

# **VBDR**

## **Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 19, 2009**

### **VETERANS' ADVISORY BOARD ON DOSE RECONSTRUCTION TO MEET**

BETHESDA, MD—The Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction (VBDR) will meet June 10, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Bethesda, Md. This meeting is open to the public. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the meeting will adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

The VBDR provides guidance and oversight of the dose reconstruction and claims compensation programs for veterans of U.S.-sponsored atmospheric nuclear weapons tests from 1945-1962; veterans of the 1945-1946 occupation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan; and veterans who were prisoners of war in those regions at the conclusion of World War II. The VBDR was established in June 2005 as a result of the Veterans' Benefits Act (Section 601 of Public Law 108-183), which required the board to conduct periodic, random audits of dose reconstruction and decisions on claims for radiogenic diseases; assist the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) in telling veterans about the dose reconstruction and claims compensation programs; carry out other activities regarding review and oversight of the dose reconstruction and claims compensation programs; and recommend modifications to the mission and procedures of the dose reconstruction program and claim adjudication procedures.

Board members were selected to provide expertise in historical dose reconstruction, radiation health matters, risk communications, radiation epidemiology, medicine, quality management, decision analysis and ethics in order to appropriately enable the VBDR to represent and address veterans' concerns. Both the VA and DTRA are represented. Many board members are military veterans, and several are members of an atomic veterans group. They convene twice a year to discuss recommendations that, if implemented by the VA, will improve compensation programs for atomic veterans.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting. Advance registration is not necessary. The Hyatt Regency is located at One Metro Center (7400 Wisconsin Avenue), Bethesda, Md (right at the Bethesda Metro Station). The VBDR will be devoting its focus on the future operation options for the Board's activities but will also receive the following presentations: VBA on their Procedures and the IRR, Jackson MS VARO Activities, Veterans Communication Efforts, DTRA and VA Updates and the VBDR Subcommittee reports. There will be two one-half hour public comment sessions at the meeting.

For more information, please call toll-free 1-866-657-VBDR (8237), or visit [www.VBDR.org](http://www.VBDR.org).

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