

## How do we process your claim?

### Stage 1: Collecting information

After we receive your claim from DOL, we begin collecting your radiation exposure information. Examples of this information include:

- Bioassay records, such as urine tests, that measured internal exposure
- External radiation readings, such as film badge information
- Air samples and area radiation measurements
- Records of radioactive materials that may have been at your work site
- Information on production processes and safety procedures at your work site
- Information from your telephone interview (optional)
- DOE employee information (badge information, medical records, x-rays, etc.)
- Work history

### Stage 2: Dose reconstruction

The information gathered during Stage 1 is used to estimate your radiation exposure.

### Stage 3: Draft report

Once the dose reconstruction is finished, NIOSH will send you a draft dose reconstruction report and an OCAS-1 form to sign and return to NIOSH. We will also contact you for your final telephone interview to explain the draft report and answer any concerns you might have about your report.

### Stage 4: Final report

Once we receive your signed OCAS-1 form, NIOSH will send your report to you and DOL. DOL will use the final report to make a recommended decision on your claim.

## You will receive the following from NIOSH:

- ✓ A letter with a tracking number and other information about dose reconstruction
- ✓ A telephone call to gather information about your work history and radiation exposure
- ✓ A draft copy of your completed dose reconstruction report
- ✓ A form for you to sign and return to NIOSH, which will allow us to send DOL your dose reconstruction for a recommended decision
- ✓ A final telephone interview to explain the draft report and share any concerns or new information you might have about your exposure
- ✓ A final dose reconstruction report, which will be mailed to you and DOL

## How can I contact NIOSH?

NIOSH Public Health Advisors are available at **1-513-533-6800** or toll free at **1-800-35-NIOSH**

**(1-800-356-4674)** to answer your questions about your dose reconstruction, the status of your claim, and your radiation exposure.

Our fax number is **1-513-533-6840**

Our e-mail address is **ocas@cdc.gov**

Fact sheets that provide specific information are available in print and on the Web at

**[www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas)**

Let's Talk  
**ABOUT YOUR CLAIM**



**Safer • Healthier • People**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) assists the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in carrying out its responsibility under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

Our role at NIOSH is to estimate the amount of radiation you were potentially exposed to when you worked for the Department of Energy (DOE) or an Atomic Weapons Employer (AWE). Our staff will reconstruct your exposure to better understand your radiation dose history. The result of the estimate is a dose reconstruction report.

We understand that the dose reconstruction process may be confusing and involve many steps. You and your family may have questions about these steps. We are working hard to make the dose reconstruction process as understandable as possible. If you have questions, please contact us directly at 1-513-533-6800, or toll free at 1-800-35-NIOSH (1-800-356-4674).



## What progress has NIOSH made in completing dose reconstructions?

This compensation program was enacted in October 2000. NIOSH began completing dose reconstructions in June 2002. As of July 2005, NIOSH had completed and returned 49% of all dose reconstructions received from Department of Labor (DOL) for a final decision about compensation.

## How much money will I receive if my claim is approved?

You will receive \$150,000 per qualified energy employee and, in some cases, certain medical expenses.

## What is dose reconstruction?

Dose reconstruction is an accepted scientific method to estimate your past work-related exposure to radiation.

Whenever possible, NIOSH tries to use your personal exposure information to conduct dose reconstructions. This includes film badge readings, medical x-rays, urine analysis readings, incident reports, etc. If there is little or no personal exposure information, NIOSH can use information from technical documents (Site Profiles, Technical Basis Documents, and Technical Information Bulletins), coworker data (exposure records of co-workers who had similar duties, etc.), interviews and records provided by you, the claimant, and

other relevant information to fill in the areas where the information is incomplete.

## What if we cannot do a dose reconstruction?

NIOSH will notify you in writing that a dose reconstruction cannot be completed for your claim. NIOSH will provide you with information about a different means of compensation that does not require a dose reconstruction called the Special Exposure Cohort. Further information is available on the NIOSH Web site: [www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas) (see Special Exposure Cohort).

## Important Abbreviations

**AWE**  
Atomic Weapons  
Employer

**CDC**  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

**EEOICPA**  
Energy Employees  
Occupational Illness  
Compensation Program Act

**HHS**  
Department of  
Health and Human Services

**NIOSH**  
National Institute for  
Occupational Safety  
and Health

**DOE**  
Department  
of Energy

**DOL**  
Department  
of Labor