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**BP Amoco**



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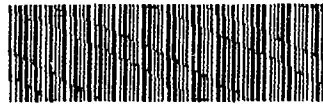
February 25, 1999

Terry R. O'Bryan  
Document Control Office (7407)  
Room G99 East Tower ATTN: Section 8(e)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
401 M Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460-0001



8EHQ-98-14311

SUBJECT: 8EHQ-1198-14311



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Dear Mr. O'Bryan,

I have been asked to respond to the EPA's request for additional information on the unusual occurrence of brain cancer among employees who worked in the 500 Complex of the BP Amoco Research Center in Naperville, Illinois. Enclosed you will find four attachments that discuss the following information: manufacturing, processing operations, and chemical substances to which workers in the 500 Building Complex are potentially exposed; voluntary programs to ensure safe facilities and work practices and to address employee health and safety concerns; a fact sheet that is distributed to any individual interested in obtaining information on the health investigation; and a summary protocol of the epidemiology investigation that is currently underway.

The epidemiology investigation is being conducted by researchers from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Researchers from Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health are performing the exposure analysis for the UAB scientists. The first three phases of the epidemiologic investigation are nearly complete. These phases include a site-wide mortality study, a site-wide cancer incidence study, and a tumor incidence study of the 500 Complex. Preliminary information from these studies has been reported to employees in talks given by researchers from UAB. At this time, the studies have not established a relationship between work in the 500 Complex and the unusual occurrence of brain cancer among employees who worked there, however, BP Amoco felt that it was important to give the EPA notice of our investigation based on the preliminary information reported to employees.

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NIOSH, state and national OSHA offices, the Illinois Department of Health, and the DuPage County Board of Health have been kept apprised of the site investigation since it began in late 1996. These agencies provide direct input into the investigation and review actions that have been taken to make sure employees at the Research Center have a safe place to work. We have also used a number of external experts to provide oversight and peer review for the epidemiology investigation, including scientists from the Illinois Department of Health, the University of Illinois at Chicago, New York University Medical School, and the Mayo Clinic.

Final reports for the first three phases of the epidemiology investigation will be available to BP Amoco after they have gone through the external peer review process mentioned earlier. We expect to receive the reports by mid-year, 1999 and will forward copies to the EPA.

The final phase of the investigation, the case-control study, is also nearing completion. It is this phase of the investigation that we hope will answer the question as to a possible relationship between work in the 500 Complex and brain cancer. Preliminary information from this portion of the investigation will be available to BP Amoco by mid-year 1999. Once available, we will make known the findings to employees and all appropriate agencies including the EPA.

If you have any questions about either the information I have provided or the progress of the epidemiology investigation, please call me at (630) 420-4933. Also, I will be glad to come to your offices at any time to discuss the investigation and the actions we have taken to make sure our employees have a safe environment in which to work.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Wells, Ph.D.  
Manager, HSE Chicago Region

Attachments

## ATTACHMENT I

**Manufacturing, processing operations, and chemical substances to which workers in the 500 Building Complex are potentially exposed.**

The facility known as the BP Amoco Research Center is located on 178 acres of suburban land 30 miles from Chicago, Illinois. It has six major building complexes and began operating in 1970. Interest is focused on the 500 Complex because all brain cancers occurred among employees working in this complex.

The 500 Complex includes three connected buildings (501, 502 and 503). Buildings 501 and 503 contain laboratories and associated offices; 501 generally conducted chemicals related research, while 503 conducted polymers related research. Offices for engineering, management and support staff are in 502. Since 1970, approximately 1,700 employees have been assigned to the 500 Complex.

The research in the 500 Complex has been quite varied. Primary activities were small scale process development for oxidation and olefin polymerization (usually catalyst related), analytical chemistry, new chemical intermediates, polymer synthesis, biotechnology (yeast), environmental research and new product research. Chemicals used were general petrochemical feedstocks such as olefins, hydrocarbons, and xylenes, transition metal catalysts; organometallic compounds; polymer intermediates; and solvents. Other compounds used were halogenated solvents, aromatic and aliphatic diamines, isocyanates, phosphines, phosphonates and hexane blends containing up to 70% n-hexane.

