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Health & Environmental Research

Summary of Accomplishments

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This report is a companion document to *Health and Environmental Research: Summary of Accomplishments*, DOE/ER-0194, published in May 1983. The information for both reports was gathered in 1982 and 1983. These reports are intended to foster an awareness of a publicly funded health and environmental research program chartered nearly 40 years ago, of its contributions toward the National goal of safe and environmentally acceptable energy development, and of applications of its findings toward the improvement of human health. This program, administered by the Office of Health and Environmental Research, is one of many research activities of the U.S. Department of Energy. Over the years, it has been a part of other Federal agencies responsible for the National energy mission. Its evolution has been a reflection of changes in time, public priorities, and public law. But throughout, there has remained a consistency of purpose: to seek a fundamental understanding of the health and environmental aspects of emerging energy technologies and to establish the body of knowledge necessary to their development and utilization consistent with the public health and safety.

The story of this research program can be told through its accomplishments. Several of the more significant accomplishments have been chosen here for illustrative purposes, including some whose value have far exceeded the cost of the research program itself. However, regardless of the measure of its economic benefit, the basic motivation for the program remains to *serve the public interest* through health and environmental research. In the pages that follow, the selected accomplishments are grouped and reviewed within each of several areas of research. It is useful, first, to recall the origins and development of the program.

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