Department of Energy Support to the

Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA)

Office of Health, Safety and Security

January 2014

DOE's Core Mandate

Work on behalf of the program claimants to ensure that all available worker and facility records and data are provided to DOL, NIOSH, and the Advisory Board.

DOE Responsibilities

1. Respond to DOL and NIOSH requests for information related to individual claims. (employment verification, exposure records).

2. Provide support and assistance to DOL, NIOSH, and Advisory Board on large-scale research and site characterization projects through records research and retrieval efforts at various DOE sites.

3. Conduct research, in coordination with DOL and NIOSH, on issues related to covered facilities designations.

EEOICPA
Site Contacts

- DOE EEOICPA Site POCs:

  - Coordinate all research activities with NIOSH, Advisory Board, DOL and various contractors

  - Set up site visits and tours for NIOSH and DOL staff as well as other groups

  - Work with both DOL and NIOSH to identify site subject matter experts and to facilitate interviews with current and former workers

  - Manage site's response to individual records requests. Ensure DOE responses are complete and timely

  - Onsite source of EEOICPA information to workers

Individual Records

Fund and coordinate records retrieval activities at DOE sites in support of individual claims.

- Employment verifications for DOL (~6,000/year)

- Dose records for NIOSH (~4,500/year)

- Document Acquisition Requests (DAR) employee work history/exposures for DOL (~5,500/year)

Individual Records

- Claimants often worked at multiple DOE sites, for multiple contractors and subcontractors, and in different jobs or divisions over a career.

- Records packages that DOE provides to DOL and NIOSH can be hundreds of pages long.

Individual Records

- For a typical request for a worker's records, DOE may have to go to many different site departments and within those departments many different records sources or databases.

- For example, one DOE site routinely checks approximately 40 different sources for responsive records, including hard copy paper records, microfilm, microfiche, databases and scanned electronic records.

Large Scale Research Projects

- Large scale research projects are driven by the needs of DOL and NIOSH.
  - DOE must react and accommodate the requests within existing funding.

- These projects can take years and can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to support.

Large Scale Research Projects

- DOE must review many of the requested records due to classification concerns.

  – Millions of pages have been reviewed so far and this can be a time consuming and costly process.

- DOE is often supporting 4-5 projects at once, although at various stages of the process (start up, research, wrap up, etc.)

Large Scale Research Projects

- *Kansas City Plant*

- *Rocky Flats*

- *Savannah River*

- *Hanford*

- *Sandia*

- Los Alamos

- Oak Ridge National Lab

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Document Reviews

- DOE committed to providing documents to NIOSH, DOL, and the Advisory Board, but must do so in a responsible manner.

- The DOE EEOICPA Security Plan link:

  http://www.hss.energy.gov/HealthSafety/FWSP/Advocacy/HSS_Security_Plan_EEOICPA.pdf

Document Reviews (cont.)

- The average turn around time for review and released documents is typically about 8 work days.

- In certain cases where an expedited review is necessary, DOE has returned documents in one to two days.

Facility Research

Research and maintain the Covered Facilities Database

- Database of **over 300 facilities covered** under EEOICPA. This includes DOE facilities, AWEs and Beryllium Vendors whose employees are eligible for benefits under EEOICP.

- Full listing on the DOE HSS website:
  - http://www.hss.energy.gov/healthsafety/FWSP/Advocacy/faclist/findfacility.cfm

Secure Electronic Records Transfer (SERT) System

- The SERT is an HSS-hosted environment where DOL, NIOSH and DOE can send and receive records and data in a secure manner. SERT was fully rolled out to all DOE, DOL and NIOSH staff on October 16, 2012.

- The system reduces the time to complete EEOICPA claims and enhances the protection of PII information.

- We believe the system has been very successful so far

Outreach

- DOE Headquarters (HSS)

    – Has initiated a Joint outreach Task Group that includes DOE, DOL and NIOSH, along with the DOL Ombudsman and the DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Programs.

    – The goal of creating a workgroup is to coordinate and improve outreach efforts between the agencies.

    – The Group held 18 "Town Hall" meetings in and near the communities of 9 DOE sites.

    – http://www.hss.doe.gov/healthsafety/FWSP/Formerworkermed/events_calendars.html

Former Worker Medical Screening Program

Former Worker Medical Screening Program

- Mission: To identify and notify former workers at risk for occupational disease and offer them medical screening that can lead to treatment

- Program now serves *all* former workers from *all* DOE sites in locations close to their residences

- Further information on the FWP can be found at: http://www.hss.energy.gov/HealthSafety/FWSP/formerworkermed/

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Former Worker Medical Screening Program

- **National Supplemental Screening Program (NSSP)**
  - ✓ Production and in-house workers
  - ✓ 1-866-812-6703 or
  - ✓ http://www.orau.org/nssp/

- **Building Trades National Medical Screening Program (BTMed)**
  - ✓ Construction and subcontractor workers
  - ✓ 1-800-866-9663 or **www.btmed.org**

Questions?