Researchers from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public health are currently putting together detailed exposure assessments for individuals with brain tumors that worked in the 500 Complex. This information will be available in the second quarter of 1999 and will be used in a case-control study being conducted by researchers from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

## **ATTACHMENT II**

**Voluntary programs to ensure safe facilities and work practices and to address employee health and safety concerns.**

### **Health and Safety Programs**

The following voluntary programs have been implemented to address people's concerns and to ensure a safe workplace and safe work practices:

- Refresher courses in good laboratory practices are offered to heighten awareness of current safety standards.
- Laboratory and work practice industrial hygiene audits are conducted to carefully review laboratory equipment and work practices to ensure that employees are receiving the appropriate level of protection while working with chemicals.
- Site fume hoods are checked annually for face velocity and overall performance. Additionally, tracer gas testing of representative hoods was done in accordance with ANSI/ASHRAE 110-1995 to determine efficiency of chemical control.
- As a holder of an NRC broad-scope license, all persons who are or may be exposed to radiation are enrolled in the site radiation dosimetry program. Radiation surveys for ambient radiation, and wipe tests for removable radiation have been conducted throughout the 500 Complex. Radon testing has been conducted throughout the site, and additional radon testing is ongoing.
- Historical property records and aerial photos have been analyzed to determine the history of the site. Soil borings were conducted around the 500 Complex and analyzed for radioactivity and for chemical contaminants.
- Random air sampling was conducted throughout the 500 Complex for volatile organic compounds as well as for polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.
- A physical inspection of the ventilation system was made and samples were taken for temperature, humidity and carbon dioxide to determine the overall effectiveness of the system.
- To address concerns that exhausted air from the laboratory fume hoods might be re-entrained into the air intakes, a scale model of the 500 Complex was constructed and tested in a wind-tunnel. Exhaust stacks were modeled on both the current configuration and the previous design (prior to a major ventilation upgrade installed from 1992 to 1994). Tracer gas and smoke testing confirmed that the previous performance was very good, and the current performance is even better.

- Potable water on the site has always been supplied by the city of Naperville. Several series of tests have been conducted both at the incoming water main and at drinking fountains and other taps to screen drinking water for USEPA primary and secondary drinking water standards.
- While there is no scientific or medical evidence to link the building to the illnesses, the third floor of building 503 of the 500 Complex was temporarily vacated until the completion of the investigation in order to address employee concerns. The task force is aware of five malignant and two benign intracranial tumors having been diagnosed in employees who had worked on the floor at different times during their careers.
- Employees are being encouraged to provide any leads about work activities that may help with the investigation. These suggestions are being investigated by industrial hygienists from Johns Hopkins University.
- Medical assistance is being offered to address health concerns and questions from past and present employees, contractors and retirees. To date, more than 450 people have requested and received medical examinations by independent neurologists.
- Amoco is instituting a new, broad-based medical screening and education program for all Research Center employees starting in January of 1999.

#### **Employee Communication Programs**

- Experts in the areas of epidemiology, industrial hygiene, brain cancer, and cancer research meet with employees in large 'Town-Hall' meetings for purposes of education and to discuss the progress of the site health investigation. Since March, 1996, approximately 20 Town Hall meetings have taken place.
- Written quarterly updates containing information on study progress and new findings are sent to all current employees.
- Informal free lunch meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month. At these meetings, any interested employee can get the latest information, ask questions, and have their concerns addressed.
- A database containing final reports, employee letters and updates, progress reports, and news media coverage is available to all Amoco employees on the Amoco Intranet.
- All employees who were ever assigned to the 500 Building Complex were asked to complete a tumor incidence survey by researchers from UAB. Over 80% of current and former employees agreed to participate.
- All employees who were ever assigned to the 500 Building Complex have been sent letters which summarize the preliminary findings which Amoco reported to the EPA.



## ATTACHMENT III

Amoco Research Center  
Naperville, Illinois  
1-888-750-5777

### Fact Sheet: Amoco Research Center Health Investigation

#### Overview

In 1989, two Amoco Chemical Sector employees at the Amoco Research Center, Naperville were diagnosed with gliomas, malignant tumors affecting the cells that support and insulate the nerves of the brain. A review of historical records revealed that one other employee had been diagnosed with a similar tumor in 1986.

Because Amoco is committed to the health and well being of our employees and having a safe workplace, the findings prompted an immediate investigation of the illnesses beginning in 1989. A task force of employees and environment, health and safety experts was formed with a charter to protect the health and well-being of employees, to oversee prompt and thorough investigations and to openly communicate findings of the studies with employees and contractors.

