

News Release



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U. S. Labor Department Extends Annual Reports Deadline After Severe Winter Storms Hit Indiana

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) today announced an extension of the deadline for filing Form 5500 and Form 5500 EZ annual report/returns due to damages from severe winter storms and flooding in Indiana.

President Bush declared a major disaster in 62 counties in Indiana due to the damage caused by the storms. The extension applies to plan administrators, employers and other entities located in areas directly affected that are identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The extension also applies to firms located outside the affected areas who are unable to obtain the necessary information from service providers, banks or insurance companies whose operations were directly affected by the storms.

Under this relief, Form 5500 series filings required to be filed between Jan. 1, 2005 and March 25, 2005, are granted an extension until March 25, 2005. Plan filers entitled to an extension of relief should check Part I, Box D, on the Form 5500 or Part I on Form 5500-EZ and attach a statement to the form in accordance with the instructions.

For more information about disaster relief, contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-621-3362 or (202) 621-FEMA or the Internal Revenue Service at www.irs.gov under “Disaster Area Tax Relief. Filers who have additional questions may contact EBSA’s EFAST Help Line at 1-866-463-3278.

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