

FY 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

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MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

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MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Mine Safety and Health Administration, [\$387,816,000] \$438,094,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, including purchase and bestowal of certificates and trophies in connection with mine rescue and first-aid work, and the hire of passenger motor vehicles, including up to \$2,000,000 for mine rescue and recovery activities and not less than \$10,537,000 for State assistance grants: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, not to exceed \$750,000 may be collected by the National Mine Health and Safety Academy for room, board, tuition, and the sale of training materials, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, to be available for mine safety and health education and training activities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to collect and retain up to \$2,499,000 from fees collected for the approval and certification of equipment, materials, and explosives for use in mines, and may utilize such sums for such activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to accept lands, buildings, equipment, and other contributions from public and private sources and to prosecute projects in cooperation with other agencies, Federal, State, or private: *Provided further*, That the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to promote health and safety education and training in the mining community through cooperative programs with States, industry, and safety associations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to recognize the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association as a principal safety association and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, may provide funds and, with or without reimbursement, personnel, including service of Mine Safety and Health Administration officials as officers in local chapters or in the national organization: *Provided further*, That any funds available to the Department of Labor may be used, with the approval of the Secretary, to provide for the costs of mine rescue and survival operations in the event of a major disaster. (*Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2023.*)

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EXPLANATION OF LANGUAGE CHANGE

The Department requests two-year fund availability to increase flexibility for program execution. The annual uncertainty in the appropriations timing results in delayed hiring and rushed execution of contracts. The multi-year availability would reduce the impact of short-term continuing resolutions at no cost to the annual appropriations bill. This change would also enhance staff oversight of the programs they are administering.

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AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION						
(Dollars in Thousands)						
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
A. Appropriation	1,691	\$379,816	1,747	\$387,816	1,888	\$438,094
Unexpired Unobligated Balances Carried Forward from Prior Year (P.L. 117-2)	55	\$11,078	29	\$6,543	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections From:						
Reimbursements	0	\$3,249	0	\$3,249	0	\$3,249
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,746</i>	<i>\$394,143</i>	<i>1,776</i>	<i>\$397,608</i>	<i>1,888</i>	<i>\$441,343</i>
B. Gross Budget Authority	1,746	\$394,143	1,776	\$397,608	1,888	\$441,343
Unexpired Unobligated Balances Carried Forward from Prior Year (P.L. 117-2)	-55	-\$11,078	-29	-\$6,543	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections to:						
Reimbursements	0	-\$3,249	0	-\$3,249	0	-\$3,249
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,691</i>	<i>\$379,816</i>	<i>1,747</i>	<i>\$387,816</i>	<i>1,888</i>	<i>\$438,094</i>
C. Budget Authority Before Committee	1,691	\$379,816	1,747	\$387,816	1,888	\$438,094
Unexpired Unobligated Balances Carried Forward from Prior Year (P.L. 117-2)	55	\$11,078	29	\$6,543	0	\$0
Offsetting Collections From:						
Reimbursements	0	\$3,249	0	\$3,249	0	\$3,249
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,746</i>	<i>\$394,143</i>	<i>1,776</i>	<i>\$397,608</i>	<i>1,888</i>	<i>\$441,343</i>
D. Total Budgetary Resources	1,746	\$394,143	1,776	\$397,608	1,888	\$441,343
Unobligated Balance Expiring	-68	-\$738	0	\$0	0	\$0
FTE Lapse and Unobligated Balance Carryover (American Rescue Plan)	-41	-\$8,759	0	\$0	0	\$0
E. Total, Estimated Obligations	1,637	\$384,646	1,776	\$397,608	1,888	\$441,343

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Net Change
Budget Authority			
General Funds	\$387,816	\$438,094	+\$50,278
Total	\$387,816	\$438,094	+\$50,278
Full Time Equivalents			
General Funds	1,747	1,888	141
Total	1,747	1,888	141

Explanation of Change	FY 2024 Change							
	FY 2023 Base		Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Increases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Costs of pay adjustments	1,747	\$180,071	0	\$0	0	\$8,052	0	\$8,052
Personnel benefits	0	\$70,075	0	\$0	0	\$3,452	0	\$3,452
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0	\$6,604	0	\$0	0	\$141	0	\$141
Benefits for former personnel	0	\$20	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Travel and transportation of persons	0	\$5,309	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Transportation of things	0	\$5,932	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to GSA	0	\$17,577	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Rental payments to others	0	\$71	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0	\$3,236	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Printing and reproduction	0	\$239	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Advisory and assistance services	0	\$616	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0	\$3,388	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Working Capital Fund	0	\$54,535	0	\$0	0	\$3,000	0	\$3,000
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0	\$3,029	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0	\$14,723	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Research & Development Contracts	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	\$1,689	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	\$996	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Supplies and materials	0	\$4,079	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Equipment	0	\$3,910	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	\$11,537	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0	\$180	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0

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FY 2024 Change

Explanation of Change	FY 2023 Base		Trust Funds		General Funds		Total	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Land and Structures	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Built-Ins Subtotal	1,747	+\$387,816	0	\$0	0	+\$14,645	0	+\$14,645
B. Programs:								
Expand Enforcement Activities of the U.S. Mines	0	\$0	0	\$0	93	\$20,262	93	\$20,262
Enforcement - Silica Initiative	0	\$0	0	\$0	31	\$6,739	31	\$6,739
Educational Policy and Development	0	\$0	0	\$0	5	\$2,548	5	\$2,548
Technical Support	0	\$0	0	\$0	8	\$2,214	8	\$2,214
PAEIR - Part 90	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$2,000	0	\$2,000
Office of Assessments	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$1,000	0	\$1,000
Enforcement - Lithium Mining	0	\$0	0	\$0	4	\$870	4	\$870
Programs Subtotal			0	\$0	141	+\$35,633	141	+\$35,633
Total Increase	1,747	+\$387,816	0	\$0	141	+\$50,278	141	+\$50,278
Decreases:								
A. Built-Ins:								
To Provide For:								
Built-Ins Subtotal	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
B. Programs:								
Total Decrease	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Total Change	1,747	+\$387,816	0	\$0	141	+\$50,278	141	+\$50,278

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SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY								
(Dollars in Thousands)								
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request		Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Mine Safety and Health Enforcement	1,164	260,190	1,249	263,190	1,377	301,528	128	38,338
General Funds	1,164	260,190	1,249	263,190	1,377	301,528	128	38,338
Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances	17	5,382	20	5,382	20	5,583	0	201
General Funds	17	5,382	20	5,382	20	5,583	0	201
Office of Assessments	42	7,745	43	7,745	43	9,093	0	1,348
General Funds	42	7,745	43	7,745	43	9,093	0	1,348
Educational Policy and Development	130	40,020	125	40,020	130	43,642	5	3,622
General Funds	130	40,020	125	40,020	130	43,642	5	3,622
Technical Support	183	35,041	188	36,041	196	39,755	8	3,714
General Funds	183	35,041	188	36,041	196	39,755	8	3,714
Program Evaluation and Information Resources	17	19,083	38	19,083	0	0	-38	-19,083
General Funds	17	19,083	38	19,083	0	0	-38	-19,083
Program Administration	70	16,355	84	16,355	0	0	-84	-16,355
General Funds	70	16,355	84	16,355	0	0	-84	-16,355
Program Administration, Evaluation, and Information Resources	0	0	0	0	122	38,493	122	38,493

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SUMMARY BUDGET AUTHORITY AND FTE BY ACTIVITY

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted		FY 2024 Request		Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
General Funds	0	0	0	0	122	38,493	122	38,493
Total	1,623	383,816	1,747	387,816	1,888	438,094	141	50,278
General Funds	1,623	383,816	1,747	387,816	1,888	438,094	141	50,278

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE.

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BUDGET AUTHORITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
	Full-Time Equivalent				
	Full-time Permanent	1,689	1,747	1,888	141
	Other	2	0	0	0
	Total	1,691	1,747	1,888	141
	Average ES Salary	\$195,257	\$203,162	\$213,726	\$10,564
	Average GM/GS Grade	11/4	11/3	11/3	0
	Average GM/GS Salary	\$92,829	\$96,545	\$101,565	\$5,020
	Average Salary of Wage Grade Positions	61,041	59,056	62,126	3,070
11.1	Full-time permanent	160,862	170,510	192,989	22,479
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	440	448	448	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	9,424	9,113	9,113	0
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	170,726	180,071	202,550	22,479
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	73,696	76,679	86,121	9,442
12.2	Military Personnel Benefits	0	0	0	0
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	20	20	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	6,038	5,309	9,102	3,793
22.0	Transportation of things	5,034	5,932	6,522	590
23.0	Rent, Communications, and Utilities	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	16,338	17,577	17,577	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	97	71	71	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	2,260	3,236	3,236	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	285	239	2,239	2,000
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	250	616	616	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	3,546	3,388	3,459	71
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	68,283	72,287	76,705	4,418
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	2,495	1,689	2,889	1,200
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	14,294	996	1,280	284
26.0	Supplies and materials	4,094	4,079	6,173	2,094
31.0	Equipment	4,686	3,910	7,317	3,407
32.0	Land and Structures	5	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	11,537	11,537	12,037	500
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	152	180	180	0
	Total	383,816	387,816	438,094	50,278
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	39,926	54,535	58,953	4,418
	DHS Services	2,446	3,029	3,029	0
	HHS Services	831	1,195	1,195	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	3,697	13,528	13,528	0

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AUTHORIZING STATUTES

Public Law / Act	Legislation	Statute No. / US Code	Volume No.	Page No.	Expiration Date
91-173	Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, As Amended By Public Law 95-164	30 U.S.C., 801 et. seq.	30	823	None
109-236	Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006 (MINER Act)	30 U.S.C., 801 et. seq.	30	823	None

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APPROPRIATION HISTORY					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
	Budget Estimates to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriations	FTE
2014					
Base Appropriation	\$380,721			\$375,887	2,366
2015					
Base Appropriation	\$377,234			\$375,887	2,316
2016					
Base Appropriation	\$394,932	\$371,000	\$356,878	\$375,887	2,271
2017					
Base Appropriation	\$397,372			\$373,816	2,152
2018					
Base Appropriation	\$375,172	\$359,975		\$373,816	2,023
2019					
Base Appropriation...1/	\$375,906		\$373,816	\$373,816	1,984
2020					
Base Appropriation...2/3/	\$376,043	\$417,290		\$379,816	1,826
2021					
Base Appropriation...3/	\$381,587			\$379,816	1,707
2022					
Base Appropriation...4/	\$447,201	\$404,816		\$383,816	1,691
2023					
Base Appropriation	\$423,449			\$387,816	1,747
2024					
Base Appropriation	\$438,094				1,888

1/ This bill was passed by the Senate. It was passed out of the House Subcommittee but was not reported out of the House Committee or by the full House.

2/ This bill was passed by the House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or full Appropriations Committee.

3/ FTE for FY 2020 and FY 2021 reflect the Shared Services Realignment.

4/ This bill was passed by the House. It was not taken up by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee or the full Senate Appropriations Committee.

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OVERVIEW

Established by the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act), the Mine Safety and Health Administration's (MSHA) mission is to prevent death, disease, and injury from mining and promote safe and healthful workplaces for the nation's miners. Specifically, in creating MSHA, Congress gave the Agency and its employees a clear mandate by declaring that "the first priority and concern of all in the coal or other mining industry must be the health and safety of its most precious resource—the miner."

More than 312,000 people work directly in the mining sector, including initial mining of raw materials through processing in preparation for commercial distribution. Miners help supply cement, copper, sand and gravel for the construction and transportation industries; coal needed to make steel to build; and the many metals without which our computers, phones and cars would not exist.