Prior to 1996, findings were reviewed by independent medical experts from the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois, Chicago; Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.; and the Chicago Institute of NeuroSurgery & NeuroResearch. The experts found no medical or scientific evidence to link the illnesses to the workplace, and recommended that Amoco continue to monitor the health of employees for similar occurrences. In the spring of 1996, a fourth person was diagnosed with glioma. At that time, Amoco commissioned an independent team of experts from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health and Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health to rigorously investigate the illnesses through a comprehensive two year investigation. The goal of this investigation is to determine whether there could be a link between the illnesses and work at the facility.

The task force has acted aggressively since 1989 to identify new cases and to try to determine whether there is any possible link between the illnesses and the work environment. The investigation has found 10 benign and seven malignant intracranial tumors affecting current or former Amoco Research Center employees between 1970 and 1998. To date, there has been no evidence to suggest that these illnesses are work related, however, Amoco takes this situation seriously. Programs have been implemented to address people's concerns and precautions have been taken to ensure a safe workplace and safe work practices. Following are details on the investigation under way presently, the types of illnesses reported to the task force and findings of investigations prior to 1996.

#### The Current Investigation & Task Force Actions

In February, 1996 the task force escalated the health investigation when an Amoco Chemical Sector retiree reported being diagnosed with a malignant intracranial tumor called glioma. This was the fourth illness of this type affecting a current or former employee of the Amoco Chemical Sector. The task force has taken the following actions to get to the bottom of the health situation:

### Investigations:

- ◇ A comprehensive two-year study was commissioned with internationally recognized experts in epidemiology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health in 1996. The investigation involves the following phases:
  - Identifying every person who has ever worked at the research center since 1970. *(8,000 people worked at site, and 2,500 have worked in the 500 Complex of buildings.)*
  - Publishing a scientific paper in medical journals to define the extent of the research center health situation in comparison to the general U.S. population and outlining the work histories of people diagnosed with intracranial tumors to spur feedback from other companies and the scientific community if any related situations exist elsewhere. *(Preliminary results expected second quarter 1998)*
  - Observing trends in mortality of current and former employees of the research center in comparison to the general population of Illinois and the U.S. population at large. *(Preliminary results expected third quarter 1998)*
  - Observing trends in cancer incidence among all past and present research center employees. *(Preliminary results expected fourth quarter 1998)*
  - Surveying all people who have worked in the 500 complex of buildings at the ARC to confirm work locations, work activities and to identify all benign or cancerous tumors affecting people who have worked in the buildings. The data will be used in the tumor incidence study of the 500 complex. *(Preliminary results of tumor incidence survey expected fourth quarter 1998)*
  - Evaluating work histories of all past and present research center employees who have developed primary intracranial tumors. *(Preliminary results expected second quarter 1999)*
  - Using a case control study to compare each person who worked in the 500 complex and developed a primary intracranial tumor to several people serving as age-matched controls without intracranial tumors. The study will look for patterns to determine whether work histories, workplace exposures or non-occupational exposures are related to the occurrence of primary intracranial tumors in people who worked in the 500 complex at some time during their careers. *(Preliminary results expected second quarter 1999)*
  - Presenting the conclusions for independent peer review, including publication in scientific or medical journals. *(Results expected third quarter 1999)*
- ◇ A team of industrial hygienists from Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health is investigating leads provided by employees about work activities. They are also working with the UAB team to evaluate physical conditions or chemical agents that could be linked to the illnesses at the research center. *(Results expected throughout 1997 and 1998)*
- ◇ Amoco continues to discuss the investigation with local, state and federal health authorities to seek guidance for the investigation and suggestions to address employee workplace concerns.

### Health and Safety Programs

The following programs have been implemented to address people's concerns and precautions have been taken to ensure a safe workplace and safe work practices:

- ◇ As a part of Amoco's ongoing safety program, refresher courses in good laboratory practices are offered to heighten awareness of current safety standards. Additionally, laboratory and work practice industrial hygiene audits are being developed to carefully review laboratory equipment and work practices to ensure employees are receiving the maximum level of protection.

