ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO: Secretary

THRU: Under Secretary
Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs

FROM: Director of Military Application

SUBJECT: DOE Representative to Coordinate Review of the Proposed OSHA Standard for Exposure to Beryllium

Issue

Whether the Department of Energy (DOE) should designate a representative to work with the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Department of Defense (DOD) to review the technological and economic feasibility of the proposed beryllium standard.

Background

On August 30, 1978, Secretary Schlesinger advised Secretaries Marshall and Califano that although he agreed that the workers' health was of paramount importance, he was concerned about the adverse effect of the proposed beryllium standard on our national security (Tab A). Further, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (DHEW) was asked to undertake an independent peer review of all available data on the effects of beryllium exposure.

Secretary Califano's November 7, 1978, letter to Secretary Marshall stated that the experts generally agreed the data show that beryllium is an animal carcinogen, that the evidence suggests an association between beryllium exposure and human cancer, and that there were insufficient data to determine whether beryllium copper alloy is a carcinogen. It was recommended that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) proceed to set standards that limit exposure to beryllium in the workplace (Tab B).

Discussion

Secretary Marshall's letter of February 9, 1979, to Secretary Schlesinger assures the DOE that the DOL has no intention of significantly and adversely affecting key national defense programs (Tab C). The DOE and DOD are asked to designate a representative from each agency to coordinate efforts and to ensure that the concerns of the three departments are expressed and resolved.
I recommend that Mr. Ralph Caudle, Director, Division of Operations, Office of Military Application, be designated as the DOE representative. Mr. Caudle has direct responsibility for the beryllium supply program and is thoroughly familiar with all facets of the issue. Dr. Donald Ross, Division of Operational and Environmental Safety (OES), EV, will also participate.

**Recommendation**

That Mr. Ralph Caudle be designated as the DOE representative and that the DOE letter to the DOL at Tab D be signed by the Secretary.

(Signed)

J. K. Bratton

J. K. Bratton

Major General, USA

Approve:__________________________

Disapprove:__________________________

Date:__________________________

Concurrences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EV, Clusen</th>
<th>Date 3/8/79</th>
<th>Concur</th>
<th>Nonconcur</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IR, Hughes</td>
<td>Date 3/8/79</td>
<td>Concur</td>
<td>Bob Altman (Telcon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nonconcur</td>
<td>See Tab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSE, Pagnotta</td>
<td>Date 3/7/79</td>
<td>Concur</td>
<td>Carol C. Corley (Telcon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nonconcur</td>
<td>See Tab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attachments: Tab A - Ltr fm DOE to DOL dtd 8/30/78
Tab B - Ltr fm DHEW to DOL dtd 11/7/78, w/o encls.
Tab C - Ltr fm DOL to DOE dtd 2/9/79
Tab D - Proposed ltr fm DOE to DOL

cc:
Mr. Roser, AL, w/attachs
Mr. McCool, OES, w/attachs
Mr. Burr, HHA, w/attachs