



# Department of Energy Support to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA)



Office of Health, Safety and Security  
July 2013



# *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 will 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



- *Rocky Flats*
- *Savannah River*
- *Pantex*
- *Hanford*
- *Sandia*
- Los Alamos
- Clarksville
- Medina
- Oak Ridge National Lab



# 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](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>



# 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.
  - [http://www.hss.doe.gov/healthsafety/FWSP/Formerworkermed/vents\\_calendars.html](http://www.hss.doe.gov/healthsafety/FWSP/Formerworkermed/vents_calendars.html)



# 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/>



# Former Worker Medical Screening Program



## Local Screening Programs for Idaho National Lab

- **Production Workers-WHPP**

- Conducted by United Steel Workers (USW) in conjunction with Queens College City University of New York
- Principal Investigator: Jim Frederick
- Local Outreach:1-888-241-1199

- **Construction Workers-BTMed**

- conducted by CPWR - The Center for Construction Research and Training in conjunction with Duke University, the University of Cincinnati, and Zenith American Solutions, Inc.
- Principal Investigator: Knut Ringen, DrPH, MHA, MPH
- Local Outreach:1-800-866-9663





*Questions?*