  
3                   period from January 1, 1958 through December  
4                   31<sup>st</sup> of 1983.    The report is being reviewed  
5                   internally now and we anticipate the report  
6                   being available to the Board by the end of  
7                   this month, August.

8                   And those are the five that we will  
9                   be presenting.   Do we have any questions?

10                   CHAIRMAN MELIUS:   Any Board Member  
11                   questions?   Okay.   I think, as you can see, we  
12                   have a busy meeting coming up in the Denver  
13                   area.

14                   Okay, the next item on our agenda  
15                   is updates from Work Group or Subcommittees.   I  
16                   won't go through the list, but do any Work  
17                   Group or Subcommittee Chairs wish to give a  
18                   report?   I know we have a lot of Work Group  
19                   meetings coming up now --

20                   MEMBER ZIEMER:   This is Paul Ziemer  
21                   here.

22                   CHAIRMAN MELIUS:   Yes, Paul, go

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1 ahead.

2 MEMBER ZIEMER: I'm going to have  
3 to get out of here in a minute, so I would  
4 appreciate going sort of first if possible.

5 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: You deserve it.

6 MEMBER ZIEMER: I would just like  
7 to remind the Board that as a follow-up to the  
8 discussion on General Steel Industries, the  
9 TBD-6000 Work Group will be meeting on August  
10 28<sup>th</sup>, focusing particularly on the residual  
11 period --

12 (Telephone interference.)

13 MEMBER ZIEMER: -- recommendation  
14 for the September --

15 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Paul, you were  
16 breaking up there. I had trouble -- I think we  
17 picked up that you have your meeting August  
18 28th and then you will be ready, expect to be  
19 ready for a recommendation at the September  
20 Board Meeting.

21 Good, any other Work Group Chairs  
22 with --

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1                   MEMBER MUNN: Yes, this is Wanda,  
2 I'll be glad to report on Procedures, if you'd  
3 like.

4                   CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Go ahead.

5                   MEMBER MUNN: We met July 31<sup>st</sup> in  
6 Cincinnati with an extremely heavy agenda. We  
7 knew that it was going to be a full day. And  
8 it was indeed, it was after 5:00 when we  
9 finally adjourned, and had a number of items  
10 to carry over. But it was an extremely  
11 productive day. The Board Review System,  
12 which we are now calling the BRS, is in very  
13 good condition and is working very nicely for  
14 the entire Subcommittee when we do meet.

15                   We have added our expectations of  
16 tracking for the overarching issues which to  
17 this point have not been tracked specifically  
18 as such by the Subcommittee. We'll be doing  
19 that in the future, getting those established  
20 and making sure that we are covering them  
21 correctly.

22                   We also are doing multiple revision

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1 questions that we are facing for the first  
2 time. We have situations where our contractor  
3 has reviewed more than one revision of a  
4 procedure.

5 And at this time, one of the  
6 shortcomings of our database is that it pulls  
7 up only the current version of the procedure  
8 that is under review. This of course is not  
9 going to be sufficient for us, when we have  
10 early revisions and/or more than one revision  
11 that have findings.

12 So we had a technical call, I spoke  
13 with the NIOSH lead and with the SC&A lead  
14 last week, and we came to an agreement on what  
15 we were going to request of the IT folks in  
16 order to get all available revisions of any  
17 procedure up on the hot link list.

18 So that any of us who are reviewing  
19 that internally can review the correct version  
20 that was the generator for the findings that  
21 we're looking at.

22 That will take a little while,

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1 because it's a significant effort for us to  
2 be asking our digital folks to do that. And a  
3 great deal of searching needs to be done to  
4 ensure that we've covered the water front.  
5 But that is under process.

6 Didn't mention the fact that we  
7 have a new Member on the Subcommittee. Mrs.  
8 Beach has joined us. We are delighted to have  
9 her, she's a great addition and we're looking  
10 forward to working with her.

11 We did significant work on the  
12 Program Evaluation Reports this time. And  
13 because we are covering those PERs so  
14 thoroughly, as we have not actually in the  
15 past, we have added some additional findings  
16 to our status report.

17 Actually, 21 new findings have gone  
18 onto the report, so that we now are dealing  
19 with a total of 561 as opposed to the 540 we  
20 had going into that meeting.

21 We have no new report on the two  
22 pagers. Those summary reports are in the

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1 hands of NIOSH and they are working on getting  
2 those up an onto our public available web  
3 page. So that folks can see what was done  
4 with the wide variety of these things that we  
5 have reviewed in the past.

6 We had a difficult time identifying  
7 when our next meeting was going to be. Our  
8 Subcommittee Members have very heavy schedules  
9 and we've had to push that out to November the  
10 1st, which will be our next meeting. That's  
11 longer than we would prefer, but we really  
12 don't have any options given the schedules of  
13 the primary folks that we need to work with.  
14 And that's the report.

15 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Thank you Wanda.  
16 Any other Board Members want to make Work  
17 Group --

18 MEMBER CLAWSON: Jim, this is Brad.

19 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes.

20 MEMBER CLAWSON: I just wanted to  
21 talk and make sure the Board is aware if they  
22 look on the agenda, we're going to have a

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1 report on Pantex for the later years. Some of  
2 the early years.

3 Just, if they have any questions or  
4 anything, it's been over a year since the Work  
5 Group last met and we left the later years for  
6 NIOSH to be able to do a little bit more  
7 evaluation. And they're going to be giving a  
8 report to us in the earlier years.

9 I just wanted people to be aware of that. If  
10 there's any information that they need or  
11 questions that they have, if they would  
12 contact me or NIOSH so we could take care of  
13 that.

14 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, any other  
15 Board Members with updates?

