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To: U. S. Transuranium Registry Advisory Committee  
From: Bryce D. Breitenstein, Jr., M.D., Director  
Subject: PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS OF U. S. TRANSURANIUM  
REGISTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT THE MEETING JUNE 15-16, 1977  
(Copy of Recommendations Enclosed)

1. A meeting at Oak Ridge, Tennessee was held on July 13, 1977 to discuss the relationships and responsibilities of the USTR and the Los Alamos epidemiology study of plutonium workers. This was attended by Drs. Walter W. Weyzen, George L. Voelz and Bryce D. Breitenstein. The decision was made to leave this issue unresolved until the overall ERDA Occupational Worker Epidemiology Program is better defined.
2. The Battelle Northwest low-level radiation detection laboratory has not been funded for analyses of human tissues for FY 1978. Arrangements to have USTR autopsy tissue specimens analyzed for transuranics will probably be at LASL and Rocky Flats, although the details are yet to be worked out.
3. Letters have been sent to all pathologists concerned to obtain histopathologic slides on past autopsy cases. We currently have four sets of slides, but it remains to be seen if any additional slides can be obtained on these past cases.
4. Review of all USTR forms is temporarily postponed pending better definition of the USTR mission. The "Authority for Autopsy" form is receiving legal review with especial attention to the Privacy Act requirements.

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5. Duplication and storage at separate facilities of USTR records is in the planning stage with no formal action at this time.
6. No action has been taken regarding identification of separated transuranic employees pending the necessary resolution of Item 1 above.
7. It is the USTR intent to fully implement the recommendation regarding securing adequate bone and bone marrow autopsy tissues. Separation procedures of bone marrow from bone have been started at Battelle Northwest but with loss of funding will probably need re-evaluation as to where and how this will be accomplished.
8. No action has been taken regarding the ad hoc subcommittee composed of Drs. Poston (Chairman) and Mays regarding interpretation and extrapolation of data from laboratory analyses of autopsy samples to the whole body and subsequent correlation of the data with health physics in vivo data.
9. No action has been taken regarding the establishment of a transuranic accident and analyses center, again pending resolution of Item 1 above. A letter from Dr. Stott is attached supporting this concept.
10. No action to be taken by the USTR regarding establishing a Uranium Registry as per the Advisory Committee's recommendations.
11. Discussion was held with Dr. Walter W. Weyzen on July 13, 1977 regarding contact with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Dr. Weyzen indicated he would make this contact through his office. No additional information is available regarding the Nuclear Energy Liability Property Insurance Association at this time.

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12. Continued efforts to increase the scientific use of USTR autopsy materials is going forward. The USTR Director and Associate Director will visit Argonne National Laboratory on September 30, 1977 to increase interaction. This is especially in regard to whole body autopsies.
13. A USTR Advisory Committee meeting is planned for February 1978.

Other items of interest.

- A. The USTR Director met with Union Carbide officials at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory on July 14, 1977. Subsequently Union Carbide has agreed to increase its USTR participation.
- B. The Savannah River Plant, largely due to the efforts of Dr. George Poda, has added 97 registrants and 72 autopsy authorizations during the past year.
- C. USTR visits to Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio, the Mound Laboratory in Miamisburg, Ohio and the Argonne National Laboratory in Argonne, Illinois will occur in September 1977. The purpose of the visits is to encourage USTR participation.
- D. Death certificates are being obtained in all current autopsy cases and insofar as possible in all past cases, to substantiate cause of death.