MSHA enforces provisions of the Mine Act, as amended by the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006 (MINER Act). In 1978, the first year MSHA began enforcing the Mine Act, 242 miners died in mining accidents. In 2022, this number fell to 29 fatalities.

While fatalities decreased by 22 percent from 2021 to 2022, we still see troubling trends and areas where we know our Agency can make a difference. The Agency is seeing accidents, injuries, and fatalities involving customer and contract truck drivers, falls from heights, and lack of use of personal protective equipment.

MSHA will use FY 2024 resources to reduce accidents by increasing the inspectorate workforce; enforcing safety and health standards; initiating special emphasis safety and health programs in targeted areas; issuing improved safety and health standards; providing compliance and technical assistance; and training miners and mine operators on hazard recognition and mitigation to decrease fatality, illness, and injury rates.

Miners also continue to face health hazards in the workplace such as potential overexposure to respirable crystalline silica and coal dust. If these hazards are not addressed through proper engineering controls and other measures miners can develop occupational illnesses such as Silicosis and Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis (commonly known as Black Lung Disease).

Emphasizing that protecting miners' health is equally as important as protecting miners' safety, the Agency has launched a Miner Health Matters campaign to conduct enforcement and outreach efforts to ensure miners working in potentially dangerous mining environments take proper precautions to limit exposures to silica and other dangerous toxins. MSHA personnel will continue to directly communicate with miners about their rights and the importance of protecting their health whenever we have the opportunity. MSHA is working on a proposed rule to better protect all miners from exposure to respirable crystalline silica and to update the existing respiratory protection standards. MSHA has also developed and implemented a silica enforcement initiative focused on sampling, compliance assistance, and miners' rights to better protect mine workers. This silica rulemaking and enforcement initiative (including other health enforcement actions) align with the President's "Cancer Moonshot to End Cancer as We Know It" initiative.

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Resources, Priorities, and Performance

In FY 2024, MSHA is requesting \$438,094,000 and 1,888 FTE for Enforcement, other support functions, and Standards development. This is an increase of \$50,278,000 and 141 FTE over the FY 2023 level. Significant program increases include:

- \$27,871,000 in the **Mine Safety and Health Enforcement** budget activity to increase enforcement personnel. The increase will support an increased number of inspectors to support completion of mandatory inspections, accident investigations, and hazard condition complaint investigations as statutorily required by the Mine Act and the MINER Act. The workload is increasing due to impacts of higher production in the nation's mines, including production of inputs for infrastructure investments spurred by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Due to MSHA's increased outreach activities, the agency is also receiving additional complaints about hazards in the mining workplace.
- \$2,548,000 in the **Educational Policy and Development** budget activity to update the content and training methodology used at the National Mine Health and Safety Academy (Mine Academy). MSHA will develop new methods of training including virtual reality, distance learning, and online courses.
- \$2,214,000 in the **Technical Support** budget activity to increase laboratory capacities to allow MSHA to handle a projected increase in samples collected to protect miners from preventable occupational diseases like Black Lung Disease and silicosis as part of MSHA's new respirable silica regulatory standard and samples collected as a result of increased mining to meet the workload impacts of BIL.
- \$2,000,000 in the **Program Administration, Evaluation, and Information Resources** budget activity to promote awareness of Part 90. Under Part 90, coal miners who have already developed a pneumoconiosis such as Black Lung Disease can exercise rights that allow them to continue working in healthier parts of the mine. Coal miners will not have their pay reduced when they are transferred to an area in the mine where the average concentration of respirable dust is continuously maintained at or below a reduced standard. MSHA's data shows the Part 90 program is significantly underused, with less than three dozen miners currently participating.
- \$1,000,000 in the **Office of Assessments** budget activity to continue activities associated with the assessment and collection of civil penalties, performing accountability audits, and review of special investigations and discrimination cases.

Along with advancing the Administration's and Secretary's priorities, this request reflects MSHA's commitment to the mission and enforcement of the Mine Act.

BIL is a historic investment that will bring modernization to roads, bridges, ports, airports, and transit, all of which require an increase in mining activity, particularly in metal and nonmetal mining, for items such as gravel, sand, and stone. Based on the increased mining production in

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FY 2022 and the projected increased workload from the BIL from FY 2023 through FY 2027, the Department anticipates an increase in production at, or expansion of, existing mines and facilities, particularly metal and non-metal mines. Anticipated increases in production and employees in these commodities underscores the need for a larger MSHA inspectorate to ensure the health and safety of miners.

This increased production will increase the number of mandated inspections and other related inspections MSHA is required to execute. MSHA projects approximately 1,800 mine expansions and a minimum of 600 new mines. Meanwhile, MSHA's staffing levels recently sank to the lowest level in a decade. To compound matters further, MSHA's attrition rate remains high (8% average over the past 5 years). Mine Safety and Health Enforcement Inspectors must go through significant in-classroom and on-the-job training. The minimum timeframe required to adequately train Enforcement personnel to independently inspect mines is approximately two years. Individuals in the newly created Enforcement Inspector position (occupational series 1801) will have approximately one year of additional training for a total of up to three years of intensive training. MSHA continues to prioritize expanding its Mine Safety and Health Enforcement workforce by working to hire and train inspectors to keep miners protected at a time of projected increases in mining activities due to the implementation of the BIL and increased demand for critical minerals.

As the Administration focuses on clean energy transition, the U.S. needs to strengthen its supply chain, especially for critical minerals, such as lithium, cobalt, and nickel. In FY 2022, the President invoked the Defense Production Act to provide funding to initiate new mines producing strategic and critical minerals, or expand current ones, while ensuring strong labor, environmental, and safety standards. Additionally, in FY 2022, Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). In addition to tax credits for the purchase of electric vehicles, whose components use critical minerals, IRA provides substantial tax credits for companies mining and refining critical minerals.

In FY 2021, the Administration announced ambitious environmental targets; by CY 2030, half of the passenger vehicle sales in the U.S. will have zero emissions and the U.S. will reach zero net emissions by CY 2050. Meeting these targets will require increases in mining activity for cobalt, lithium, rare earth elements, and other clean energy resources. After several years of coal production decreases, the United States saw an increase in the production of coal as an economical energy source in CY 2022.

The FY 2024 request reflects MSHA's strong commitment for targeted enforcement, compliance assistance, training, and innovative technologies to protect the safety and health of the nation's miners. MSHA will continue to:

- Meet the Agency's statutory obligations under the Mine Act to include completing its mandatory mine inspections, at least four inspections per year in underground mines and at least two inspections per year in surface mines, and additional inspections for methane and other hazards, as well as enforcing mandatory health and safety standards to protect the safety and health of the nation's miners.

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- Place increased emphasis on health hazards, including respirable coal mine dust, silica/quartz at coal and metal and nonmetal mines, diesel particulate matter and noise.
- Address ways to increase awareness surrounding accessibility and use of the Part 90 program.
- Place increased emphasis on expanding mechanisms to manage the design, construction, maintenance, and operations of dams to better protect the environment and share expertise with other Nations in need of technical and enforcement assistance.
- Perform special assessment reviews for certain powered haulage violations involving customer/contractor truck drivers, or violations involving supervisors performing mining tasks, that would result in higher penalties than regularly assessed violations.
- Continue outreach for opioid hazard awareness suitable for miners, new miners, and employers to manage opioid hazards.
- Identify ways to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability by aligning the Agency's organizational structure with its core mission and operating plan and focusing on activities to increase operational efficiency and provide cost savings.
- Work with stakeholders to strengthen collaborative relationships to better understand the mining communities' needs and to develop guidance and outreach materials to focus on hazards creating the greatest accidents, illnesses and injuries that will help to ensure miners' safety and health.
- Work to create innovative approaches to mine emergency response.
- Review trends in the mining industry, perform risk analysis and take preventive, mitigative, and/or corrective actions in response to changes.
- Anticipate production increases in several metal and nonmetal mining industries. The Agency continues to closely monitor industry forecasts and adjust MSHA resources accordingly.
- Enhance compliance assistance activities related to powered haulage hazards, health hazards, electrocutions, falls from heights, contractors, and training of inexperienced miners.
- Develop and update training materials and review mine plans.
- Oversee mine rescue and recovery operations.
- Advancing the Administration's and Secretary's priorities by focusing on diversity, racial and gender equity. MSHA plans to continue to focus on addressing the bilingual needs in underserved communities to build a modern and more inclusive workforce. Special

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bilingual positions (English/Spanish) were created to enhance the mining community's safety and health needs through improved outreach and communication. This will be the standard hiring policy for all future hires, in particular regions such as the Western United States, where there is a predominant Latino and American Indian mining community. MSHA is also focusing on internal processes to ensure that it not only hires but retains a diverse workforce.

- A commitment to implement and embrace Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) initiatives. In alignment with the President's vision on DEIA, the Agency revamped the hiring process with increased flexibilities in hiring by creating a hybrid position to attract a more diverse workforce and instituting hiring panels that included an independent and diverse group. These are structural changes in MSHA's commitment to improve the recruitment process, hiring, and workforce retention efforts. Diverse, equitable, and inclusive teams increase employee engagement, maximize job satisfaction, and levels of trust. MSHA will use the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) to identify potential qualified candidates to provide opportunities for Schedule A hires. MSHA will ensure new candidates and existing employees are aware of their right to seek reasonable accommodation. The Agency will participate in outreach to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Asian American, Native American, Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities for hiring activities. These efforts will ensure MSHA recruits highly qualified personnel that mirror the nation's diversity
- On-going collaborative monthly meetings with the Department of Labor Office of Human Resources to continue to improve the Agency's hiring process and to continue to seek guidance in the variety of special hiring authorities available to expedite the hiring of new talent.
- Broaden the Apprenticeship Program to other states and mining communities with the expectation of adding or possibly doubling the work beyond the 13 states in the program.
- Focus on Accessibility efforts such as Section 508 compliance. These efforts include updating accessibility requirements for information and communication technology (ICT) covered by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation and Section 255 of the Communications Act. MSHA is committed to implementing these requirements to ensure that covered ICT is accessible to, and usable by, individuals with disabilities.
- Reduce the footprint by increasing workplace flexibilities. MSHA reduced approximately 10,500 sq. feet in FY 2022.
- Use the hybrid occupational series (1801) to overcome hiring obstacles and to attract a more diverse and qualified workforce. The series provides greater flexibility in hiring.
- Implement strategies to continue exceeding the small business procurement goals set by the Department of Labor, which include goals for Small Disadvantaged Businesses and HUBZones. The Agency will participate in small business outreach events such as

