Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH)
Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Work Group
Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2025

Summary Proceedings

The LANL Work Group meeting convened via teleconference at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), Ms. Josie Beach, Chair, presiding.

Attendees

Members

Josie Beach, Chair
James Lockey, Member
Nicole Martinez, Member

Non-Members

Rashaun Roberts, Designated Federal Official (DFO)
Nancy Adams, NIOSH Contractor
Tim Adler, Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) Team
Bob Barton, Sanford Cohen & Associates, Inc. (SC&A)
Kathy Behling, SC&A
John Cardarelli, Division of Compensation Analysis and Support (DCAS)
Denise DeGarmo, Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petitioner Representative
Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A
Malia Holzberger, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
Lori Marion-Moss, DCAS
Rich Merrill, ORAU Team
Charles Nelson, DCAS
LaVon Rutherford, DCAS
Brant Ulsh, DCAS

Roll Call/Welcome - Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Los Alamos National Laboratory Work Group at 11:00 a.m. EST on December 3, 2025, via videoconference. A roll call of Work Group members confirmed that a quorum was present. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. None of the Work Group members or participating staff had conflicts of interest. Dr. Roberts noted that this meeting is the first Advisory Board meeting in roughly a year. The new administration introduced new requirements and approvals that have taken a while to work through. Things seem to be on track now, though, as a full Board conference call and a meeting of the Idaho National Laboratory/Argonne West National Laboratory Work Group have been approved for later in December. Dr Roberts turned the meeting over to Ms. Beach, Work Group chair. Since it has been years since the last Work Group meeting, before taking up the agenda, Ms. Beach asked Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A, to provide a summary of prior Work Group discussions.

Mr. Fitzgerald reminded the Work Group that an SEC has been established at Los Alamos for the years through 1995. Current discussions are about whether doses, particularly internal doses, can be reconstructed with sufficient accuracy from 1996 to 2005, the end date of the SEC petition. There is an abundance of plutonium bioassay data for Los Alamos, but a self-assessment in 1999 identified potential gaps in routine bioassay enrollment, and radiation work permit (RWP) job-specific bioassay participation. In SC&A's view this raises a question of whether the bioassay data can be relied on to represent the exposed workforce for the purposes of a co-exposure model. Additionally, there is not much bioassay for exotic alpha emitters or fission/activation products, so it wasn't clear to SC&A that doses from those radionuclides could be reconstructed. DCAS has prepared a number of technical documents to support their conclusion that doses can be reconstructed. SC&A's review of three of those reports, RPRT-0101, -0102, and -0103, is the subject of their presentation today. DCAS has also prepared presentations about their response to SC&A's review.

SC&A Review of LANL Internal Dose Topics (RPRT-0101 and RPRT-0102) – Bob Barton, SC&A

Bob Barton, SC&A, presented the results of SC&A's review of two DCAS reports, RPRT-0101, Rev. 00., "Bounding Doses of Exotic Radionuclides at Los Alamos National Laboratory," and RPRT-0102, Rev. 00., "Assessment of Los Alamos National Laboratory Plutonium Bioassay Programs, 1996-2001." SC&A developed three findings from their review of RPRT-0101 and three findings from their review of RPRT-0102.

In RPRT-0101, DCAS analyzed contamination smear sampling data and air monitoring data from three facilities to show that LANL appropriately controlled radioactive materials so that unmonitored workers would not be exposed to more than 100 mrem (millirem) committed effective dose equivalent (CEDE). SC&A's findings were that those three facilities were not all the facilities that handled exotic radionuclides, that there was no way to determine what fraction of all contamination and air monitoring data the available data set represented, and that LANL's instructions for conducting routine

contamination and air monitoring date from 2000, not the 1995 start date for the period under evaluation.

In RPRT-0102, DCAS compared worker bioassay data to RWPs requiring plutonium bioassay to determine if workers who signed those RWPs left bioassay samples. SC&A's findings mainly took issue with how DCAS judged a worker to be compliant with RWP plutonium bioassay requirements. Specifically, they questioned whether a worker with a single bioassay result in a year where they signed plutonium RWPs should be considered compliant, the duration of time following a plutonium RWP when a bioassay sample was considered compliant, and whether "effective monitoring" should be considered compliant. DCAS considers a worker "effectively monitored" when they don't leave a bioassay sample but a coworker who signed the same RWP did.

NIOSH Response to SC&A's Review of Remaining LANL SEC-00109 Internal Dose Issues for 1996-2005 2024 – Tim Adler, ORAU Team

Tim Adler, ORAU Team, presented DCAS's response SC&A's review of RPRT-0101 and RPRT-0102. His presentation summarized the results of the two reports, the findings from SC&A's review of those reports, and DCAS's current position in light of SC&A's findings. With respect to RPRT-0101, DCAS's position is that despite SC&A's findings, the data in the report are persuasive that LANL as a whole had control measures sufficient to ensure that unmonitored workers were not exposed to more than the monitoring threshold of 100 mrem CEDE per year. With respect to RPRT-0102, DCAS's position is that SC&A's findings are not evidence that bioassay samples are missing for the bulk of the most highly exposed workers at LANL. Since the bioassay dataset will be used to develop a co-exposure model for unmonitored workers, as long as the bulk of highly exposed workers are represented in the database, it is suitable for that purpose. Mr. Adler also presented briefly about RPRT-0103, "Review of Potential Exposure to Exotic Radionuclides Using Radiological Work Permit Data at Los Alamos National Laboratory," SC&As review of that document, and DCAS's position following that review. Detailed responses to findings were not available.

Work Group Discussion and Path Forward

Because some DCAS information had been delayed by review and approval, the Work Group decided not to proceed to SC&A's review of RPRT-0103, but rather to concentrate on future actions. Beyond RPRT-0103, DCAS has also prepared RPRT-0107 and two "weight of the evidence" documents, describing their basis for considering dose reconstruction feasible at LANL for the period under evaluation. The Work Group tasked SC&A to review those documents. Going forward, SC&A will enter the findings and observations from their reviews into the new Board Review System application, and DCAS will enter their detailed responses to each.

Meeting Adjourned

The Work Group tentatively selected April 22, 2026, as the date for their next meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.