

Miller, Diane M.

From: Donald_E_Good_
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2002 3:10 PM
To: NIOCINDOCKET@CDC.GOV
Cc:
Subject: Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) (42CFR Part 83)

Please accept these comments to be included in the Public Docket for 42 CFR, Part 83, Special Exposure Cohort

I am requesting consideration and approval be given to add the Rocky Flats Fire Department firefighters as part of this petition to add this group of employees to the "Special Exposure Cohort" under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act of 2000. CDC/NIOSH, covering the firefighters who worked at Rocky Flats from 1960 To 1978.

I believe that this group of employees/firefighters at Rocky Flats Fire Department cannot possibly have accurate records for these people in regards to their radiation exposure while performing duties at the Department Of Energy Rocky Flats Site. This statement is based on the fact that firefighter either had no dosimeter, are they were always under heavy protective clothing when worn.

Examples that I can make is that I, Donald E. Good, and my Cohorts from 1964 until 1977, when I left Rocky Flats, responded to numerous radiological weapons grade plutonium fires in building 771, including the United States largest plutonium fire in buildings 776 & 777, in 1969. I have personally been contaminated, requiring multiple showers and cleaning by the site nurses using cold water, and Clorox. Following the 1969 PU fire in addition to being decontaminated through the process just mentioned, I was also required to wrap my limbs in plastic to help sweat out the contamination on myself.

My shift was on duty at the Rocky Flats Fire Department the day of the 1969 PU fire. I was in the building for approximately eight hours. We were changing out air bottles on the back dock, where all the breathing air bottles, and packs were contaminated when we changed them out. This providing the opportunity to receive in addition to extreme external contamination that we all received, but also created exposure to internal deposition from the PU on the breathing air tanks. To further compound the exposure to plutonium in buildings 776, and 777 following the 1969 fire, myself and my cohorts performed twenty four hour a day tours inside these buildings for six months. This action was to assure no further fires started, and to check the temporary flame detection fire system that was installed in the building 776.

I was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in 1999, and I have been involved in the Rocky Flats beryllium program starting in 1995. with beryllium sensitivity. I have also been diagnosed with skin cancer on my face, and my life style does not contribute to these forms of cancer. I believe that my many years of dedicated emergency service protecting the interest of AEC, DOE, the public, environment, and the nuclear sites contributed to my conditions.

Thanks for your consideration, and please make sure that all these emergency

workers at the Rocky Flats Fire Department from 1960 to 1978, and who have filled claims receive special attention under the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) (42CFR Part 83).

Thanks

D. E. Good, Chief