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

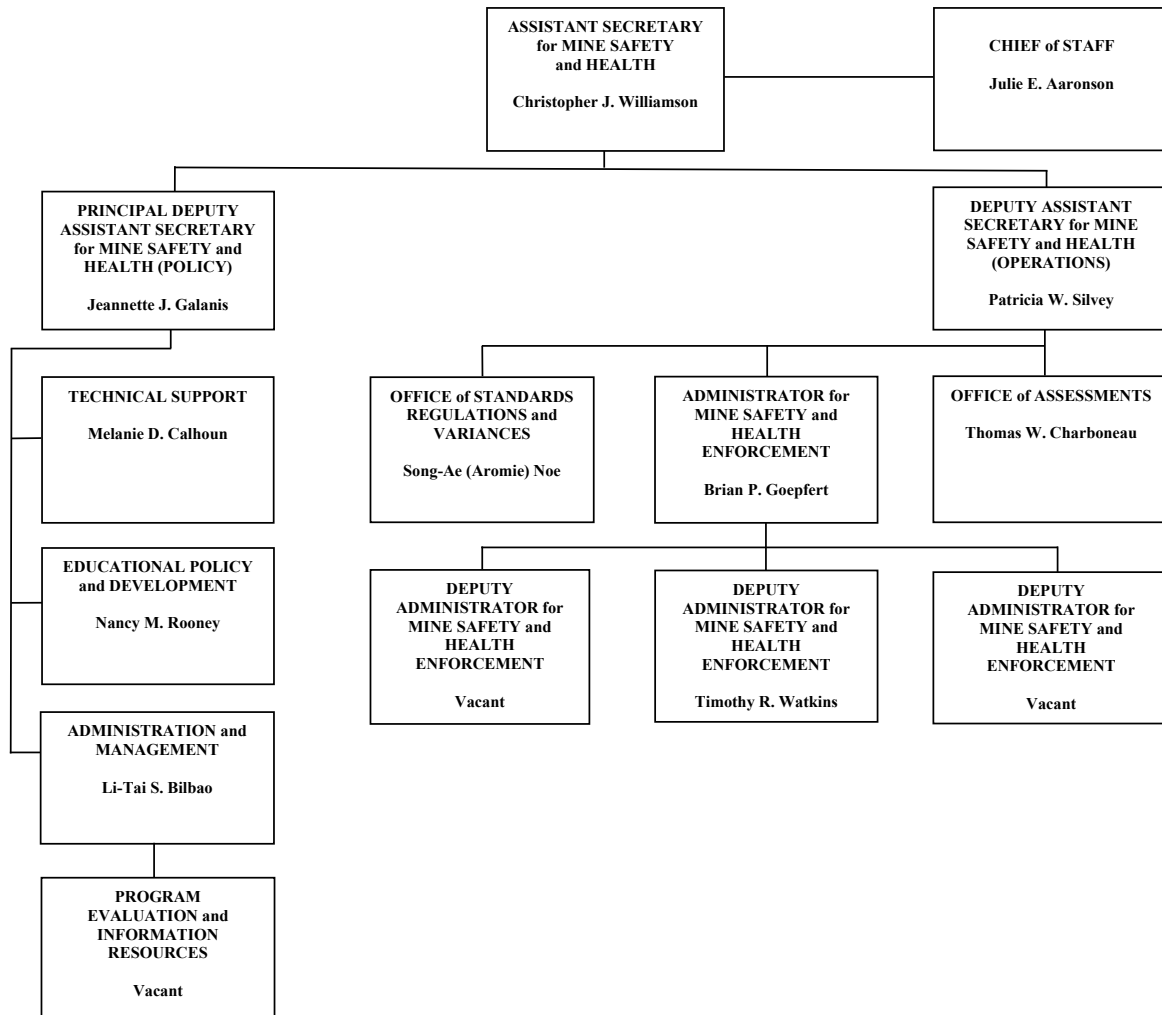
working with Small Business Administration (SBA) local offices, and through diligent market research for each procurement action.

- Commit grant opportunities to underserved communities. MSHA has two grant programs: State Grants and Brookwood-Sago Grants. State Grants are formula grants and are made to the state agency program responsible for miners' health and safety, while Brookwood-Sago Grants are competitive grants. Both State Grants and Brookwood-Sago Grants are used to fund education and training programs to better identify, avoid, and prevent unsafe and unhealthy working conditions in and around mines. MSHA will expand outreach of grants to tribal governments and minority serving institutions in mining communities. In FY 2023 MSHA's target of competitive grants awarded to institutions that serve underserved populations is at 20 percent.

The President calls on Congress to provide the federal government with the tools it needs to ensure employers are providing workers with good jobs—including jobs with fair and equal pay, safe and healthy workplaces, respect for the right to organize, and workplaces free from discrimination, retaliation, and harassment, including sexual harassment. To deter employers from violating workers' rights, ensure those who do violate their rights are held accountable, and level the playing field for responsible employers, the Budget proposes meaningfully increasing penalties at the Department of Labor for employers that violate workplace safety, health, wage and hour, and child labor laws.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

ORGANIZATION CHART



MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	260,190	263,190	301,528	38,338
FTE	1,164	1,249	1,377	128

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 1,209.

Introduction

Mine Safety and Health Enforcement (MSHE), which is comprised of the formerly separate Coal Mine Safety and Health and Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health budget activities, will continue to administer the provisions of the Mine Act, as amended by the MINER Act, to promote compliance with safety and health standards, prevent fatalities, injuries and illnesses, reduce the frequency and severity of accidents, and minimize health hazards in the nation’s approximately 1,000 active coal mines and 12,000 metal and nonmetal mines. MSHE will continue to inspect all active underground mines at least four times per year and all surface mines at least twice per year. These inspections form the core of MSHA’s efforts, regularly providing a first-hand look at conditions in each of the nation’s mines to ensure that all hazards are corrected immediately so that miners can go home to their families and communities, safe and healthy, each and every day at the end of their shifts.

The majority of MSHE employees are located in 15 district offices and 80 field/satellite offices throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Most employees are mine safety and health enforcement personnel who perform inspection activities and investigations of fatal accidents, non-fatal and non-injury accidents, verbal and written hazard complaints, and discrimination complaints.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$254,500	1,460
2020	\$260,500	1,366
2021	\$260,500	1,269
2022	\$264,500	1,209
2023	\$265,774	1,249

FY 2024

MSHA requests \$301,528,000 and 1,377 FTE for the MSHE budget activity. This is a total increase of \$38,338,000 and 128 FTE over the FY 2023 level.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

To promote transparency in Agency spending on its enforcement activities, MSHA continues to separately present annual spending on coal and metal/non-metal mines as it has in past Congressional Budget Justifications.

Program	Program Increase	FTE Increase	Funding Total	FTE Total
CMSH	\$4,791,000	22	\$155,863,500	764
MNMSH	\$23,080,000	106	\$145,664,500	613
Total	\$27,871,000	128	\$301,528,000	1,377

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 includes provisions aimed at increasing the competitiveness of the U.S. economy, such as measures to strengthen domestic manufacturing and invest in critical supply chains. Implementation of these provisions will seek to significantly increase the national strategic mineral stockpile to reduce the nation’s reliance on foreign supplies. This is especially important for defense mineral supplies which are needed to build everything from bullets to nuclear weapons to night vision goggles. Additionally, many minerals are critical for commercial uses, such as in electric motors used in electric vehicles and in energy generators within wind turbines. As such, MSHA anticipates an increase in domestic mining production of minerals, which includes lithium, titanium, tungsten, cobalt, and antimony, as well as rare earths elements. The defense authorization bill in Fiscal Year 2023 has authorized spending to acquire strategic and critical minerals currently in short supply. These efforts will result in increased production throughout the domestic mining industry as efforts are launched to bolster the U.S. critical mineral supply chain used in defense and commercial manufacturing. Accordingly, increased mining activity will necessitate additional MSHE inspections and other activities in order to adequately protect miners’ safety and health.

MSHE will continue to focus on hiring and training new inspectors ensuring a well-trained inspectorate to administer the provisions of the Mine Act, as amended by the MINER Act, including conducting mandatory inspections and targeted enforcement and compliance assistance initiatives. MSHE’s hiring will also focus on diversifying its inspectorate and other positions within MSHE, including hiring bilingual inspectors, which will also improve and increase enforcement effectiveness.

Whenever practical, MSHE will continue to search for and procure mining equipment manufactured in the United States, as outlined in the President’s priority “Management and Performance Efforts to Deliver Results for All Americans.” Additionally, MSHE will prioritize information technology and technology modernization, as well as focus on methods for increasing data capabilities to improve and enhance enforcement effectiveness and improve workplace safety and health in the mining industry.

MSHE will continue efforts to improve workplace safety and health in the mining industry and will remain committed to targeted enforcement and compliance assistance in its efforts to improve safety and health conditions in the mining workplace by continuing the following strategies:

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

- **Enforcing mandatory health and safety standards** through complete inspections of each mine. MSHE will complete statutorily mandated inspections four times per year in active underground mines and twice per year in surface mines.
- **In response to the global climate crisis**, and to prevent environmental disasters, MSHE will continue to place increased emphasis on expanding mechanisms to manage the design, construction, maintenance, and operations of dams. MSHE will use guidance and training to reduce risks to public safety, health, and property. MSHE will also share its expertise with other Nations in need of technical and enforcement assistance.
- **Enhance compliance assistance activities** related to powered haulage hazards, contractors, electrocutions, falls from heights, the importance of maintaining and wearing proper personal protective equipment, and training of inexperienced miners.
- **Protect miners from discrimination.** MSHE will conduct timely investigations of hazard complaints and discrimination complaints and enhance miners' knowledge regarding their rights and responsibilities under the Mine Act. This strategy is in line with the Secretary's "morning, noon, and night" vision, ensuring workers have a seat at the table and that miners have a job that is safe without fear of interference, discrimination, or retaliation.
- **Inspection and enforcement effectiveness.** MSHE will continue to enhance its enforcement efforts of violations that contribute to fatalities and serious accidents with emphasis on areas:
 - **Special (Impact) inspections.** MSHE will continue the Agency's impact inspections initiative, as needed. These inspections target mines with specific conditions, problems, or compliance issues; the actual number of inspections will depend on how many mines need additional inspections.
 - **Enhanced Enforcement Program.** MSHE will continue to review for higher penalties, certain powered haulage violations involving customer/contractor truck drivers, or violations involving supervisors performing mining tasks.
 - **Silica Enforcement Initiative.** MSHE will focus enforcement activities on mines with repeated overexposures to toxic levels of respirable crystalline silica dust.

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- **Promote adoption of prevention-focused health and safety** programs by mine operators. MSHE will continue with its increase in health sampling activities to ensure that miners' overexposure to respirable dust, quartz/silica, and other toxins and noise are addressed by mine operators. Technical investigations, which evaluate the root causes of hazards and accidents in mines, will be conducted. MSHE will continue to conduct accident prevention inspections in response to specific mine hazards.
- **Part 90.** MSHE will focus efforts on broadening coal miners' awareness of their rights under Part 90. Part 90 generally gives coal miners who have pneumoconiosis the right to be transferred, without having their pay reduced to an area in a mine where the average concentration of respirable dust is continuously maintained at or below a reduced standard
- Coordinate MSHA's enhanced **special enforcement initiatives** and **special investigations programs.**

FY 2023

The MSHE revised enacted budget for FY 2023 is \$263,190,000 and an FTE level of 1,249, a slight increase of \$3,000,000 from the 2022 revised enacted budget.

Program	Funding Total	FTE
CMSH	\$144,754,500	742
MNMSH	\$118,435,500	507
Total	\$263,190,000	1,249

MSHE administered the provisions of the Mine Act, as amended by the MINER Act, to promote compliance with safety and health standards, prevent fatalities, injuries, and illnesses, reduce the frequency and severity of accidents, and minimize health hazards in the nation's approximately 1,000 active coal mines and 12,000 metal and nonmetal mines. MSHE continued to inspect all active underground mines four times per year and all surface mines twice per year.

MSHE worked with stakeholders to strengthen collaborative relationships to better understand the mining communities' needs and to develop guidance and outreach materials to focus on hazards creating the greatest accidents, illnesses and injuries that will help to ensure miners' safety and health.

MSHE continued efforts to improve workplace safety and health in the mining industry and will remain committed to targeted enforcement and compliance assistance in its efforts to improve safety and health conditions in the mining workplace by continuing the following strategies:

- Enforced mandatory health and safety standards through complete inspections of each mine.
- Increased emphasis on dams.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

- Enhanced compliance assistance activities.
- Protected miners from discrimination.
- Promoting the adoption of prevention-focused, health and safety programs by mine operators.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, MSHA received \$260,190,000 and 1,164 FTE for MSHE which comprised the formerly separate Coal Mine Safety and Health (CMSH) and the Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health (MNMSH) budget activities.

