



Justice for Sick Nuclear Workers at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory through the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act

Contacts:

Sue Byars /LLNL: (925) 422-5569

Eileen Montano/SPSE: (925) 449-4846

UNIVERSITY
PROFESSIONAL
AND TECHNICAL
EMPLOYEES

CWA Local 9119
AFL-CIO

representing
employees at the
University of
California

2510 Channing Way
Suite 11
Berkeley, CA
94704

phone (510) 704-8783
fax (510) 704-8065
info@upte-cwa.org

1015 Gayley Ave.
Suite 301
Los Angeles, CA
90024

phone (310) 443-5484
fax (310) 443-5487
uptela@netwood.net

www.upte.org

Summary:

In 2000, Congress enacted the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) to compensate individuals who have worked for the Department of Energy (DOE) and its predecessor agencies and contractors in the atomic weapons industry, and who have developed cancer or other specified diseases related to on-the-job exposure. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) was founded in 1952 as the University of California Radiation Laboratory at Livermore. For the past 54 years, LLNL employees have been on the forefront in designing, researching, developing, and the testing of nuclear weapons science and technology. Currently, at LLNL 885 EEOICPA cases have been filed, with only 58 workers receiving compensation.

Actions Requested:

We urge Congress to:

1. Ensure that the EEOICPA is funded to pay sick workers and survivors and to stop the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) from circumventing what Congress has already passed. Nation-wide, only 15,000 of 90,000 applicants have been awarded compensation.
2. Immediately direct the Department of Energy to protect employee records that are needed to file claims under the EEOICPA. LLNL employee records are not being maintained as needed for claimants to qualify for compensation. We are concerned about the long term storage of medical and employment records as LLNL transitions from University of California employees to private employees under a new operating contractor in 2007.
3. Immediately direct that the LLNL Site Profile be rewritten to include information that was left out of the Site Profile provided by public comment. The LLNL Site Profile is incomplete and lacks pertinent information, therefore we question its validity in dose reconstruction.
4. Keep the Livermore Resource Center open to ensure communication and assistance to current and former workers. The lengthy time for completion of a claim and the low number of workers who have actually received compensation are serious deterrents to filing EEOICPA claims.