

Background/talking points—Walburn testimony (2 pages)

- We cannot provide any information on dosimetry practices prior to 1993, when USEC assumed responsibility for operations at the Portsmouth site.
- A review of Walburn's medical records by our site physician did not reveal any alteration of his medical diagnosis.
- An internal investigation of Walburn's allegations did not reveal proof that his doses had been changed as a result of pending litigation. This report has been made available to external agencies upon request. The report was shortened and redacted to protect the individuals involved. This was done to ensure that our employees continue to feel free to express concerns to management without the fear of their names and concerns being made public.
- Internal and external investigations have never substantiated that any of Walburn's dosimetry records were destroyed. These records currently remain intact.
- The Company was unable to document the source of Walburn's alleged exposure. The Company and UPGWA jointly requested NIOSH to conduct a health hazard evaluation of this event. DOE and Martin Marietta Energy Systems Central Safety and Health organization (Oak Ridge) also investigated the incident.
- Doses are changed based on current health physics practices and procedures. These practices are based on scientific methods for determining doses. Several things may cause dosimetry doses to be investigated and adjusted when it is believe the doses are in error. All records of doses which have been changed are maintained in the individual's dosimetry record file. Examples of when this may happen are when dosimetry is lost, accidental exposure to medical radiation occurs, a TLD is inadvertently put through an airport x-ray machine, etc.

If the investigation report (POEF-150-96-0088) is made public:

- The February 1996 investigation revealed that doses had been conservatively assigned at levels greater than what would be expected. These assignments were done without proper investigation.
- The February 1996 investigation revealed a need for improvement in dosimetry records. At this time, LMUS was transitioning from the DOELAP database to the NVLAP database in preparation for NRC regulation. (DOELAP—Department of Energy Laboratory Accreditation Program; NVLAP—National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program)
- The supervisor submitted his resignation following the investigation.
- A problem report was initiated and a corrective action plan developed following the investigation. As a result, we did the following:
 - Developed guidance for controlling and reporting information stored in dosimetry databases (Completed 6-21-96)
 - Established accountability for dosimetry records (Completed 6-21-96)
 - Historical dosimetry records were collected and placed in personnel files (Completed 7-30-96)
 - Validation of DOELAP database conducted by outside experts. (Completed 9-16-96)

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