Program	Funding Total	FTE
CMSH	\$143,104,500	707
MNMSH	\$117,085,500	457
Total	\$260,190,000	1,164

Funding supported MSHA's continued efforts to encourage the mining community to develop and implement safety and health programs and to use an integrated approach toward the prevention of serious accidents, injuries, and occupational illnesses in the mining industry. In FY 2022, MSHE continued to ensure safe and healthful workplaces for the nation's miners.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted		FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request
		Target	Result	Target	Target
Mine Safety and Health Enforcement					
Strategic Goal 2 - Ensure Safe Jobs, Essential Protections, and Fair Workplaces					
Strategic Objective 2.1 - Secure safe and healthful workplaces, particularly in high-risk industries.					
MSHA- INSP1.1	Percent of regular mandated underground inspections	100%	100%	100%	100%
MSHA- INSP2.1	Percent of regular mandated surface inspections	100%	100%	100%	100%
MSHA-1.1	Percent of 105(c) investigations of miner discrimination complaints that are completed within 60 days of receipt	90%	99%	90%	90%
MSHA-2.1	Percent of investigations of miner requests for temporary reinstatements that are completed within 20 days of receipt	90%	100%	90%	90%
MSHA-3.1	Percent of 103(g) imminent danger complaint investigations initiated within 1 day of receipt	100%	100%	100%	100%

Legend: (r) Revised (e) Estimate (base) Baseline -- Not Applicable TBD - To Be Determined [p] - Projection

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

Workload and Performance Narrative

MSHE will implement its enforcement strategies and initiatives through the following:

- *MSHA-INSP1 and MSHA-INSP2*: In FY 2024, MSHE projects it will complete one hundred percent of its regularly mandated inspections. These inspections provide an examination of mining conditions and play a key role in ensuring the safety and health of the nation's miners. The actual number of surface and underground inspections completed will depend on the number of active mines for each year. The projected number of underground and surface mandated inspections in FY 2024 is approximately 20,000. MSHE will conduct targeted inspections at mines with a poor compliance history or that have adverse conditions such as increased methane liberation, increased health hazards, or other hazards. MSHE will inspect all existing impoundments during regular mandated inspections in order to reduce the risk to miners, the general public, and the environment should these impoundments fail.

The Mine Act gives miners the right to contribute to their safety and health by participating in the inspection process through a representative of their choosing, voicing concerns about hazards, refusing to work in dangerous conditions, and exercising other rights. MSHE will continue to ensure that all miner requests for temporary reinstatements, investigations of 105(c) miner discrimination complaints, and 103(g) imminent danger complaints are investigated within the established timeframes. Prompt investigation of interference and discrimination complaints and reported hazardous conditions is of utmost importance in assuring miners that MSHA will protect their rights through the following efforts in FY 2024:

- *MSHA-01*: Complete 90 percent of 105(c) investigations of miner discrimination complaints within 60 days of receipt of a complaint.
- *MSHA-02*: Complete 90 percent of investigations of miner requests for temporary reinstatement within 20 days of receipt.
- *MSHA-03*: Initiate 100 percent of 103(g) imminent danger complaint investigations within one day of receipt.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	112,749	118,337	136,355	18,018
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	27	31	31	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	8,393	8,255	8,255	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	121,169	126,623	144,641	18,018
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	54,568	56,067	63,460	7,393
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	20	20	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	5,286	4,000	7,488	3,488
22.0	Transportation of things	4,481	5,272	5,784	512
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	13,353	14,907	14,907	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	2	2	2	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	807	1,185	1,185	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	48	80	80	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	8	24	24	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	172	484	555	71
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	42,643	48,553	52,115	3,562
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	10,086	425	425	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	3,035	2,273	4,367	2,094
31.0	Equipment	4,380	3,275	6,475	3,200
32.0	Land and Structures	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	152	0	0	0
	Total	260,190	263,190	301,528	38,338
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	29,583	43,540	47,102	3,562
	DHS Services	2,104	2,570	2,570	0
	HHS Services	620	1,023	1,023	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	3,233	1,420	1,420	0

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ENFORCEMENT

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$5,730
Personnel benefits	2,456
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	137
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	2,144
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0
Land and Structures	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$10,467**

Net Program **\$27,871**

Direct FTE **128**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$273,657	1,249
Program Increase	\$27,871	128
Program Decrease	\$0	0

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	5,382	5,382	5,583	201
FTE	17	20	20	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 21.

Introduction

The Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances (OSRV) develops standards and regulations for the mining industry that protect the safety and health of miners. These standards and regulations, developed in coordination with the Office of the Solicitor, Division of Mine Safety and Health, and other MSHA program offices, establish mandatory enforceable requirements in accordance with the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended by the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act of 2006.

OSRV leads all of MSHA’s rulemaking activities, from the pre-proposal stage to the publication of the final rule. Each year, it develops MSHA’s Semi-Annual Regulatory Agenda and Regulatory Plan. In accordance with the Agenda and Plan, MSHA proposes and promulgates new and improved safety and health standards and regulations. MSHA’s standards and regulations are based on information submitted to the Secretary by interested parties, including any organizations representing miners and mining businesses, nationally recognized standards-producing organizations, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), state or local governments, or information developed by the Secretary otherwise available. Pursuant to Executive Orders (EOs) 12866 and 13563, OSRV also analyzes the anticipated benefits and costs of any significant regulatory or deregulatory action, and reviews existing rules to identify regulations that are inconsistent with EO policy directives. To ensure transparency in MSHA’s rulemaking, OSRV maintains MSHA’s rulemaking docket and posts all rulemaking documents on Regulations.gov.

In addition to being responsible for all aspects of rulemaking, OSRV manages: the procedures for filing of petitions for modification (through which a mine operator or a representative of a miner can petition to modify the application of any mandatory safety standard); MSHA’s Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) program; and information collection activities under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$4,500	13
2020	\$4,500	14
2021	\$4,500	21
2022	\$4,500	21
2023	\$5,000	20

FY 2024

MSHA requests \$5,583,000 and 20 FTE for the OSRV budget activity. This is a total increase of \$201,000 over the FY 2023 level. OSRV will continue to promote the safety and health of miners through the following rulemaking activities:

Improving Safety and Health of Miners

- Publish a final rule to protect miners' health from exposure to respirable crystalline silica. The final rule will address the control of respirable silica and the limit of permissible exposure. As it develops the final rule, MSHA will review all public comments received through the comment period.
- Publish a final rule to revise existing standards that set out the testing, evaluation, and approval requirements for electric motor-driven equipment and accessories intended for use in gassy mines.
- Publish a proposed rule to allow mine operators to use electronic surveying equipment in underground mines when the equipment meets certain technical specifications and is operated under certain conditions. This rule would make mine surveying more accurate and less time-consuming, while maintaining safety at underground mines.
- Continue to work with NIOSH and the mining community on MSHA's retrospective review of the 2014 final rule titled, "Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Coal Mine Dust, Including Continuous Personal Dust Monitors." OSRV will review and analyze the submitted information and data to a request for information on a Retrospective Study of the Respirable Coal Mine Dust Rule.

FY 2024 funding will also support OSRV's efforts to process and publish documents related to requests for variances from mandatory safety standards (petitions for modification). For FY 2024, OSRV estimates that approximately 47 requests for variances will be processed.

In addition, at the FY 2024 funding request level, OSRV will administer MSHA's FOIA program and information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as follows:

- Process approximately 800 requests for information under FOIA. OSRV will provide

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

timely responses to at least 70 percent of initial FOIA requests.

- Publish an estimated 23 Federal Register notices to notify the public of MSHA's review of the Agency's information collection requests and to seek public comments in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OSRV will ensure that MSHA collects information efficiently and effectively. When new rules are issued or new information-collection activities are initiated, additional paperwork packages will be developed, as appropriate.

FY 2023

FY 2023 funding supports MSHA's priority to strengthen regulatory efforts through the following rulemaking activities:

Improve Safety and Health of Miners

- Publish a proposed rule to protect miners' health from exposure to respirable crystalline silica. The proposal will address the control of respirable silica and the limit of permissible exposure. MSHA will consider the data and information gathered through working with NIOSH and mining stakeholders over the years and through a recent request for information, and it will also draw on relevant information contained in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's FY 2016 final rule on respirable crystalline silica. Once the proposed rule is published, MSHA will hold multiple public hearings to ensure that it receives feedback from miners and mine stakeholders across the U.S. As it develops the final rule, MSHA will review all public comments received through the comment period.
- Work to complete a rulemaking to establish a written safety program for mobile equipment and powered haulage equipment (except belt conveyors) at surface mines and surface areas of underground mines. Accidents involving surface mobile equipment continue to be a leading cause of injuries and fatalities in mining, and this rulemaking aims to reduce those accidents, injuries, and fatalities.
- Work to complete a proposed rulemaking that would allow mine operators to use electronic surveying equipment in underground mines when the equipment meets certain technical specifications and is operated under certain conditions. This rule would make mine surveying more accurate and less time-consuming, while maintaining safety at underground mines.
- Review and analyze information and data submitted in response to the request for information on a Retrospective Study of Respirable Coal Mine Dust. This retrospective study will determine whether existing standards are achieving regulatory objectives such as reducing respirable coal mine dust levels to protect coal miners from developing disabling lung diseases.

FY 2023 funding also supports OSRV's efforts to process and publish documents related to

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

requests for variances from mandatory safety standards (petitions for modification). For FY 2023, OSRV estimates that 47 requests for variances will be processed.

In addition, at the FY 2023 funding level, OSRV will administer MSHA's FOIA program and information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as follows:

- Process approximately 800 requests for information under FOIA. OSRV will provide timely responses to at least 70 percent of initial FOIA requests.
- Publish an estimated 25 Federal Register notices to notify the public of MSHA's review of the Agency's information collection requests and to seek public comments in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OSRV will ensure that MSHA collects information efficiently and effectively. When new rules are issued or new information-collection activities are initiated, additional paperwork packages will be developed, as appropriate.

FY 2022

FY 2022 funding supported MSHA's priority to strengthen regulatory efforts through the following:

Improving Safety and Health of Miners

- Worked to develop a proposed rule to protect miners' health from exposure to respirable crystalline silica. MSHA considered data and information gathered through a recent request for information and through working with NIOSH and mining stakeholders over the years, as well as relevant information contained in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's 2016 final rule on respirable crystalline silica.
- Worked to develop a final rule to revise existing standards that set out the testing, evaluation, and approval requirements for electric motor-driven equipment and accessories intended for use in gassy mines. The final rule will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of MSHA's product approval process and will promote the use of innovative and advanced technologies that can improve mine safety and health.
- Worked to complete a rulemaking to establish a written safety program for mobile equipment and powered haulage equipment (except belt conveyors) at surface mines and surface areas of underground mines. This rulemaking aims to reduce accidents, injuries, and fatalities involving surface mobile equipment.
- Worked to develop a proposed rule to allow mine operators to use electronic surveying equipment in underground mines when the equipment meets certain technical specifications and is operated under certain conditions. This rule will make mine-surveying more accurate and less time-consuming, while maintaining safety at underground mines.

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

FY 2022 funding also supported OSRV's efforts to process and publish documents related to requests for variances from existing safety standards (Petitions for Modification). In FY 2022, OSRV processed 45 requests for variances from safety standards.

