



02-16-07A11:32 RCVD

FEB 12 2007

Mr. Larry Elliott, Director
Office of Compensation Analysis and Support
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
4676 Columbia Parkway, Mailstop C-46
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Dear Mr. Elliott:

As part of recent discussions regarding Blockson Chemical, I agreed to provide comments to you regarding which portions of the facility are covered under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA). In providing these comments, my staff and I have reviewed our documentation as well as the most recent Department of Energy Federal Register notice designating Blockson Chemical as an Atomic Weapons Employer (AWE). The current Federal Register notice, dated August 23, 2004, designates "Blockson Chemical Co. (Building 55 and related activities) in Joliet, Illinois" as an AWE. Our determination is that this designation covers Building 55, the pilot plant and the associated processes (including the oxidation process) and all the areas in which these processes were performed. Thus, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) will need to determine what radiation covered by EEOICPA was present in these areas and include such radiation in its dose reconstruction process. We would also re-affirm comments previously provided to NIOSH on the earlier versions of the Blockson Chemical Company Technical Basis Documents.

If you have any questions in regard to this matter, please feel free to contact me at (202)693-0081.

Sincerely,

[Signature on File]

Peter M. Turcic
Director, Division of Energy Employees
Occupational Illness Compensation