



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



Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security

November 2015



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



- Respond via the SERT system to DOL and NIOSH requests for information related to individual claims (employment verification, exposure records).
- 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.
- 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, Advisory Board, DOL, 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; and
 - Provide onsite 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 (cont.)



- Claimants often worked at multiple DOE sites, for multiple contractors and subcontractors, and in different jobs or divisions over a career.
- 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 hardcopy 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 accommodates all requests.
- These projects can take years.



Large Scale Research Projects (cont.)



- Kansas City Plant
- Hanford
- Pacific Northwest National Lab
- Savannah River Site
- Lawrence Livermore National Lab
- Sandia National Lab
- Los Alamos National Lab
- Idaho National Lab
- Oak Ridge National Lab



Lawrence Livermore National Lab



- Hosted 8 site visits in 2015 and will be hosting additional visits in November and December.
- Currently in the process of setting up a dedicated workspace in a cleared area onsite at LLNL for NIOSH to use. Access to classified material and a cleared workstation.
- Recent large document request has been reviewed and provided to NIOSH.



Document Reviews



- DOE committed to providing documents to NIOSH, DOL, and the Advisory Board, but must do so in a responsible manner.
- The average turnaround 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 1-2 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 can be found at:
<https://ehss.energy.gov/Search/Facility/findfacility.aspx>



Outreach



- Continued to participate in all Joint Outreach Task Group meetings that include DOE, DOL, and NIOSH, along with the DOL Ombudsman and the DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Programs.
- Completed JOTG Video –available online at:
<http://energy.gov/ehss/joint-outreach-task-group-video-series>



National Day of Remembrance



Senate Resolution 213

(S. Res 213 passed on September 25, 2015)



Designating October 30, 2015, as a national day of remembrance for nuclear weapons program workers.

Whereas, since World War II, hundreds of thousands of men and women, including uranium miners, millers, and haulers, have served the United States by building nuclear weapons for the defense of the United States;

Whereas dedicated workers paid a high price for developing a nuclear weapons program at the service, and for the benefit of, the United States, including by developing disabling or fatal illnesses;

Whereas the Senate recognized the contributions, services, and sacrifices that those patriotic men and women made for the defense of the United States in Senate Resolution 151, 111th Congress, agreed to May 20, 2009; Senate Resolution 653, 111th Congress, agreed to September 28, 2010; Senate Resolution 275, 112th Congress, agreed to September 26, 2011; Senate Resolution 519, 112th Congress, agreed to August 1, 2012; Senate Resolution 164, 113th Congress, agreed to September 18, 2013; and Senate Resolution 417, 113th Congress, agreed to July 9, 2014;

Whereas a national day of remembrance time capsule has been crossing the United States, collecting stories and artifacts of nuclear weapons program workers relating to the nuclear defense era of the United States, and a remembrance quilt has been constructed to memorialize the contribution of those workers;

Whereas the stories and artifacts reflected in the time capsule and the remembrance quilt reinforce the importance of recognizing nuclear weapons program workers; and

Whereas those patriotic men and women deserve to be recognized for the contributions, services, and sacrifices they made for the defense of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- 1) designates October 30, 2015, as a national day of remembrance for the nuclear weapons program and uranium enrichment workers of the United States, including the uranium miners, millers, and haulers; and
- 2) encourages the people of the United States to support and participate in appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other activities to commemorate October 30, 2015, as a national day of remembrance for past and present workers in the nuclear weapons program of the United States.



National Day of Remembrance for Nuclear Weapons Program Workers



- 2015 marks the seventh anniversary of the NDR, honoring the tens of thousands of men and women who have tirelessly served our country by building and maintaining our nuclear weapons for the defense of the United States during World War II, throughout the Cold War, and the present day.
- An event at the Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas, NV, was held on October 30.
- The Cold War Patriots held separate events at various locations near DOE sites, including Oak Ridge, TN; Richland, WA; Amarillo, TX; Paducah, KY; Shiprock, NM; and Cincinnati, OH.



Honoring the National Day of Remembrance for Nuclear Weapons Program Workers





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.
- Published an annual report.
- Further information on the FWP can be found at:
 - <http://energy.gov/ehss/services/worker-health-and-safety/former-worker-medical-screening-program>



FWP

LBNL, LLNL, and SNL



- Queens College and Worker Health Protection Program
 - ✓ All workers
 - ✓ 1-866-460-0628 or <http://www.worker-health.org>
- National Supplemental Screening Program (NSSP)
 - ✓ All workers
 - ✓ 1-866-812-6703 or <http://www.ornl.gov/nssp/>



Questions?