

Who Can Benefit from this Program?

- More than 55,000 former workers have been provided with a free customized medical exam through the Former Worker Program.
- These exams can provide important information on health conditions, which if caught early, can be treated.
- Information about Federal and State compensation programs is available to interested individuals.
- Participants whose screening results are in the normal range receive the benefit of this reassurance.
- Current DOE workers may benefit because this program can help identify important health risks at individual sites.

Who Provides These Services on Behalf of DOE?

- Since 1996, DOE has provided funding to various groups who provide these services.
- These groups include major U.S. universities and medical schools, national health care delivery systems, local health care facilities and major labor unions.

Additional information on the DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Program can be found at:

<http://www.hss.energy.gov/healthsafety/fwsp/formerworkermed>

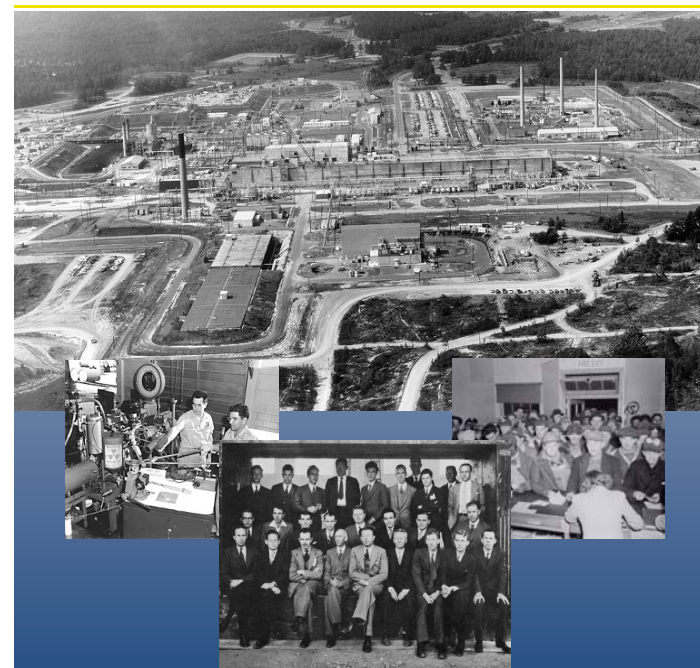


February 2009

The Department of Energy



FORMER WORKER MEDICAL SCREENING PROGRAM



What is the Department of Energy (DOE) Former Worker Medical Screening Program?

The DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Program, otherwise known as the DOE Former Worker Program, offers free medical screening to former DOE workers who may have been exposed to hazardous substances during their work for DOE. The legislative mandate for this program is the 1993 Defense Authorization Act (PL 102-484, Section 3162).

The medical screening includes a physical exam, blood and urine tests, a hearing test, and other special tests depending on work history and exposures, such as a chest x-ray, lung function tests, a test for exposure to asbestos.

This screening is designed to test for such conditions as:

- Chronic respiratory diseases
- Hearing loss
- Liver and kidney problems
- Some forms of cancer

Special tests are available for workers who were exposed to beryllium, asbestos, or silica.

Exam results that are of concern are sent to the participants' personal physicians who will decide the next steps.

Who is Eligible for the DOE Former Worker Program?

All former DOE workers are eligible to participate in this program, regardless of where they currently reside. This includes about 600,000 DOE Federal employees, contractors, and subcontractors.

Where is This Screening Offered?

This program is offered to former workers from all DOE sites, including those sites no longer in operation. Site-specific screening clinics are located in the vicinity of most of the major DOE work sites.

In addition, DOE offers access to a large nationwide system of screening clinics that are centrally coordinated to serve former workers who no longer live in the vicinity of their former site. The screening is based on the specific exposures at the DOE site where the participant was employed. This is because most DOE sites are unique in their operations and, therefore, potential exposures will vary with the site.

Interested individuals are provided with a toll-free number for information on how to enroll.

Who is Encouraged to Enroll?

Anyone who has worked with toxic substances, including the following, is encouraged to enroll:

- Asbestos
- Beryllium
- Radioactive substances
- Metal welding fumes

