## Department of Energy (DOE) – Former Worker Medical Screening Program and Responsibilities under EEOICPA

### • Former Worker Medical Screening Program (FWP)

FWP provides no-cost medical screenings to all former DOE Federal, contractor, and subcontractor employees.
The screening focuses on the early detection of health conditions that may be related to occupational exposures such as beryllium, asbestos, radiation, silica, etc.

- Medical screenings include a physical exam, hearing test, blood and urine tests, and other special tests depending on the individual's work and exposure history.
- An occupational medicine physician, independent of DOE, will review the exam results and provide a written results letter.
- If a potentially work-related illness is identified, the screening exam results letter may be used to support an EEOICPA claim.
- Re-screen exams are offered every three years.

*For more information about FWP, please call: 301-903-1613 or visit: www.hss.energy.gov/HealthSafety/FWSP/formerworkermed/*

**JOTG Calendar of Events:** for a listing of upcoming meetings and events in your area visit the JOTG calendar at: www.hss.doe.gov/healthsafety/FWSP/Formerworkermed/events_calendars.html

### • DOE's Responsibilities Under EEOICPA

DOE's role is to work on behalf of the program claimants to ensure that all available worker and facility records and data are provided to DOL, NIOSH, or Department of Justice. Specifically, DOE has three major responsibilities under EEOICPA, which include:

1. Providing information to DOL and NIOSH related to individual claims, such as employment verification and exposure records.
2. Supporting DOL, NIOSH, and the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health in large-scale records research and retrieval efforts at various DOE sites.
3. Conducting research, in coordination with DOL and NIOSH, on issues related to covered facility designations (over 300 covered facilities).

DOE manages an extensive search process and makes every effort to ensure that all available records are found and made available to DOL and NIOSH to support claims processing, dose reconstruction, and ultimately claim adjudication.

*For more information about DOE's responsibilities under EEOICPA, please call: 202-586-2784 or visit: www.hss.energy.gov/HealthSafety/FWSP/Advocacy/*

EEOICPA FWP

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

# Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) and Former Worker Medical Screening Program (FWP)

*Agency Roles/Programs for Assisting DOE Covered Workers*

## *The Joint Outreach Task Group*

*In 2009, the Department of Energy (DOE) teamed with the Department of Labor (DOL), the Office of the Ombudsman for DOL, the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH), the Ombudsman to NIOSH and the DOE funded Former Worker Program(FWP) projects to create the Joint Outreach Task Group (JOTG). The JOTG was established under the premise that agencies/programs with common goals can work together by combining resources and coordinating outreach efforts for the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program and Former Worker Medical Screening Program, to better serve the current and former DOE workforce.*

## Department of Labor's (DOL) Role in EEOICPA - Administering Part B and Part E

DOL is tasked with administering the EEOICPA, both Parts B and E. Part B covers current and former workers who have been diagnosed with cancer, chronic beryllium disease, beryllium sensitivity, or silicosis, and whose illness was caused by exposure to radiation, beryllium, or silica while working at a covered Department of Energy (DOE) facility, Atomic Weapons Employer (AWE) facility, or a beryllium vendor facility during a specified time period. In addition, certain individuals awarded benefits by the Department of Justice under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) are also eligible for EEOICPA benefits. Individuals or their survivors found eligible under Part B may receive a lump sum compensation payment of $150,000 and medical expenses for the covered condition.

Part E covers DOE contractor or subcontractor employees whose occupational exposure to a toxic substance at a covered DOE facility during a covered time period was a significant factor in causing, contributing to, or aggravating their claimed illness. Workers found eligible under Part E receive payment of their medical expenses for their covered illness and may also be eligible for impairment and/or wage loss compensation. Eligible survivors may receive a lump sum compensation payment of $125,000 and may also receive additional compensation if the worker experienced wage loss due to the accepted condition.

*For more information, please call 866-888-3322 or visit: www.dol.gov/owcp/energy*

## The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH) Role in EEOICPA - Part B

The NIOSH Division of Compensation Analysis and Support (DCAS)* conducts activities to assist claimants and support the role of the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) under EEOICPA by:

- Developing scientific guidelines for determining whether a worker's cancer is related to the worker's occupational exposure to radiation (probability of causation).
- Developing methods to estimate worker exposure to radiation (dose reconstruction).
- Using the dose reconstruction regulation to develop estimates of radiation dose for workers who have applied for compensation.
- Overseeing the process by which classes of workers can be considered for inclusion in the Special Exposure Cohort (SEC).
- Providing staff support for the independent Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health that advises HHS and NIOSH on dose reconstructions and SEC petitions under EEOICPA.

*For more information on NIOSH's activities under EEOICPA, please call toll free 1-877-222-7570 or visit: www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas*

**Formerly known as the NIOSH Office of Compensation Analysis and Support (OCAS)*

## Ombudsman to NIOSH for EEOICPA - Part B

The NIOSH Ombudsman, Ms. Denise Brock, directly assists both claimants and petitioners. Ms. Brock will review a claimant's entire case file (DOL initial case file, dose reconstruction report, and medical records). She will assist petitioners in compiling materials, information, and documentation needed to file an SEC petition. In addition, Ms. Brock facilitates, participates in, and conducts outreach and workshops for claimants, advocates, consultants, and the public to promote a better understanding of the EEOICPA and the claim process.

*Ms. Brock may be contacted by phone at toll free 1-888-272-7430 or by email at CKO7@cdc.gov*

## DOL's Office of the Ombudsman for EEOICPA

The Office of the Ombudsman for the EEOICPA is an independent office within the DOL that provides assistance and information to claimants and other interested parties on the benefits, requirements, and procedures applicable under EEOICPA. The Office also submits an annual report to Congress that discusses the types of complaints, grievances, and requests for assistance received during the year, as well as provides an assessment of the most common grievances, complaints, and requests received during that year.
In addition, the Office makes recommendations to the Secretary of Labor regarding the location of resources centers for the acceptance and development of EEOICPA claims.

*For information or assistance, please visit our website at www.dol.gov/eeombd, or call our toll free number 1-877-662-8363, or email the office at ombudsman@dol.gov*

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