

Dear Honorable Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Jordan,

In 1997 the National Cancer Institute released its Iodine 131 dose reconstruction report. It listed all the Counties in the US and their exposure to Iodine 131. The hardest hit County was Meager County, Montana. Number three is Gem County, Idaho where I was born and raised and have lived for 61 years. The rest of the top five are in Idaho. Why wasn't this report used to fix RECA? I have traced 42 family members that have lived in Gem County that have had cancer. 14 of them have died of cancer. I have also collected names that total over 1100 people that have had cancer in this County, that I know. I stopped counting two years ago, it was too depressing. Those are just the people I know and we only have 20,000 people in the whole County.

Our Government did this to us, it makes me sad for the loss of love and life. The fact that other Counties are compensated for our Government's negligence and our County is not, it makes me mad! It is discrimination, the citizens of those other Counties are valued higher than us, just like when the tests took place. The Atomic Energy Commission waited for the wind to blow north before they detonated the 100 aboveground nuclear bombs, to protect Las Vegas and California. They called those living downwind the "low use segment of the population!" There were another 828 underground nuclear tests, and more than half of them leaked into our atmosphere.

We did not sign up to be guinea pigs in these Cold War experiments, but we are dying just the same.

Our government spends \$50 Billion a year on maintaining our nuclear stockpile, EVERY YEAR! Since RECA was enacted in 1990 it has paid out 2.3 Billion, IN 31 YEARS! You can't say this will break the bank!!

Please respect the victims of testing and compensate them. They deserve justice!

Tona Henderson
Director/Idaho Downwinders