

Subj: Atomic Veteran Outreach Update

At the final plenary meeting of the Veteran's Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction meeting on July 23, 2013, the Board made a recommendation for both the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) concerning atomic veteran outreach. DTRA's Nuclear Test Personnel Review (NTPR) Program held their semi-annual program review on November 7, 2013 with the VA in support of the Board's recommendation.

The NTPR Program has modified its procedures for incoming personal contacts. These cases now receive a letter noting that the program provides information regarding an individual's activities and locations to the VA or the DOJ, as applicable. The letter includes NTPR fact sheets, but no research is performed unless a claim is subsequently received. This initiative helps accomplish the following:

- encourages the caller to contact the appropriate agency to initiate a claim
- eliminates a misunderstanding many callers have that they first need a letter from the NTPR Program concerning participation status before initiating a claim
- enables the program to focus on, and apply limited resources to, pending compensation claims

NTPR and VA agreed that their current atomic veteran outreach efforts are appropriate at this time and no further modification to the outreach programs is planned. The outreach efforts will be addressed again at the next semi-annual program review.