- ◇ Medical assistance is being offered to address health concerns and questions from past and present employees, contractors and retirees. To date, approximately 450 people have requested and received medical examinations by independent neurologists.
- ◇ While there is no scientific or medical evidence to link the building to the illnesses, the third floor of building 503 at the research center was temporarily vacated until the completion of the investigation to address employee concerns. The task force is aware of four malignant and two benign intracranial tumors having been diagnosed in employees who had worked on the floor at different times during their careers.
- ◇ Employees are being encouraged to provide any leads about work activities that may help with the investigation, and these suggestions are being investigated by industrial hygienists from Johns Hopkins University.

### **The Reported Cases**

The cases reviewed in the investigation were either reported to the task force by employees or discovered through research of historical medical records. Between 1970 and 1998, seven gliomas, four meningiomas, five acoustic Schwannomas and one pituitary adenoma have been diagnosed in past or present research center employees. A case diagnosed as being either a cyst or a slow-growing tumor is also being investigated. The illnesses have been diagnosed in one Amoco Petroleum Products Sector employee and one Amoco Corporation employee working at the site, while the remainder of the illnesses have affected Amoco Chemical Sector employees, retirees or former employees.

#### *Following are brief explanations of the illnesses:*

- ◇ Glioma is usually a malignant tumor composed of cells that support or insulate the nerves of the brain. Seven people have been diagnosed with this illness since 1986. Four people have died.
- ◇ Schwannoma is usually a benign tumor affecting the insulating cells surrounding nerves. The cases diagnosed in research center employees have affected the insulating cells on the acoustic nerve leading to the inner ear to the brain. (Also called acoustic neuroma) Five people have been diagnosed with this illness since 1982.
- ◇ Meningioma is most often a benign tumor arising from the outer covering of the brain or spinal cord. Four people have been diagnosed with this illness since 1989.
- ◇ Pituitary adenoma is a tumor arising in the pituitary gland. One of the pituitary gland's functions is to regulate the body's hormones. One person has been diagnosed with this illness since 1994.

### **Previous Investigations**

The nine illnesses reported prior to 1996 have been investigated by medical experts in epidemiology, neurosurgery, pathology and related fields from the School of Public Health at University of Illinois, Chicago; Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota and the Chicago Institute of NeuroSurgery & NeuroResearch. The experts reviewed the medical records and work histories of the patients to look for similar chemical exposures or work processes. Amoco industrial hygiene experts investigated the air, water and facilities where the individuals worked and carefully reviewed work histories and activities. Additionally, medical journals were reviewed and epidemiologists from other petrochemical companies were contacted to see if similar situations had occurred elsewhere.

## *Findings of investigations up to 1996*

To date, the external experts have found no medical or scientific evidence to link any of the illnesses to the workplace. The studies prior to 1996 found individuals worked on different projects, and no single chemical has been reported to be used by all of the affected individuals. Amoco industrial hygiene studies have found nothing unusual about the facilities where the people worked.

The only similarity found among the cases diagnosed prior to 1996 is the fact that three people diagnosed with malignant intracranial tumors had worked in the same laboratory at various points in time. Upon further analysis, the experts ruled out a connection to the laboratory because of the short period of time most of the employees had worked in the room. Studies show that most cancers take many years to develop. Two of the affected employees had worked in the laboratory less than one year prior to the diagnosis of an intracranial tumor and the third worked intermittently in this laboratory over a longer period of time.

## **For More Information**

The task force is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of people at the site, and will continue to promptly and thoroughly investigate each reported illness and communicate findings regularly with employees and contractors. For additional information or to discuss a health concern, please contact Amoco Health Services tollfree at 1-888-750-5777.

## ATTACHMENT IV

### Protocol Summary: Amoco Research Center Health Investigation

The purpose of the health investigation is to conduct a credible, valid and scientific study as quickly as possible to determine:

- how unusual the occurrence of intracranial tumors among Amoco Research Center employees is statistically in comparison to the general Illinois and U.S. populations;
- whether there is a link between the illnesses and the workplace; and
- appropriate actions to ensure the safety and health of past and present Amoco employees and contractors.

#### Epidemiologic Investigation

The epidemiologic investigation will be carried out by a team of researchers from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology over a two year period starting November, 1996. The broad objective of the research is to determine if employment factors and workplace exposures at the Amoco Research Center (ARC) have had any influence on mortality and intracranial tumor incidence among Amoco employees. The investigation will have five components:

- a *case-series paper* published in medical journals to increase awareness of the Amoco situation among other employers and medical experts to gather their insight and to see if any other company has experienced a similar problem,
- a retrospective *study of mortality* among all active and past ARC employees,
- a retrospective *study of cancer incidence* among active and past ARC employees,
- a retrospective *study of tumor incidence* among 500 Complex employees, and
- a nested *case-control study* of intracranial tumors among 500 Complex employees.