In addition, at the FY 2022 funding level, OSRV administered MSHA's FOIA program and information collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as follows:

- Processed 641 requests for information under FOIA. Ninety percent of the FOIA requests were processed within 20 working days upon receipt.
- Published 22 Federal Register notices to notify the public of MSHA's review of the Agency's information collection requests and to seek public comments in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	2,989	2,710	2,827	117
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	33	33	33	0
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	3,022	2,743	2,860	117
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	1,087	983	1,033	50
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	9	36	36	0
22.0	Transportation of things	0	2	2	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	266	179	179	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	30	35	35	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0	11	11	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	80	114	114	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	150	496	496	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	97	57	57	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	422	647	681	34
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	197	32	32	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	22	47	47	0
31.0	Equipment	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	0	0
	Total	5,382	5,382	5,583	201
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	372	593	627	34
	DHS Services	31	31	31	0
	HHS Services	19	23	23	0

OFFICE OF STANDARDS, REGULATIONS, AND VARIANCES

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$117
Personnel benefits	50
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	34
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$201**

Net Program **\$0**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$5,583	20
Program Increase	\$0	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

OFFICE OF ASSESSMENTS

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	7,745	7,745	9,093	1,348
FTE	42	43	43	0

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 42.

Introduction

The Office of Assessments (OA) assesses and collects civil monetary penalties for violations of the Mine Act and mine safety and health standards. This mission includes determination of the civil penalty amounts, collection of and accounting for delinquent penalties, as well as tracking all penalty cases in litigation before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission and the Federal courts.

The OA is responsible for MSHA’s Special Investigations Program, which investigates complaints of discrimination filed by miners and possible knowing/willful violations of the Mine Act or mandatory safety and health regulations. These investigations protect miners who report safety or health hazards to mine operators, file an MSHA hazard complaint, assist an MSHA inspector, or testify in an MSHA proceeding. They also ensure that mine management is held personally responsible for serious safety violations in certain circumstances. Special Investigations thus further the Secretary’s vision of building a modern, inclusive workplace by promoting mining jobs that are safe, do not discriminate against or cause exploitation of miners, and give miners a voice in the workplace. In FY 2024, Assessments’ staff will continue reviewing 100% of all discrimination investigations to ensure that case law and policy are applied consistently and correctly.

The OA manages MSHA’s Pattern of Violations (POV) Program to identify mine operators who have demonstrated a recurring pattern of Significant and Substantial (S&S) violations of mandatory health and safety standards at their mines. An S&S violation is one that is reasonably likely to result in a serious injury or illness. Additionally, OA manages the Scofflaw program which is an enforcement tool MSHA uses to pursue violators demonstrating egregious cases of non-compliance with safety and health standards in combination with unpaid civil penalties.

The OA administers MSHA’s Accountability Program, which ensures enforcement policies and procedures are effectively implemented. During FY 2024, OA will continue to provide assistance to Mine Safety and Health Enforcement districts in developing corrective action plans, as warranted. The plans identify root causes and corrective measures used to prevent recurrences of actions not in accordance with policy.

The Office of Assessments is headquartered in Arlington, Virginia, and has a field office in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

OFFICE OF ASSESSMENTS

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$6,627	44
2020	\$6,627	46
2021	\$6,627	40
2022	\$6,627	42
2023	\$7,191	43

FY 2024

MSHA requests \$9,093,000 and 43 FTE for the OA budget activity. This is a total increase of \$1,348,000 over the FY 2023 level to support activities associated with the assessment and collection of civil penalties, MSHA's special investigation program, and accountability audits of the Enforcement program.

In FY 2024, the OA will continue the following efforts:

- Assess civil penalties for violations of the Mine Act, as amended by the MINER Act, in accordance with statutory criteria, and at levels that encourage compliance.
- Collect and account for penalties paid, and account for all penalty cases in litigation before the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission.
- Coordinate MSHA's accountability functions.

In support of MSHA's priority to guarantee that miners have a voice in the workplace, OA will ensure that MSHA investigates miner discrimination complaints in a timely manner, with the specific goals for the percentage of investigations of miner discrimination complaints completed within 60 days of receipt at 90 percent and 90 for the percentage of miner requests for temporary reinstatement completed within 20 days of receipt. The OA will also review 100% of the special investigations conducted and closed out by the district offices to ensure thorough, properly developed investigations. This provides an added level of accountability for the discrimination investigation process and demonstrates MSHA's commitment to protecting a miner's right to report health and safety hazards without fear of retaliation.

To evaluate the enforcement program's compliance in following established policies and directives for conducting inspection activities and tracking and review of corrective actions, the OA will conduct approximately 15-17 audits, incorporating to the extent possible, cross-over mining operations. The OA will track and review any corrective actions implemented as a result of the accountability reviews.

The OA will also conduct at least one screening annually of the nation's mining operations to identify mines exhibiting a Pattern of Violations (POV) under Section 104 of the Mine Act.

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FY 2023

In FY 2023, the OA will coordinate the timely investigations of discrimination complaints miners file under Section 105(c) of the Mine Act. MSHA's goals are to investigate 90 percent of miners' discrimination complaints within 60 days of receipt and to investigate 90 percent of miners' requests for temporary reinstatement within 20 days of receipt. To ensure MSHA conducts quality investigations, the OA will successfully perform a 100 percent review of all discrimination investigations conducted by the enforcement program staff for discrimination complaints received.

The OA will also review knowing and willful violations conducted by the enforcement programs, referring appropriate cases for civil penalties or criminal prosecution and will conduct eight reviews of enforcement field offices to ensure compliance with required investigative practices and procedures.

The OA will conduct approximately 15-17 enforcement field office reviews, concentrating on field offices with cross-over mining operations.

The OA will conduct at least one annual screening of the nation's mining operations to identify mines exhibiting a POV.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, OA supported DOL's strategic objective to protect workers' rights through MSHA's performance goal to protect miners from discrimination. MSHA successfully completed 86 discrimination case investigations completing 85 (98%) in 60 days and resolved 42 temporary reinstatement requests, completing all 42 (100%) within 20 days. In support of miners, the Department filed 17 discrimination complaints and 7 requests for temporary reinstatement with the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission. These impressive results significantly exceeded MSHA's FY 2022 Agency Management Plan goals of 90% for both measures.

The OA reviewed 100% of the special investigations conducted and closed out by the district offices to ensure thorough, properly developed investigations.

During FY 2022, MSHA resolved 58 Section 110(c) cases, proposing seven civil penalty assessments against four individuals. The OA sent one criminal referral to the Office of the Solicitor for potential criminal prosecution by the Department of Justice. The OA also conducted eight (8) reviews of enforcement field offices to ensure compliance with required investigative practices and procedures.

The OA conducted 17 accountability audits for the purpose of monitoring MSHA districts' compliance with established policies and procedures for conducting inspection activities and tracking and review of corrective actions and surpassed the annual plan of 15 reviews. The audits identified issues that resulted in the establishment of seven corrective action plans. The Accountability team completed its scheduled reviews and two additional requested reviews. Four of the selected mine sites were "crossover" sites to measure the effectiveness of cross-

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trained inspectors under the “One MSHA” initiative.

The OA conducted an annual screening to identify mines exhibiting a POV, which resulted in one mine tentatively meeting all the screening criteria for a POV.

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BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	4,250	4,424	5,316	892
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	82	72	72	0
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	4,332	4,496	5,388	892
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	1,549	1,612	1,994	382
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	78	20	20	0
22.0	Transportation of things	5	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	716	524	524	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	320	466	466	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	5	1	1	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	30	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	25	3	3	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	485	602	676	74
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	171	6	6	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	22	7	7	0
31.0	Equipment	7	8	8	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	0	0
	Total	7,745	7,745	9,093	1,348
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	369	476	550	74
	DHS Services	69	90	90	0
	HHS Services	39	36	36	0

OFFICE OF ASSESSMENTS

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$192
Personnel benefits	82
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	74
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$348**

Net Program **\$1,000**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$8,093	43
Program Increase	\$1,000	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	40,020	40,020	43,642	3,622
FTE	130	125	130	5

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 135.

Introduction

The Directorate of Educational Policy and Development (EPD) plans, monitors, and evaluates MSHA’s education and training programs, which promote safety and health in the Nation's mining industry. The Directorate provides training for MSHA’s enforcement staff, provides guidance on training programs and training activities to ensure consistency with existing Agency policy, and reviews all training materials developed in support of these activities. EPD also coordinates training programs with other Federal and State Agencies, mining companies, educational institutions, and labor organizations. The Directorate formulates and interprets MSHA training regulations and policy.

EPD includes the Educational Field and Small Mine Services (EFSMS) which provides assistance in the development or improvement of the health and safety programs of mine operators and contractors in the mining community. EFSMS places emphasis on assisting mines, including small mines, where challenging health and safety hazards often exist. EFSMS works closely with MSHA’s enforcement program to identify industry needs and provides compliance assistance. EFSMS training specialists review mine operator training plans, monitor, and assist industry instructors to develop and improve their skills and assist miners in understanding their rights and responsibilities under the Mine Act.

EPD manages and operates the National Mine Health and Safety Academy (NMHSA) in Beckley, WV, which designs, develops, and conducts instructional programs to help reduce accidents and hazards in the mining industry. MSHA provides mine safety and health training to government, industry, and labor officials, as well as MSHA mine inspectors and other MSHA technical and administrative staff.

EPD is a major supporter of the Joseph A. Holmes Association, a nonprofit organization created in 1916, to promote health and safety in the mining industry.

EPD also manages the MSHA State Grants Program and the Brookwood-Sago Mine Safety Grants Program. The State Grants Program supports quality training programs for miners in 49 states, U.S. Pacific Territories, Native Village of Barrow, AK, and the Navajo Nation. The state grant program is a key source of mine safety and health training and education for individuals who work or will work in the mining industry. MSHA encourages state grant participants to focus on small mining operations and underserved communities within the mining industry. The Brookwood-Sago competitive grants provide funds for mine safety and health training and

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education programs with a special emphasis to programs and materials that target workers in smaller mines, including training miners and employers about new MSHA standards, high risk activities, and hazards.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$39,320	127
2020	\$39,320	115
2021	\$39,320	118
2022	\$39,320	135
2023	\$39,820	125

FY 2024

In FY 2024, EPD requests \$43,642,000 and 130 FTE for the EPD budget activity. This is a total increase of \$3,622,000 and 5 FTE over the FY 2023 level. In order to foster a culture of safety and improve safety and health conditions in the mining workplace, EPD will strengthen and modernize training and education through compliance assistance events including presentations, seminars, speeches, committee meetings, task force meetings, training courses, town hall meetings, compliance consultations, webinars, and face-to-face consultations. These events are generally pre-scheduled and arranged with the Agency. In FY 2024, MSHA projects to conduct 16 compliance assistance events for mining industry personnel.

EPD recognizes the importance of miner training and education in the prevention of injury and disease. The mining industry can only achieve its goal of zero fatalities with an industry-wide culture of safety that reaches every level of the operation, from the CEO to the new miner trainee. An added factor is MSHA's focus on outreach to a diverse bilingual mining community. The mining community will need to increase its efforts to provide bilingual training, in English and Spanish, to address a growing new modern diverse workforce. Inadequate or ineffective training is a contributing factor in many mine fatalities.

In addition, mine inspectors require continuous training in hazard recognition to ensure consistent, high-quality inspections. Ongoing training of both new and experienced inspectors is essential to ensure familiarity with new mining processes and equipment, and to keep pace with changes to the law and regulations. Training improves consistency in enforcement across all MSHA Districts and U.S. mining sectors.

In FY 2024, EPD will continue efforts to evaluate, strengthen, and modernize training programs and provide compliance assistance to the mining industry to foster a culture that prioritizes safety and health.

