

Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 (EEOICPA)

Special Exposure Cohort
1Regulation 42 CFR Part 83
(0920-0639) EXTENSION

Supporting Statement
Part B

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B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

This is a federally mandated program. No statistical methods will be used, however; the following procedures listed in B. 2. are used to collect information.

1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

The respondent universe includes all of the petitioners and authorized representatives of petitioners who submit Form A or B.

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Individuals, labor organizations, or other entities interested in submitting a petition on behalf of a class of employees can obtain a petition form and instructions by direct request to NIOSH or from the NIOSH Web site. Petitioners will be able to complete and submit forms in hard copy or electronically, through the NIOSH Web site. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas/how2add.html> Use of the petition form, however, is voluntary. Petitioners may choose to submit petitions in the form of a letter or in another format. Whether using the petition form or not, petitioners must fully comply with the informational requirements specified under 42 C.F.R. §83.9, as well as related instructions on the NIOSH Web site, as appropriate to their petitions. Upon receipt of a petition, NIOSH will make a preliminary determination as to whether the petition requirements have been fully met. If a petitioner does not fully comply with the requirements, NIOSH will provide specific guidance concerning the shortcomings of the petition, and the petitioner will have the opportunity to correct or supplement the information provided, as necessary. The information provided in a petition will be considered by NIOSH staff, NIOSH contractor staff, and may also be considered by members of the Board and contractor staff providing support to the Board.

Individuals interested in authorizing another party to petition on behalf of a class of employees can obtain an authorization form by direct request to NIOSH or by downloading the form from the NIOSH Web page <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas/how2add.html> . The form must be submitted in hard copy, since the validity of the authorization could be subject to legal dispute.

3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal with Nonresponse Rates

This section does not apply to this data collection because 42 C.F.R. pt 83 implements a federally mandated law requiring collection of this data.

4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

The NIOSH project officer routinely discusses the use of the data collection instrument with our partners - the Departments of Labor and Energy. No changes have been recommended in the form since it was approved. Additionally, NIOSH has designated an SEC Petition Counselor who will act on the petitioner's behalf. The address for the SEC Petition Counselor: SEC Petition Counselor, Division of Compensation Analysis and Support, NIOSH, 4676 Columbia Parkway, MS-C-47, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

This project has been ongoing since NIOSH promulgated regulations for designating classes of employees as members of the SEC (42 C.F.R. pt. 83). The project officer is available for consultation. His contact information is listed below.

The purpose of this collection is to provide a way for claimants or their authorized representatives to petition for a class of employees to be included in the Special Exposure Cohort under EEOICPA 42 U.S.C. §7384-7385.

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