16 I have two actually.

17 The Hanford Work Group will be  
18 meeting the week before the Board meeting. We  
19 have a new or a more recent SEC to review an  
20 83.13 concerning some data monitoring issues.  
21 We have our Evaluation Report and we have a  
22 review of that Evaluation Report now from SC&A

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1 which has been sent to the Work Group Members.  
2 And we'll be meeting, I believe it's September  
3 12th to discuss that. And tentatively, put  
4 that on the agenda for the September Board  
5 Meeting.

6 And the other Work Group, trying to  
7 wrap up Weldon Spring, so I joined the Work  
8 Group for what we think is one meeting, which  
9 is scheduled for September 10<sup>th</sup>.

10 We've had a fair amount of turnover  
11 on that Work Group.

12 So Dr. Lemen, Dr. Fields and I will  
13 be meeting just to try to wrap up those couple  
14 of issues outstanding, and plan to come back  
15 to the Board at our Denver meeting, be able to  
16 wrap up that SEC Evaluation. So we'll be  
17 reporting on that also.

18 MEMBER GRIFFON: Jim, this is Mark  
19 Griffon.

20 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes.

21 MEMBER GRIFFON: Yes, I can just  
22 give a quick, you know, September 11th, we're

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1 have a Los Alamos Work Group Call.

2 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay.

3 MEMBER GRIFFON: And I think that  
4 is in preparation also for the full Board  
5 Meeting, so we'll have a full report at the  
6 full Board Meeting.

7 And then also for Rocky Flats, we  
8 are not going to have a Work Group Meeting.  
9 But I believe we're expecting to have a  
10 presentation of the Evaluation Report on the  
11 latest SEC. Is that correct, Jim, at the full  
12 Board Meeting?

13 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes.

14 MEMBER GRIFFON: Yes. So no Work  
15 Group meeting, but we're expecting to have a  
16 transition to NIOSH.

17 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes, the report  
18 is, LaVon said, I think, it isn't scheduled to  
19 come out till the -

20 MEMBER GRIFFON: The week before,  
21 right, yes.

22 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Anyone else?

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1                   MEMBER ANDERSON:     This is Andy.  
2                   Our AWE Work Group is going to be meeting on  
3                   the 7th to go over finalizing our position and  
4                   our recommendations on United Nuclear.     And  
5                   that will be reported out at Denver.

6                   CHAIRMAN MELIUS:     Good.

7                   MEMBER BEACH:     Hi, Jim, this is  
8                   Josie Beach.

9                   CHAIRMAN MELIUS:     Yes, go ahead,  
10                  Josie.

11                  MEMBER BEACH:     Mound is also  
12                  meeting on the 31st.     And we expect to finish  
13                  up tritides and then maybe just get a brief  
14                  overview from NIOSH on the radon, which is  
15                  going to be presented at the September Board  
16                  Meeting as well.

17                  CHAIRMAN MELIUS:     Yes, I wondered  
18                  about that, because that report sounded like  
19                  it wasn't coming out till September sometime.

20                  MEMBER BEACH:     Right.     So, we'll  
21                  get something from NIOSH, hopefully just an  
22                  update, and then an update on our Site Profile

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1 issues.

2 We've also got a Worker Outreach  
3 Work Group scheduled. And I'll probably just  
4 give a brief report on where we are at the  
5 meeting as well.

6 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, great.  
7 Anybody else? I think we've covered about  
8 every Work Group, so, good.

9 Board Correspondence. I don't think  
10 I have anything new to report. We had a letter  
11 that came in, we talked about it at our last  
12 meeting, from representative Lujan. And then  
13 there was some sort of a addendum or some  
14 follow-up questions from them that were sort  
15 of best answered by NIOSH. So NIOSH has  
16 essentially responded to that correspondence.

17 September Board Meeting, Ted, do  
18 you have anything to tell us. Ted?

19 MEMBER CLAWSON: He's on vacation.

20 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: I guess so.

21 MR. KATZ: I'm sorry, I was muted.

22 I've circulated to the Members the draft

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1 agenda. If you see, it's incredibly full, in  
2 fact, I think it's probably our fullest agenda  
3 ever. But I have nothing to add to what I  
4 have circulated. So far everything on there is  
5 still a go.

6 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, and just so  
7 everyone knows, my understanding is, unless  
8 I've missed an email, was that we still  
9 haven't finalized the location yet?

10 MR. KATZ: That's correct, that's  
11 correct. We still don't have an approval on a  
12 contract with a hotel yet.

13 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: And any idea when  
14 you're expecting that?

15 MR. KATZ: Well, I've just been  
16 dealing with that today again. But I would  
17 hope that they get it done this week.

18 CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Good. I think  
19 everyone has the agenda, so you know the times  
20 for that and should be able to make flight  
21 arrangements. It will just be the hotel  
22 arrangements.

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1           Any other business Board Members  
2 wish to bring up? If not, I guess we -- I  
3 don't know, do we need a motion to adjourn on  
4 the phone? Or to hang up? I don't know what  
5 --

6           MEMBER MUNN: I think you are the  
7 key to that.

8           CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes.

9           MEMBER MUNN: It's your call.

10          CHAIRMAN MELIUS: I think we're  
11 ready to adjourn.

12          MEMBER MUNN: Thank you all.

13          CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Okay, thank you,  
14 everybody, and we'll see you in September in  
15 the Denver area, if we don't see you at a Work  
16 Group.

17          MEMBER GRIFFON: In the Brown Palace  
18 or someplace downtown, if I can find it.

19          MR. KATZ: Thanks, everyone.

20          CHAIRMAN MELIUS: Yes, thanks,  
21 everybody. Thank you, Ted.

22          (Whereupon, the meeting in the

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1 above-entitled matter was concluded at 11:53  
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