



# Introduction to the DOE CEDR Program

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## Mission of the CEDR Program

- ❖ To enhance DOE epidemiologic research program by facilitating independent access and use of data collected during studies of the health impacts associated with working at or living near DOE facilities or operations.
- ❖ The sharing of these data through CEDR supports the spirit of openness in government and the Secretary of Energy's initiative to make environmental, safety, and health information available to all stakeholders.

*The Department of Energy (DOE) and its predecessor agencies have a long history of epidemiologic research programs. The main focus of these programs has been the Health and Mortality Studies of the DOE work force. These epidemiologic studies began in 1964 with a feasibility study of workers at the Hanford facility. Subsequently, worker studies were undertaken at many DOE facilities to examine possible health effects of working in these facilities. Studies of other populations exposed to radiation have also been supported by DOE, including the classic studies of radium dial painters and atomic bomb survivors. From a scientific perspective, this research has been productive, technically sound, and has formed the basis for many radiological protection standards.*

*The results of these studies have been published mainly in scientific literature and other technical reports. Although the practice of publishing study results in scientific literature is the usual way to share information in the science community, some investigators outside DOE asked that these data be more accessible. Because of the contentious nature of epidemiologic research on the health effects of radiation exposure, DOE recognized the benefits of openness through sharing both results and data collected for such studies. DOE, therefore, developed the Comprehensive Epidemiologic Data Resource (CEDR) Program to facilitate and broaden access to the data collected during its epidemiologic research programs. CEDR includes a computer information system for storing CEDR data and related descriptive information and capabilities for independently accessing them. Serving as a public-use data repository, CEDR supports the spirit of openness in government and will make valuable contributions to science and to public health and safety.*

## CEDR Program Goals

- ❖ To provide data from the DOE epidemiologic studies program to all interested parties.
- ❖ To provide opportunities for new scientific understandings.
- ❖ To identify and document other data potentially useful for health studies.
- ❖ To create a central repository of data related to epidemiologic and health concerns.

*In its early years, CEDR primarily included data file sets that were generated from DOE's Health and Mortality Studies that had been conducted during the past 30 years. Currently, CEDR is adding data file sets from newly finished or updated studies of DOE workers, as well as other types of data useful for epidemiologic and health-effects research. These include studies conducted for DOE by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), such as worker studies and historical dose reconstructions; worker or community health studies performed by state health departments or by DOE; and reports on epidemiologic surveillance and records inventories. Additionally, CEDR now contains data from the life span study of atomic bomb survivors, with grouped data provided by the Radiation Effects Research Foundation, and data from DOE's Radium Dial Painters Studies. CEDR is becoming a unique and unparalleled repository of data important for improving our understanding of the health effects of radiation, chemicals, and other physical agents associated with the production and use of energy.*

*The volume of data in CEDR will continue to increase because data from DOE-supported studies are being added, and other researchers performing health studies, regardless of their funding source, are invited to make their data available to the public and scientific communities through CEDR. CEDR's efforts to continually refine and improve the methods of disseminating CEDR data will provide a state-of-the-art vehicle for sharing this comprehensive resource throughout the world. Inquiries or suggestions about the CEDR Program or about sharing data are always welcome and should be directed to the CEDR Program Manager (address and phone number are provided on the next page).*

## *Purpose of This Catalog*

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*This catalog is intended for use by any individual interested in obtaining information about, or access to, CEDR data. It serves as a valuable starting point for such individuals by providing them with an introduction to the CEDR Program and to the types of data available through CEDR. This catalog provides information that will help users identify and request data file sets of interest.*

### **For the most current information on CEDR holdings...**

Although this catalog will be updated periodically, the most current CEDR holdings can be found on the CEDR World Wide Website (<http://cedr.lbl.gov>).

Please see Section 4 for further information about the CEDR website.

**Section 2** provides an overview of the data file sets available in the CEDR computer information system, as of the date of this catalog. **Section 3** discusses the specific types and formats of the available data and CEDR's methodology for gathering the data. **Section 4** describes the process for becoming a CEDR data user and outlines the methods for obtaining CEDR data or accessing CEDR's computer information system. **Section 5** contains descriptions of major DOE sites to which data in CEDR pertain. **Appendices A, B, and C** consist of listings of working and analytic data file sets and of other CEDR holdings. Other appendices include a glossary of CEDR-specific and computer terms, CEDR data access forms, as well as a bibliography of other related data sources.

## *References for Obtaining Additional Information*

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*To obtain further information concerning the CEDR Program and access to the CEDR information system, please contact:*

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