



ORAU TEAM Dose Reconstruction Project for NIOSH

January 20, 2026

Ms. Tamela Sawyer M.S.
Conflict or Bias Officer
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
1600 Clifton Road
MS E20
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dr. John Cardarelli II
Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
NIOSH Division of Compensation Analysis and Support (DCAS)
Robert A. Taft Building
4676 Columbia Parkway
MS: C-46
Cincinnati, OH 45230

Subject: Conflict or Bias Authorization Request for Mr. Joseph Guido to discuss waste and contaminated scrap that was buried at the United Nuclear Corporation-Hematite site

Dear Ms. Sawyer and Dr. Cardarelli II:

The Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) team requests approval to use information from Mr. Joseph (Joe) Guido to obtain a perspective as a Radiological Engineer and Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) while working as a contractor for Westinghouse, who was the Department of Energy (DOE) contractor in charge of the site remediation at the United Nuclear Corporation-Hematite site (UNC), from 2009 through 2014. Mr. Guido has unique information about the UNC site remediation operations and the discovery of unusual radiological conditions in the UNC waste pits, and the ORAU team would like approval to utilize information from an interview with Mr. Guido in technical documents used to complete the assessment of the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) petition for UNC.

Nature of Relationship

Mr. Joe Guido is an employee of the MJW Corporation, which is one of the ORAU teaming partners. As such, he is a contractor employee working on the NIOSH Dose Reconstruction Project. Mr. Guido has an appearance of loss of impartiality concern stemming from his prior work at the UNC site and his resulting status as a potential claimant as well as a potential appearance of bias due to his previous work as a Radiological Engineer and the RSO at the site.

Effect on Financial Interest

Mr. Guido's participation does not have any bearing on his financial interests. He is healthy and currently working for the ORAU team on other sites. Should Mr. Guido's current situation change (health or other), a reassessment will be conducted, and a new authorization will be submitted if his continued involvement is necessary.

Nature of Importance

Mr. Guido supported the DOE directed remediation at UNC as a Radiological Engineer from 2009 to 2013 and site RSO from 2013 through 2014. Mr. Guido has unique information about the excavation of UNC waste pits and the associated radiological hazards at UNC during that time.

Sensitivity of the Matter

Questions have been identified during the initial review of the UNC SEC petition (petition number SEC-00267) concerning discovery of unusual radiological conditions at the UNC waste pits. Background and technical justification are needed to explain the history, discovery and source of the conditions that are relevant to the completion of the SEC evaluation report for SEC-00267.

Difficulty in Reassignment

As noted above, Mr. Guido's knowledge is unique regarding radiological operations during waste pit remediation at UNC. Once the interviews are conducted, they will be documented by ORAU team staff that do not have a conflict or appearance of bias and will only be fact checked by Mr. Guido.

Adjustments to Employee's Duties to reduce Appearance of Bias

Upon review of the issue, appropriate measures will be implemented to ensure that any of Mr. Guido's perceived biases will not compromise this effort. These measures include:

- Mr. Guido will not be authoring any documents;
- Mr. Guido will not have final approval of the documents developed; and
- All information obtained from Mr. Guido will be reviewed closely by the ORAU team and Mr. Mark Rolfes, a DCAS employee and Research Health Physicist, who are not conflicted at UNC.

Ms. Tamela Sawyer M.S.
and
Dr. John Cardarelli II
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Because of the benefits to the ORAU team and DCAS provided by Mr. Guido's unique qualifications and the oversight measures included in this activity, his participation in interviews is requested.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Hoff
Project Manager
ORAU Team

Requested Action:

X

John Cardarelli II
DCAS Contracting Officer Representative

X

Howard (Dale) Bish, Concurrence
Contracting Officer

X

Tamela Sawyer
Conflict of Bias Officer
