

Reclamation Manual

Policy

Subject: Occupational Safety and Health Program Policy

Purpose: To set forth Reclamation-specific policy for the implementation and administration of an effective safety and health program.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 7902; Public Law 91-596, Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970; 29 U.S.C. 651 et. Seq.; 29 CFR 1960; Executive Order 12196; and Department of the Interior Safety and Health Manual, 485 DM.

Contact: Safety and Health Services, D-7600

1. **Policy.** Safe and healthful working conditions and facilities will be provided to protect persons from injury/illness, to prevent accidental damage to facilities, and to prevent public exposure to unsafe conditions. To accomplish this policy, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will:
 - A. Commit resources to establish and maintain an effective and comprehensive safety and health program which meets or exceeds the standards or requirements issued by Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), the Department of the Interior (Department), or Reclamation.
 - B. Establish the key elements and organizational processes necessary to efficiently integrate the safety and health provisions into all Reclamation programs, operations, and facilities.
 - C. Conduct all work in accordance with standards issued by OSHA or more stringent standards issued by the Department or Reclamation.
 - D. Hold every Reclamation employee accountable for implementation of the safety and health directives.

2. **Designation of Authority.** The Director, Reclamation Service Center, will serve as the Reclamation Safety and Health Official, who will:
 - A. Oversee and assess the implementation of the safety and health program.
 - B. Issue safety and health program directives which address Reclamation programs, operations, and facilities.
 - C. Act as the primary Reclamation representative to the Department's Safety and Health Council.

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- D. Employ as staff a safety and health professional (certified by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals, the American Board of Industrial Hygiene, or a professional safety engineer) to recommend policy, provide guidance, and evaluate the implementation of Reclamation's safety and health program.
- E. Annually evaluate the performance of safety and health program implementation.
- F. Ensure that Reclamation offices maintain competent safety and health staff and other resources necessary to meet safety and health program needs.