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

Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security

August 2022

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.

Individual Records

- 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.

- Third Party Redaction Efforts/Guidance for sites. (June 22)

Timeliness Goals

Total Responses

FY 22   16903
Over 60 Days   2585
                              84%

FY 23 (2 months)   2744
Over 60 days   342
                              88%

Total Responses since inception of program
360,000

Large-Scale Research Projects

- Large-scale research projects are driven by the needs of DOL and NIOSH.

- Recent data capture requests for the following DOE sites

  - Active Site Assistance Research

  - ❑ NIOSH 22
  - ❑ DOL   5 (SEM updates)   2 (SEM Public release)

Document Reviews

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

- DOE HQ reviews NIOSH generated reports but DOE field sites review the DOE source documents

  - The average turnaround time for reports reviewed at DOE HQ is typically about 8 workdays. (but there are fewer reports and they are typically shorter)

  - The turnaround time for source documents reviewed in the field can vary considerably because there can be hundreds of documents requested and thousands of pages to review.

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. Revised database in 2022. New look

- Full listing can be found at:
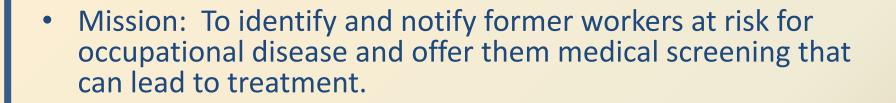 https://ehss.energy.gov/Search/Facility/findfacility.aspx

Research cont.

- Sites are adapting to remote work environment.

- Standards for digitizing permanent federal records so that agencies may dispose of the original source records.

- Transition to Electronic Records, OMB M-19-21

- Final rule with OMB from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) that specifies

- FRC – by appointment only

- Established agreement and process with NARA and FRC's to expedite

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.

Former Worker Program

FWP website:

- http://energy.gov/ehss/services/worker-health-and-safety/former-worker-medical-screening-program

FWP brochure:

- http://energy.gov/ehss/downloads/former-worker-medical-screening-program-brochure

Thank you

Regina Griego-Kelleher, Program Manager
Regina.Griego@hq.doe.gov