- **Evaluate Training Programs.** EPD will conduct evaluations of health and safety training programs, including reviewing materials, plans, and records. EPD will provide onsite training assistance, including bilingual compliance assistance to mine operators, contractors, and miners. Additionally, EPD will conduct training plan reviews and assist

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with training plan development. EPD will also provide education on training regulations, policies, and recordkeeping requirements. In FY 2024, EPD projects to provide 72,500 hours of injury and illness prevention/compliance assistance to stakeholders including new, small, remote, and existing mines and miners in all communities that encompass underserved and vulnerable communities. EPD will integrate the review of evidence to respond to the needs of the mining community by identifying health and safety trends. The inclusion of evidence will assist EPD in determining appropriate outreach initiatives to develop and distribute to the mining community in an effort to reduce accidents, injuries and illness. To accomplish this effort, EPD will leverage the resources of MSHA's enforcement and the technical support programs to develop evidence-based initiatives for distribution to our stakeholders.

- **Critical Mineral Mining Focused Safety Training.** In support of the administration's ambitious environmental targets to increase the sales of zero emission vehicles (ZEV), the mining industry will need to bolster the production of critical minerals. As such, the President has identified lithium as a critical mineral, and a key resource to develop ZEVs. In response to the President's critical minerals priority, the NMHSA will develop training courses specific to the enforcement and technical assistance of lithium mining for MSHA's inspectorate. Additionally, the NMHSA will collaborate with MSHA's Technical Support program area to develop courses and training materials for lithium mine operators and miners. The materials developed through the collaboration with the NMHSA and Technical Support will be distributed at the lithium mine sites by EFSMS.
- **Expand Academy Use.** NMHSA continues to explore new opportunities for growth and expansion through creating and supporting partnerships with federal, state, and regional agencies such as the U.S. Border Patrol, Forestry Service, military, industry agencies, and higher education institutions. These partnerships support collaborative efforts which in turn provide efficient use of Academy resources, strengthens relationships across a myriad of agencies and institutions, and fosters education and training within and outside the Academy's service area. Additionally, the Academy will enhance educational platforms to extend its reach through virtual training, hybrid, and virtual reality courses in support of MSHA's mission. EPD will continue to utilize a registered apprenticeship program to recruit and train mine safety and health inspectors from diverse backgrounds. The NMHSA will provide 600 course days of training to MSHA inspectors and specialists and 16 course days of training to mining industry personnel.
- **Instructor Evaluation.** EPD will continue to develop and improve the quality of training and provide feedback, training materials, and collaboration with industry instructors. EPD evaluates training instructor performance through in-class and remote video conference. EPD will use this feedback to take immediate action when instructor shortcomings are identified to improve the quality of training provided to the Nation's miners. In FY 2024, EPD will continue in-class and remote video conference monitoring of instructors to ensure they are providing effective health and safety training for all miners. EPD will continue to utilize the two-week training notifications submitted to the MSHA District offices by operators, contractors, and trainers. In FY 2024, EPD projects to conduct 1,000 approved instructor evaluations.

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- **Expand Distance Learning.** In FY 2024, EPD will continue to direct training resources to refine and continuously improve health and safety training for all inspectors, and enforcement supervisors and managers. EPD will also continue to review and update the Agency's existing library of online courses. The expansion of online remote videoconference training will address the needs of remote and underserved mining communities where travel is complex or not feasible. In support of this effort in FY 2024, EPD will create or convert eight online courses to a remote format.
- **State Grants.** MSHA will continue to award grants to state, tribal, and territorial governments (including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) to assist them in developing and enforcing state mining laws and regulations, improve state workers' compensation and mining occupational disease laws and programs, and improve safety and health conditions in the nation's mines through federal-state coordination and cooperation. MSHA recognizes that state training programs are a key source of mine safety and health training and education for individuals who work or will work at mines. MSHA encourages state training programs to prioritize training for small mining operations and underserved communities within the mining industry. MSHA is also interested in supporting programs that include training on miners' statutory rights, including the right to be provided a safe working environment and to refuse an unsafe task. In FY 2024, MSHA projects 200,000 miners, including those from underserved communities, will receive training through funding from the State grants program.
- **Brookwood-Sago Grants.** In FY 2024, MSHA expects Brookwood-Sago grantees to develop training materials or to develop and provide mine safety training or educational programs, provide mine operators and miners training, and evaluate the training. MSHA will give special emphasis to powered haulage (in particular, reducing vehicle-on-vehicle collisions, increasing seat belt use, and improving belt conveyor safety), improving safety among contractors, reducing electrocutions, improving training for new and inexperienced miners, mine emergency prevention and preparedness, falls from equipment, respiratory hazards, and other programs to prevent unsafe conditions in mines. Emphasis will also be given to small mining operations and underserved communities within the mining industry. MSHA projects 20 percent of competitive grant money will be awarded to minority serving institutions. MSHA will emphasize training at operations that mine or mill critical minerals.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, EPD received \$40,020,000 and 125 FTE for the EPD budget activity. In order to foster a culture of safety and improve safety and health conditions in the mining workplace, EPD will strengthen and modernize training and education through compliance assistance events including presentations, seminars, speeches, committee meetings, task force meetings, training courses, town hall meetings, compliance consultations, webinars, and face-to-face consultation. These events are generally pre-scheduled and arranged with the Agency. In FY 2023, MSHA projects to conduct 16 compliance assistance events for mining industry personnel.

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EPD recognizes the importance of miner training and education in the prevention of injury and disease. The mining industry can only achieve its goal of zero fatalities with an industry-wide culture of safety that reaches every level of the operation, from the CEO to the new health miner trainee. An added factor is MSHA's focus on outreach to a diverse bilingual mining community. Training will need to be bilingual, in English and Spanish, to address the new and modern diverse workforce. Inadequate or ineffective training is a contributing factor in many mine fatalities.

In addition, mine inspectors require continuous training in hazard recognition to assure consistent, high-quality inspections. Ongoing training of both new and experienced inspectors is essential to assure familiarity with new mining processes and equipment, and to keep pace with changes to the law and regulations. Training improves consistency in enforcement across all MSHA Districts, and U.S. mining sectors.

In FY 2023, EPD will continue efforts to evaluate, strengthen, and modernize training programs and provide compliance assistance to the mining industry to foster a culture of safety and health.

- **Evaluate Training Programs.** EPD will conduct evaluations of health and safety training programs, including reviewing materials, plans, and records. EPD will provide onsite training assistance, including bilingual training assistance, to operators and contractors. Additionally, EPD will conduct training plan reviews and assist with training plan development. EPD will also provide education on training regulations, policies, and recordkeeping requirements. In FY 2023, EPD projects to provide 72,000 hours of injury and illness prevention/compliance assistance and 600 course days of training to MSHA inspectors and specialists and 16 course days of training to mining industry personnel.
- **Expand Academy Use.** The National Mine Health and Safety Academy continues to explore new opportunities for growth and expansion through creating and supporting partnerships with federal, state, and regional agencies such as the Border Patrol, Forestry Service, military, industry agencies, and higher education institutions. These partnerships support collaborative efforts which in turn provide efficient use of Academy resources, strengthens relationships across these agencies and institutions, and fosters education and training within and outside the Academy's service area. Additionally, the Academy will develop educational platforms to extend its reach such as virtual training, hybrid, and virtual reality courses that will continue to support MSHA's mission. EPD will also implement a Registered Apprenticeship program to recruit and train mine safety and health inspectors from diverse backgrounds.
- **Instructor Evaluation.** EPD will continue to develop and improve the quality of training and provide feedback, training materials, and collaboration with industry instructors. EPD evaluates training instructor performance through in-class and remote video conference. EPD will use this feedback to take immediate action when instructor shortcomings are identified. In FY 2023, EPD will continue in-class and remote video-conference monitoring of instructors to ensure they are providing effective health and safety training to miners. EPD will place special emphasis on evaluation of contract instructors. EPD will continue to utilize the two-week training notifications submitted to the MSHA District offices by operators,

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contractors, and trainers. In FY 2023, EPD projects to provide 1,000 approved instructor evaluations.

- **Expand Distance Learning.** In FY 2023, EPD will continue to direct training resources to develop and refine crossover health and safety training for all inspectors, and enforcement supervisors and managers. Crossover training has become part of the health and safety standard training for all MSHA inspectors and supervisors. EPD will also continue to review and update the Agency's existing library of online courses. In FY 2023, EPD will create or update eight online courses.
- **State Grants.** MSHA will continue to award grants to state, tribal, and territorial governments (including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) to assist them in developing and enforcing state mining laws and regulations, improve state workers' compensation and mining occupational disease laws and programs, and improve safety and health conditions in the nation's mines through federal-state coordination and cooperation. MSHA recognizes that state training programs are a key source of mine safety and health training and education for individuals who work or will work at mines. MSHA encourages state training programs to prioritize training for small mining operations and underserved communities within the mining industry. MSHA is also interested in supporting programs that include training on miners' statutory rights, including the right to be provided a safe working environment and to refuse an unsafe task. In FY 2023, MSHA projects 200,000 miners, including those from underserved communities, will receive training through funding of its State Grants Program.
- **Brookwood-Sago Grants.** In FY 2023, MSHA expects Brookwood-Sago grantees to develop training materials or to develop and provide mine safety training or educational programs, recruit mine operators and miners for the training, and conduct and evaluate the training. MSHA will give special emphasis to powered haulage (in particular, reducing vehicle-on-vehicle collisions, increasing seat belt use, and improving belt conveyor safety), improving safety among contractors, reducing electrocutions, improving training for new and inexperienced miners, mine emergency prevention and preparedness, falls from equipment, respiratory hazards, and other programs to prevent unsafe conditions in mines. Emphasis will also be given to small mining operations and underserved communities within the mining industry. MSHA projects 20 percent of competitive grant money will be awarded to institutions that serve underserved populations.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, EPD continued to strengthen and modernize training and education through the following:

- Provided compliance assistance to the mining industry through EFSMS with an emphasis placed on new mines and small mines. Compliance assistance was focused on special health and safety initiatives, qualification and certification of miners, hazard recognition, training of miners and instructors, training plan evaluation, and new mine operator outreach. EFSMS

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dedicated approximately 67,205 hours to educate operators, contractors, and stakeholders and increase their safety and health knowledge and reduce accidents, injuries, and illnesses. An increase in demand for construction materials and number of new mines, particularly small aggregate mines, required EFSMS to enhance compliance assistance to include bilingual services and training products.

- EPD participated and provided compliance assistance at 19 stakeholder events including presentations, seminars, town hall meetings, mining association meetings, webinars, task force meetings, and health and safety conferences.
- EPD evaluated approximately 530 industry instructors in FY 2022 to determine effectiveness of miner training, helped improve the quality of training and addressed deficiencies that have resulted in inadequate training.
- Funded ongoing facility upgrades, and IT modernization improvements to the Mine Academy which fostered the development of new methods of training including virtual reality, distance learning, and online curriculums. The Academy utilized an all-commodity inclusive format curriculum to train MSHA's enforcement staff at all levels, including entry-level, journeyman, supervisory and managerial. The Academy hired additional instructors to train the expected increase in enforcement inspectors and to develop additional virtual reality and distance learning curriculums. MSHA constructed a surface mine rescue training tower, a training elevator, and confined space training area in FY 2022. These additional facilities will provide valuable lifesaving training to MSHA employees, industry mine rescuers, and other Federal Agencies, such as the United States Border Patrol. The Academy built a Fire Tower to train miners on high angled rope rescue for surface mine rescue scenarios.
- Continued to manage MSHA's State Grants Program in which the grantees provide high-quality effective safety and health training and refreshers for miners and mine operators in all states and the Territories.
- In FY 2022 Brookwood-Sago grantees developed training materials and provided mine safety training or educational programs, recruited mine operators and miners for the training, and conducted and evaluated the training. MSHA gave special emphasis to powered haulage (in particular, reducing vehicle-on-vehicle collisions, increasing seat belt use, and improving belt conveyor safety), improved safety among contractors, reduced electrocutions, improved training for new and inexperienced miners, mine emergency prevention and preparedness, falls from equipment, respiratory hazards, and other programs to prevent unsafe conditions in mines.
- In FY 2022, MSHA began development of a Registered Apprenticeship program to recruit and train inspectors with diverse backgrounds.

