U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of NEAL MATTHEWS and DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, LONG BEACH NAVAL SHIPYARD, Long Beach, Calif.

Docket No. 97-607; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 27, 1998

DECISION and ORDER

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS

The issue is whether appellant's claim for pulmonary asbestosis was timely filed.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the October 1, 1996 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative is in accordance with the facts and law of the case and hereby adopts the hearing representative's findings and conclusions.

Accordingly, the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated October 1, 1996 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. August 27, 1998

> George E. Rivers Member

David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member