



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



Office of Health, Safety and Security
December 2011



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 (~7,000/year)
- Dose records for NIOSH (~4,000/year)
- Document Acquisition Requests (DAR) employee work history/exposures for DOL (~7,000/year)



Individual Records



Total number of EEOICPA records requests completed:

- FY 2010: ~17,000
- FY 2011: ~18,000



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



HSS
Office of Health, Safety and Security

The HSS logo consists of a stylized atom symbol above the letters "HSS" in a bold, black font. A purple swoosh underline is positioned beneath the "HSS" text. Below the logo, the text "Office of Health, Safety and Security" is written in a smaller, black font.

- 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



- *Hanford*
- *Brookhaven*
- *Savannah River*
- *Sandia*
- *Pantex*
- *Los Alamos*



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.)



- NIOSH, the Advisory Board and their contractors have submitted 60 documents for DOE classification review since August 2011.
- The average turn around time for review and released documents was 8 work days.
- In certain cases where an expedited review is necessary, DOE has returned documents in one to two days.



SEC Support



- Hold routine conference calls with members of NIOSH and its contractors to ensure that these groups are receiving the information and support they need from DOE sites.
- DOE subject matter experts participate and contribute to Advisory Board working groups and conference calls.
- Facilitate secure meetings and video conference calls for NIOSH and Advisory Board staff where classified discussions can take place.



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>



Facility Research



- LM supports the DOE Office of Health, Safety and Security (HSS) by providing DOE and AEC-era records management expertise with a total of 5 staff with an average of 20 years of records management/research experience.
- LM staff includes professional certified records managers and senior staff with security clearances formally trained in the requirements of the National Archives.



DOE Initiatives



- Ongoing effort to identify additional records collections useful for EEOICPA.
 - Collections are evaluated, indexed and cross referenced against previous claims.



Review of DOL SEM Database



- In 2008, DOL completed the Site Exposure Matrices Database (SEM)
 - Contains data from all major DOE sites.
 - Primarily focused on exposure to toxic substances (not radiological exposures).
 - Used as a tool by the DOL Claims Examiners to adjudicate claims.
- DOE Site EEOICPA POC's worked closely with DOL when they were assembling the SEM database.
- DOL requested that DOE review the database for public release.



Review of DOL SEM Database



- DOL has requested a third review, which will tentatively begin in October, 2011
- Public SEM Website can be found at:
<http://www.sem.dol.gov>



Outreach



- DOE Headquarters (HSS)
 - Has initiated a Joint outreach Task Group that includes DOE, DOL and NIOSH, the DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Program, along with the offices of the ombudsman for DOL and NIOSH.
 - The goal of creating a workgroup is to coordinate and improve outreach efforts between the agencies.
 - The Group held 19 "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



- 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 Pinellas

- Production Workers
 - Principal Investigator: Donna Cragle, PhD
 - CoPI: John McInerney, MD, and Lee Newman, MD
 - Local Outreach: 1-866-812-6703
- Construction Workers
 - Principal Investigator: Knut Ringen, DrPH, MHA, MPH
 - Local Outreach: 1-800-866-9663



Questions?