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BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	13,749	13,521	14,664	1,143
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	288	297	297	0
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	14,037	13,818	14,961	1,143
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	5,323	5,341	5,813	472
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	385	642	942	300
22.0	Transportation of things	360	441	511	70
23.0	Rent, Communications, and Utilities	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	778	779	779	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	379	825	825	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	40	22	22	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	1	1	1	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	2,701	2,288	2,288	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	3,689	3,421	3,636	215
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	900	900
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	659	142	157	15
26.0	Supplies and materials	111	427	427	0
31.0	Equipment	20	336	343	7
32.0	Land and Structures	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	11,537	11,537	12,037	500
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	0	0
	Total	40,020	40,020	43,642	3,622
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	3,111	3,199	3,414	215
	DHS Services	77	134	134	0
	HHS Services	15	13	13	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	0	75	75	0

EDUCATIONAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$600
Personnel benefits	258
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	1
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	215
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0
Land and Structures	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$1,074**

Net Program **\$2,548**

Direct FTE **5**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$41,094	125
Program Increase	\$2,548	5
Program Decrease	\$0	0

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	35,041	36,041	39,755	3,714
FTE	183	188	196	8

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 189.

Introduction

The Directorate of Technical Support provides engineering, scientific, and technical expertise to MSHA and the mining industry. It serves as a repository of MSHA technical knowledge and employs most of MSHA’s engineers, industrial hygienists, scientists, and technical experts.

MSHA enforcement personnel, mine operators, and miners rely on Technical Support staff to carry out field and laboratory investigations aimed at resolving complex mine safety and health issues. These scientists, engineers, and industrial hygienists provide analyses of complex mining plans to assist MSHA’s Enforcement program in their review and approval of plans. They also participate in accident investigations, perform root-cause analysis of accidents, and identify corrective measures which can be applied at all mining operations to prevent similar accidents.

Technical Support’s laboratories, the Pittsburgh Safety & Health Technology Center (PSHTC) Analytical and Laboratory Services Division in Pittsburgh, PA, and the PSHTC-operated National Air and Dust Laboratory in Beckley, WV, provide MSHA enforcement programs with analyses of gas, dust, and other industrial hygiene samples to determine miner exposures and operator compliance with health and safety standards. Although FY 2022 was still impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, Technical Support’s laboratories analyzed and reported results for nearly 91,530 samples.

Technicians calibrated or repaired approximately 4,322 pieces of test equipment, assuring that MSHA Enforcement sampling and testing equipment provide accurate and representative data.

Technical Support maintains the MSHA mine emergency response capability that includes equipment and expertise in the event of a mine emergency, such as an inundation of water or gas, fire, or explosion. MSHA mine emergency personnel respond to every major US mine emergency. These mine emergency personnel engage in mine rescue and recovery operations by reviewing and advising on the adequacy of rescue and recovery plans. They maintain and deploy a fleet of mine emergency response vehicles, including vehicles for command and control, mobile laboratories for gas analysis, ventilation support, seismic detection and location of trapped miners, robotics support, and many other functions. Technical Support can dispatch equipment and trained personnel from mine emergency stations located in Pittsburgh, PA; Beckley, WV; Madisonville, KY; Denver, CO; and Price, UT.

Technical Support’s Approval and Certification Center (A&CC) in Triadelphia, WV, administers the approval programs to evaluate the safety of equipment and materials used in many underground mines in the US. The A&CC evaluates new technologies to identify potential improvements to the safety

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

and health of miners. A key feature of the A&CC's approval program is auditing approved products to maintain the integrity of the approval.

Technical Support provides training for MSHA Enforcement to assist the mining industry and equipment manufacturers in achieving compliance with MSHA safety and health standards. Training activities cover a broad range of technical subject areas that apply to health and safety hazards in the mining environment and the testing and evaluation of mine equipment and products.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$35,041	211
2020	\$35,041	196
2021	\$35,041	188
2022	\$35,041	189
2023	\$36,041	188

FY 2024

In FY 2024, MSHA requests \$39,755,000 and 196 FTE for the Technical Support budget activity. This is a total increase of \$3,714,000 and 8 FTE over the FY 2023 level for an increase in health sampling analysis and funding of unanticipated MEO-related expenditures.

Technical Support will:

- Evaluate the safety of mine equipment, materials, and instruments, with a focus on reducing time to complete approvals;
- Evaluate the design of seals, mining impoundments, mine ventilation systems, and ground control systems;
- Provide engineering and scientific technical expertise to evaluate complex health and safety issues, identify causes of accidents, and support MSHA litigation cases;
- Provide laboratory support for MSHA enforcement by analyzing airborne dust samples, atmospheric gas samples, mine rock dust samples, and other industrial hygiene related samples collected to determine compliance with health and safety standards; and
- Participate and provide leadership in mine emergency response efforts, including providing and managing onsite analytical equipment, communications links, and other sophisticated equipment essential to making critical decisions in rescue and recovery operations.

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Technical Support's PSHTC laboratories support enforcement by analyzing respirable dust samples, mine dust samples, mine air samples, and other industrial hygiene samples. Technical Support expects its laboratories to analyze approximately 121,500 samples in support of the enforcement of mine safety and health standards in FY 2024.

Technical Support anticipates a significant emphasis on health sampling for respirable dust, crystalline silica, carbon, and other health samples collected by inspectors. In addition to the increase in health sampling analysis related to MSHA's forthcoming proposed rule on silica, MSHA has been expanding outreach regarding its Part 90 miner program, which protects the health of miners already impacted by occupational exposure to airborne hazards including silica. This expansion in outreach will generate an increase in demand for health sampling analysis, which may only be met if Technical Support can expand its current laboratory capacity with equipment and FTE at the Beckley, WV facility. This would involve an increase in staffing, the purchase of additional equipment, and the incorporation of a second shift. These increases will assure that we can deliver effective and efficient laboratory services to support safe working conditions for miners.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, Technical Support will:

- Evaluate the safety of mine equipment, materials, and instruments, with a focus on reducing time to complete approvals;
- Evaluate the design of seals, mining impoundments, mine ventilation systems, and ground control systems;
- Provide engineering and scientific technical expertise to evaluate complex health and safety issues, identify causes of accidents, and support MSHA litigation cases;
- Provide laboratory support for MSHA enforcement by analyzing airborne dust samples, atmospheric gas samples, mine rock dust samples, and other industrial hygiene related samples collected to determine compliance with health and safety standards; and
- Participate and provide leadership in mine emergency response efforts, including providing and managing onsite analytical equipment, communications links, and other sophisticated equipment essential to making critical decisions in rescue and recovery operations.

Technical Support's PSHTC laboratories support enforcement by analyzing respirable dust samples, mine dust samples, mine air samples, and other industrial hygiene samples. Technical Support expects its laboratories to analyze approximately 97,000 samples in support of the enforcement of mine safety and health standards in FY 2023.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Technical Support anticipates a significant increase in the number of respirable dust samples that Enforcement personnel will collect as a result of increased mining to meet the demands of the BIL infrastructure investments, as well as an increase in samples collected as part of the Agency's new respirable silica regulatory standard. As a result, the Agency expects its sample load to increase three times its current capacity. The Agency's current staffing levels and laboratory infrastructure cannot support this increase. The current Pittsburgh site is not conducive to expansion. In FY 2023 Technical support intends to expand the current laboratory in Beckley, WV. This would involve an increase in staffing and the purchase of additional equipment. These increases will assure that we can deliver effective and efficient laboratory services to support safe working conditions for miners.

FY 2022

In FY 2022, Technical Support:

Approved equipment for use in underground mines and conducted testing and quality control auditing of mining equipment and materials to ensure manufacturers' products continued to meet MSHA standards. Technical Support completed 174 approval actions in FY 2022. The type of equipment Technical Support evaluates and approves includes the following:

- Proximity detection systems in underground coal mines;
- Permissible electric equipment including longwall mining machines, continuous mining machines, shuttle cars, and other equipment powered by either Alternating or Direct Current power sources;
- Post-accident communications and tracking devices and systems;
- Underground diesel equipment, including diesel engines, diesel power packages, diesel machines, and dust collector systems; and
- Flame-resistant materials.

Technical Support's PSHTC laboratories supported enforcement by analyzing respirable dust samples, mine dust samples, mine air samples, and other industrial hygiene samples. Technical Support laboratories analyzed 91,530 samples in support of the enforcement of mine safety and health standards in FY 2022.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	17,458	18,422	20,141	1,719
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	130	84	84	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	417	51	51	0
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	18,005	18,557	20,276	1,719
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	7,564	7,685	8,575	890
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	150	440	445	5
22.0	Transportation of things	185	189	197	8
23.0	Rent, Communications, and Utilities	0	0	0	0
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	166	153	153	0
23.2	Rental payments to others	14	2	2	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	376	414	414	0
24.0	Printing and reproduction	0	0	0	0
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	36	87	87	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	258	342	342	0
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	4,301	4,664	4,987	323
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	2,495	1,689	1,989	300
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	407	371	640	269
26.0	Supplies and materials	800	1,207	1,207	0
31.0	Equipment	279	241	441	200
32.0	Land and Structures	5	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	0	0
	Total	35,041	36,041	39,755	3,714
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	3,849	3,862	4,185	323
	DHS Services	22	26	26	0
	HHS Services	79	28	28	0
	Services by Other Government Departments	0	748	748	0

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$823
Personnel benefits	353
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	1
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	323
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0
Land and Structures	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$1,500**

Net Program **\$2,214**

Direct FTE **8**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$37,541	188
Program Increase	\$2,214	8
Program Decrease	\$0	0

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	19,083	19,083	0	-19,083
FTE	17	38	0	-38

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 21.

Introduction

The Directorate of Program Evaluation and Information Resources (PEIR) manages MSHA’s program evaluations, data processes, reporting, analytics, and serves as the liaison between MSHA and DOL’s Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) for MSHA’s information technology (IT) program. PEIR conducts internal reviews, evaluates the effectiveness of the MSHA’s programs, and conducts follow-up reviews to ensure that appropriate corrective actions have been taken. PEIR manages MSHA’s directives system and ensures enforcement personnel have electronic access (online and offline) to handbooks, manuals, and related directives for inspections via their tablets.

PEIR collects, analyzes, and publishes data obtained from mine operators and contractors on the occurrence of work-related injuries and illnesses in the mining industry. MSHA, the mining community, and the public use this data to assess progress in preventing occupational injuries and illnesses in the mining industry. PEIR manages all agency information technology applications, with the assistance of the OCIO, and the agency’s internet and intranet sites. PEIR collaborates with stakeholders to develop customer-driven projects that support MSHA’s mission to protect the safety and health of miners.

PEIR serves as MSHA’s business process owner whose function is to plan and prioritize the Agency’s IT initiatives that will be executed by the Department’s Office of the Chief Information Officer IT shared services resources. Among its other responsibilities, PEIR serves as a liaison between MSHA and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$17,990	45
2020	\$17,990	28
2021	\$17,990	19
2022	\$17,990	21
2023	\$17,990	38

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

FY 2024

MSHA proposes to consolidate two programs, PEIR and Program Administration, into one unified reporting structure with a single budget activity: Program Administration, Evaluation, and Information Resources (PAEIR). The consolidation aligns with DOL organizational business model and structure.

FY 2023

MSHA received \$19,083,000 and 38 FTE for the PEIR budget activity.