The foundation of the study is the identification of the cohort. Cohort identification involves identifying every person who has ever worked at the research center since it opened in 1970. This includes information on the facilities where they worked, their projects/assignments and current home addresses. It is presently estimated that 8,000 people have worked on the site. This data will be used to perform each of the studies.

At the time the protocol was developed for the investigation in November 1996, 100 percent of the individuals diagnosed with malignant brain tumors and 90 percent of the individuals affected with benign intracranial tumors had worked in the Chemicals Sector and in the 500 Complex at the ARC at some time during their careers. Thus, the population of the 500 Complex was selected for a tumor incidence and nested case control study.

Further studies will be considered should findings or reports of illnesses during the course of the study indicate an unusual occurrence of illnesses among another population. To expeditiously gather information, Amoco is relying on anyone ever employed at the site who has been diagnosed with an intracranial tumor to report illnesses to the task force or Amoco's health services department. Information regarding the study is being disseminated broadly internally

and externally through news coverage and letters to all people known to have worked at the center.

#### *Case-Series Paper*

The objective of the scientific paper is to increase awareness of the Amoco situation among other employers and medical experts to gather their insight on the occurrence of intracranial tumors at the Research Center and to see if any other company has experienced a similar problem. The UAB researchers will be publishing a research paper in medical journals which defines the situation at the Research Center and describes, in a general context, the types of chemicals and work processes people diagnosed with tumors have used. The paper will not include any identifiers such as names, social security numbers or other information that would identify the people diagnosed with intracranial tumors at the Amoco Research Center to protect confidentiality.

#### *Mortality Study*

The study will observe trends in mortality of current and former employees of the research center in comparison to the general population of Illinois and the U.S. population at large. The study will also identify any unreported fatal cancerous tumors among people who have ever been employed at the facility.

The study will be conducted by matching the Amoco Research Center employee database with the National Death Index. For past and current ARC employees, UAB will determine their vital status as of December 31, 1996, ascertain the underlying cause of death for individuals dying between 1970 and 1996, and compare the overall and cause-specific mortality rates with those of the U.S. and Illinois general populations.

The researchers will use the data they collect to evaluate mortality patterns and try to assess whether there are relationships between ARC employment factors and cause-specific mortalities. All causes of death will be examined, and in particular fatal central nervous system cancers and other fatal forms of cancer. Work history factors that will be reviewed include duration and time period of employment at the ARC, company/sector, building or complex, job title and, for research professionals and technical staff, the research project category.

#### *Cancer Incidence Study*

The cancer incidence study will observe trends in cancer incidence among all people employed at the Research Center between 1986 and 1996. The study will also identify any cancerous tumors that have occurred among people who have ever been employed by the facility, which the task force or researchers are presently unaware. The study will be conducted with the Illinois Department of Public Health, utilizing the Illinois Cancer Registry, which contains data on cancers diagnosed in the state from 1986 to 1996. UAB will determine to the extent possible, the residence history of retired, transferred or terminated ARC employees. The individuals included in this study would meet the following criteria:

- worked at the ARC at any time between 1986 through 1996; or,
- retired from Amoco before 1986, but resided in IL anytime between 1986 through 1996;
- transferred or terminated from the ARC before 1986, but resided in Illinois anytime between 1986 through 1996.

***Tumor Incidence Study***

The objective of this research component is to evaluate the incidence of all intracranial tumors and any other forms of cancer that have affected people who have ever worked in the 500 Complex. The researchers will try to determine if certain employment factors are related to the incidence of particular types of tumors. The tumor incidence study will compare the 1970-1996 benign intracranial tumor and cancer rates of individuals who have ever worked in the 500 Complex with the U.S. population and Mayo Clinic data for Rochester, Minnesota.

The data on cancer cases will be gathered from the mortality and cancer incidence studies. Since there is not a requirement to report benign tumors in the U.S., the researchers will rely on a health survey to identify benign tumors affecting people who have ever worked in the 500 Complex. The employment factors to be examined include type of job, the duration and time period of employment in the 500 Complex and the type of projects performed within the facility.

