



National Institute for
Occupational Safety and Health
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20201

February 15, 2011

[REDACTED]
Worker Advocate Representative
Alliance of Nuclear Worker Advocacy Groups
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]:

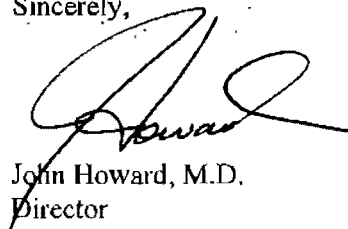
Thank you for your February 1, 2011, letter to Dr. Lewis Wade, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), requesting a survey of claimants regarding the comprehensibility and utility of dose reconstruction reports provided under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA), and providing the results of your organization's recent internal survey on the same topic.

As mentioned in your letter, NIOSH is currently reviewing the agency's performance under EEOICPA. This review involves two distinct phases. Phase I is a data-driven assessment of program activities. Phase I reports contain observations and conclusions drawn directly from available data. Phase II of the review process will build upon the foundation of the Phase I reports, consider all public comments generated or obtained during the review, and develop recommendations for improving program performance.

As you may know, one of the five areas being reviewed is the quality and timing of service provided to claimants and petitioners, and their representatives. One of the questions being considered is whether NIOSH provides information about its technical processes and products in terms easily understood by claimants and petitioners. Therefore, the findings from your survey of Alliance of Nuclear Worker Advocacy Groups members and your request for a broader survey of claimants are timely and relevant. Your letter will be added to the NIOSH Docket for the Ten-Year Review of the NIOSH Radiation Dose Reconstruction Program, and given full consideration during the Phase II review process.

I appreciate your concerns and interest in the program and I am confident that the scope of the review underway will address your issues. I also will provide this response to Ms. Jerison who co-signed your letter.

Sincerely,



John Howard, M.D.
Director