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Exhibit #48

TESTIMONY OF LYNETTE EVANS
ON
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S PROPOSED RULE
"GUIDELINES FOR PHYSICIAN PANEL
DETERMINATIONS OF WORKER REQUEST FOR
ASSISTANCE IN
FILING FOR STATE WORKERS COMPENSATION
BENEFITS"

RADISSON HOTEL CINCINNATI AIRPORT

OCTOBER 25 2001

My name is Donna Lynette Evans. I currently work as a janitor at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant. I have worked at the plant 27 years. I started working at the plant at age 19 in May, 1974, as a clerk in the accounting department. I was happy to be working at the A-Plant because it was considered to be one of the best places to work in our area. I felt a sense of pride working for the national defense of our country. I took the security portion of my job very seriously, and even today it is a little difficult to discuss the exposures I witnessed over the years. In 1980, I bid to the janitor department and one month later I bid to the Chemical Operations department which was a big increase in pay for me and also a move from being in the office setting to actually working all over plantsite in the decontamination of equipment and piping in the process buildings and working in the decontamination and chemical cleaning buildings as well. I was young and ignorant at that time of all the dangers of exposure to the many different cleaning acids and chemicals we used as well as the UF₆ releases, HF fumes, Technesium exposure I received repeatedly while doing my job as a chemical operator. I met my husband, Danny Evans, who is now a retired chemical operator while I was in this department. His story of exposures while working in Oxide conversion section of decontamination (known as E-Area) is even worse than what I experienced. He crawled in process piping that was not properly purged of HF gas and ended up with inch-long blisters on his exposed skin and sore throat from breathing fumes. I remember being struck by the number of my female co-workers who had suffered through early hysterectomies from various female reproductive illnesses and cancers. I worked 12 years as a process operator, and the last 7 years in stores, waste handlers and janitor departments. Today, I look back and realize that our training and personal protective equipment was non-existent to begin with, and inadequate for years after, and I have seen too many of my co-workers and friends get sick and suffer from rare cancers or even dead from cancer at too young of an age. Finally, after public testimony by many of the former workers and their survivors who have been sickened by our work at the plant, our legislators passed a law to compensate these families financially. Now, however, I understand that these same families who have suffered as a result of their loved ones working in jobs to defend our great nation--these cold war veterans--are facing a complicated system that is unwilling to assist them in their workers' compensation claim filing process. I understood the intent of the law enacted was to ease the burden of proof and make filing their state claims possible, not do the unthinkable by hindering what these veterans deserve as compensation for their service to this same government. The Department of Energy must do what they promised and furnish these cold war veterans with adequate assistance in filing their state claims along with the federal claims. Hopefully, my friends will live long enough to see that justice is done in this matter. God Bless them all. Thank you