***500 Complex Nested Case-Control Study of Intracranial Tumors***

The study will compare each person who worked in the 500 Complex and developed a primary intracranial tumor to several people serving as age-matched controls without intracranial tumors. The study will look for patterns to determine whether work histories, workplace exposures or non-occupational exposures are related to the occurrence of primary intracranial tumors in people who worked in the 500 Complex at some time during their careers.

UAB will interview all people identified as having intracranial tumors (or next of kin) who have worked in the 500 Complex as well as the "control" group. The researchers will collect and compare work histories, exposures and risk factors. The main analyses for individuals in the 500 Complex nested case study will compare histories of employment in specific industries, positions, ARC locations and R&D projects, estimated cumulative exposures to specific agents and materials, and histories of non-occupational exposures (for example, to ionizing radiation, head trauma and other potential influences with an association or suspected relationship to intracranial tumors). Conditional logistic regression procedures will be used to estimate odds ratios (ORs) and their corresponding 95% confidence levels. Possible induction and latency time effects will be explored by including analysis variables for the number of years between first exposure and the date of diagnosis. Where four or more cases of a specific type of intracranial tumor exists, separate analyses will be conducted, but all intracranial tumors will be analyzed.

**Industrial Hygiene Study**

Amoco Environment Health & Safety Department industrial hygiene personnel and investigators from The Johns Hopkins University (JHU) School of Hygiene and Public Health will use work history data from specific 500 Complex employees and other Amoco work history information, in conjunction with engineering, laboratory and industrial hygiene information to develop and analyze data on exposures to specific chemical and physical agents. The data will be linked with the UAB investigations to develop and analyze measures of exposure and to compare tumor cases and control groups against these measures.

***Work Histories***

Sources of work history information will include employee focus groups, interviews, responses to the UAB questionnaire, job dates compiled from corporate records and the archive of laboratory notebooks and project memoranda existing at the ARC. Two sources will be used to develop and verify a comprehensive work history file on every individual included in the 500

Complex nested case-control study. For individuals included in the study, information will be compiled on each job held from the age of 18 years.

### *Exposure Assessment*

Data will be compiled from the work histories, UAB questionnaire responses, and from job exposure matrices prepared by JHU investigators (JHU has the responsibility for developing the exposure estimation approach). Specific exposures of interest to the investigation will be defined by UAB, JHU and the Task Force. Examples are ionizing and non-ionizing radiation and suspected neurotoxins including specific solvents, chemicals and metals, etc. A qualitative or semi-quantitative estimate of exposures to each agent of interest will be defined for each job/research project/time period profile of employees contained in the 500 Complex nested case-control study.

### The Health & Safety Programs

The purpose of the health investigation task force is to protect the health and well-being of employees, to oversee prompt and thorough investigations and to openly communicate findings of the studies with employees and contractors. The task force has implemented the following actions to ensure workplace safety and to address employee health and safety concerns.

*To ensure the workplace is safe today, the task force has contracted experts to conduct the following, in addition to ongoing health and safety programs at the facility:*

- Air/water quality and radiation industrial hygiene audits are continuing to be conducted in chemical research facilities in Naperville and Alpharetta to reaffirm the safe condition of the facilities and engineered safety controls in laboratories.
- Work practice audits will be conducted in Naperville and Alpharetta chemical research facilities to assess chemical and physical agents, work practices and safety equipment in place between 1970 and 1997.
- Independent industrial hygiene audits will be conducted in individual chemical research laboratories in Naperville and Alpharetta to ensure current practices and procedures are creating sufficient barriers to protect people working in laboratories from potential exposures.
- As part of the ongoing safety program, refresher courses in good laboratory practices are offered to heighten awareness of safety standards.

*To address concerns, the task force is providing the following:*

- Medical assistance is being offered to address health related questions and concerns of past and present employees, contractors and retirees. To date, approximately 200 people have requested and received medical examinations or MRIs by independent neurologists. To schedule an appointment, call health services in Naperville at 1-888-750-5777.
- The task force chairman is meeting one-on-one with the people with intracranial tumors and their families and assigning each family a liaison from the task force to ensure their concerns and issues are addressed and that resources are available to meet the families'

immediate needs, including requests for personal contact with the company, information on the study, information on support groups and associations.

- While there is no medical or scientific evidence to link the facility to the illnesses, the third floor of building 503 at the center remains vacated until the completion of the study in response to employee concerns about working on a floor where six people with intracranial tumors had worked at different times during their careers.