PEIR will provide:

- **Research and Data Analysis.** The project will research vital services available to miners in underserved communities and the vulnerabilities faced. PEIR will evaluate data from underserved communities to identify barriers such as the availability to access to health services and broadband communications. PEIR will examine the number of mines located in health professional shortage area designations, medically underserved areas, and near black lung clinics. This will assist in the development of a digital technology application that delivers the location of medical, drug recovery support services, and mental health treatment facilities as a solution to address continuum-of-care gaps in rural and underserved areas.
- **Expanded digitization services.** The project will continue conversion of the Agency's working and permanent records into specified searchable digital formats. The conversion will meet National Archives and Records Administration's (NARA) and MSHA's requirements for specific metadata related to the records.
- **Data Analytics.** PEIR will continue to mature its data analytics program by developing dynamic dashboards, promoting predictive analytics, and making MSHA's data more accessible to the public.
- **Real time data.** PEIR will use real time data to create an accessible inspection dashboard that provides measurable benefits to inspectors such as more time in the field conducting inspections due to less time spent assessing daily inspection activities.
- **MEO Modernization.** PEIR will continue to modernize its Mine Emergency Operations' (MEO) communications system by exploring other satellite alternatives to support the MEO.
- **MCAS Modernization.** PEIR will continue to update components of MSHA's Centralized Application System (MCAS). MCAS formerly MSHA's Standardized Information System is a web-based application that serves as MSHA's core information management system enabling the agency to accomplish its mission of protecting the health and safety of the nation's miners.

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Major projects for FY 2023 include:
 - Technical Support System Integration application that supports the management of equipment certifications, tracking work associated with these certifications, and generating costs associated with performing these certifications.
 - The Samples project intends to improve the functionality of MSHA sample modules, specifically, respirable coal dust, metal-nonmetal contaminant samples, and samples reporting.
 - Qualification and Certification (MSHA Individual Identification Number). This includes functions to manage qualifications and certifications of miners for a variety of responsibilities at mines, as well as managing the process of qualifying instructors to teach courses required for certain miner certifications. It will use the MSHA Individual Identification Number to replace social security numbers.
 - Sentinels of Safety. Enhance the Certificates of Achievement in Safety that are awarded to all participating operations that have met all the certificate criteria. Mines or quarries operated by a Federal, State, County, or Municipal agency also are eligible for Certificates of Achievement in Safety.
 - E-TPA (electronic training plan advisor) reports. Enhance the search and reporting functionality for submitted training plans for Part 46 and Part 48 mines.
 - Impoundment Reports. Enhance the management and reporting of mine impoundment structures.
 - Diesel Inventory. Enhance the management and reporting of mine diesel equipment inventory.

FY 2022

- PEIR advanced the development of the enterprise risk management (ERM) program, supported the DOL's IT investments, and enhanced MSHA's directives system.
- Conducted improvements to enforcement weekly activity reports and updated to the following applications: alternative case resolution contests applications, and hazardous condition complaints, reporting, and reengineering functionality to improve user experience.
- Replaced the Student Information System with Blackboard for training to support combined Coal and Metal and nonmetal inspection activities, and digitization of the Office of Assessments Mine ID catalog to allow for streamlined approval of legal identification submissions.
- Digitized temporary files for the Directorate of Administration and Management and

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

Office of Standards Regulations and Variances (OSRV) to support NARA archiving requirements and increase remote accessibility.

- Updated the common utilities portion of MCAS, including administrative utilities and status list functions.
- Deployed the Miner Application to help miners' equipment operators, mine foremen, and their safety managers to receive hazard bulletins and access a knowledge base of safety regulations, best practices.
- Supported Educational Field and Small Mine Services, MSHA developed an application to track time and activity, inspector evaluations and reviews, and the approximate number of external industry contacts that a specialist made throughout the week.

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	2,078	3,679	0	-3,679
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0	0
11.5	Other personnel compensation	32	32	0	-32
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	2,110	3,711	0	-3,711
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	808	1,437	0	-1,437
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	0	20	0	-20
22.0	Transportation of things	0	4	0	-4
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	281	320	0	-320
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	0	0
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	78	310	0	-310
24.0	Printing and reproduction	5	8	0	-8
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	0	40	0	-40
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	14,708	13,045	0	-13,045
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	1,085	0	0	0
26.0	Supplies and materials	8	8	0	-8
31.0	Equipment	0	0	0	0
32.0	Land and Structures	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	180	0	-180
	Total	19,083	19,083	0	-19,083
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	1,200	1,699	0	-1,699
	DHS Services	60	55	0	-55
	HHS Services	13	16	0	-16
	Services by Other Government Departments	0	11,275	0	-11,275

PROGRAM EVALUATION AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$0
Personnel benefits	0
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0
Land and Structures	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$0**

Net Program **\$0**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$19,083	38
Program Increase	\$0	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	16,355	16,355	0	-16,355
FTE	70	84	0	-84

NOTE: FY 2022 reflects actual FTE. Authorized FTE for FY 2022 was 74.

Introduction

Program Administration (PA) provides executive direction as well as administrative and management advice and services to support all MSHA’s activities. The support of PA will help to eliminate fatal mining accidents, reduce the frequency and severity of accidents, and minimize health hazards through enforcement of mandatory safety and health standards in the mining industry.

PA plans and directs administrative management activities within MSHA. Services include budget, finance, facilities, property, fleet, records management, ethics, and employee safety and health programs for MSHA. PA supports and strengthens all MSHA’s program activities by providing leadership, policy direction, and administrative support services, enabling the agency to meet annual performance goals and objectives.

Five-Year Budget Activity History

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Funding</u> (Dollars in Thousands)	<u>FTE</u>
2019	\$15,838	84
2020	\$15,838	61
2021	\$15,838	52
2022	\$15,838	74
2023	\$16,000	84

FY 2024

MSHA proposes to consolidate two programs, PEIR and Program Administration, into one unified reporting structure with a single budget activity: Program Administration, Evaluation, and Information Resources (PAEIR). The consolidation aligns with DOL organizational business model and structure.

FY 2023

In FY 2023, MSHA received \$16,355,000 and 84 FTE for Program Administration budget activity. PA will use these funds to enhance operations that allow the program to provide executive direction as well as administrative and management advice and services to support all MSHA activities.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

MSHA projects an increase in production at, or expansion of, existing mines and facilities, particularly metal/non-metal mines resulting from the implementation of the BIL. The Agency will require additional staffing in the inspectorate to handle the increased workload from the BIL impacts. As the program spearheading MSHA's hiring process, PA will focus on supporting this effort by planning and executing the hiring of additional mine safety and health inspectors, including apprentices, and other Enforcement positions. This hiring initiative ensures that MSHA enforcement and support positions can efficiently and effectively protect the safety and health of the nation's miners as the mining industry continues to experience demand for increased production.

PA will provide:

- **Mission support.** PA will support Departmental activities associated with Agency reform and consolidation for several administrative functions. PA will continue to reduce workers' compensation costs through improved employee health and safety programs and proactive management of the workers' compensation program.
- **Ensuring workforce racial and gender equity by focusing on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA).** Aligning with the President's Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, PA will ensure the promotion of racial and socioeconomic equity as a priority in recruitment, hiring, and retention to develop a more vibrant and diverse MSHA workforce. This would include hiring outreach in Latino, African American, and Native American communities, such as the Western United States. In parallel, PA will also increase recruitment and outreach efforts in areas that are underprivileged or high in poverty to provide opportunities for locals in that community. The program will also focus on outreach to Latino and Native American communities, especially in the Western U.S., to address the expanding diverse bilingual mining communities in that region.
- **Equity Balanced Outreach Expansion.** PA will continue to ensure increased and inclusive outreach to any interested party in the mining community through quarterly calls to help reduce deaths, injuries, and illnesses; improve mine safety and health; and include special emphasis discussions on fatal accidents and health hazards, emerging and troubling trends, and best practices and information to protect miners' safety and health.
- **Increasing efficiencies while decreasing footprint.** In accordance with OMB's National Strategy for Real Property (National Strategy) and the Reduce the Footprint Policy, PA will be executing MSHA's goal of decreasing the Agency's footprint by implementing strategies to improve efficiencies in telework. MSHA will be at the forefront of digitizing temporary records to facilitate and improve work efficiencies and reduce redundant processes. In FY 2023, MSHA is planning a relocation of an existing office at the Denver Federal Center to a smaller space in a separate building that will reduce the office size by approximately 33,000 rentable square feet. This move, along with anticipated reductions in other lease actions in FY 2023, should result in an overall reduction in the agency's portfolio of approximately 50,000 rentable square feet.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

- **Building framework for fleet electrification goals.** The increase in enforcement workforce and activity will require increases in MSHA's fleet of motor vehicles. PA will continue to support the Administration's goal to transition MSHA's vehicle fleet to clean and zero emission vehicles (ZEV). The Agency is prioritizing resources for the operation and procurement of electric vehicles (including plug-in hybrid technology), associated charging infrastructure, and for longer term electrification goals mandated by Executive Order 14057. Like the footprint decrease initiative, the cost to transition to ZEV will be costly but will prove to be cost effective in the long haul.
- **Responsible procurement with equity mindset.** Program Administration will continue to manage the acquisition process for all COVID-19 supplies and cleanups for its field staff located throughout the nation. In addition, MSHA plans to exceed the small business procurement goals set by the Department of Labor, which include goals for Small Disadvantaged Businesses and HUB Zones, by continuing to do outreach through small business outreach events, Small Business Administration (SBA) local officers and through diligent market research for each procurement action. MSHA plans on attending four virtual events and at least two major face to face events hosted by the SBA.
- **Planning for MSHA's Future.** Increasing staff to ensure that MSHA can effectively and efficiently administer all aspects of its mission and Congressional mandate, including planning and implementing strategies to address relatively high levels of employee attrition. Additionally, MSHA will continue to prioritize work on recruitment, retention, training, and succession planning to ensure MSHA is able to meet its statutory obligations, organization goals, and mission to protect miners' safety and health now and into the future.
- **Opioid outreach.** Developing and promoting outreach for opioid hazard awareness suitable for miners, new miners, and employers. This outreach initiative will sponsor roundtable discussions with opioid professionals, miners, mine operators, and mining communities to discuss issues and develop strategies to address the opioid epidemic.
- **Health outreach.** PA will continue and expand health initiatives associated with the agency's overarching Miner Health Matters initiative. PA will continue the sponsor Covid vaccine outreach in underserved mining communities.
- **Apprenticeship Outreach.** PA will continue this outreach effort as it has been successful in bringing an experienced workforce to fill in the gaps presented through MSHA's high attrition rate.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

FY 2022

- PA supported MSHA's Agency Priority Goal (APG), as well as the Departmental strategic goals and objectives, to prevent fatalities, illnesses, and injuries from mining and promote safe and healthful workplaces for America's miners.
- PA supported the Agency's continued efforts to implement a single Mine Safety and Health Enforcement workforce. MSHA increased outreach through quarterly calls with stakeholders to help reduce deaths, injuries, health hazards, and illnesses, improve mine safety, and included special emphasis discussions on fall protection and other initiatives. The agency added a new emphasis on health hazards during these calls. Outreach expanded to Latino and Native American communities especially in the Western U.S.
- PA supported Departmental activities associated with Agency reform and consolidation for several administrative functions. It explored innovative approaches to reduce workers' compensation costs. PA continued to reduce workers' compensation costs through improved employee health and safety programs and proactive management of the workers' compensation program.
- Focused on COVID vaccination outreach in states with low vaccination rates. Partnered with the public health sector to provide onsite events in public mines offering vaccinations to miners.
- Addressed COVID-19 related issues, including managing, and purchasing all COVID-19 supplies and cleanups for its field staff throughout the nation in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Supported grant activities ensuring compliance with rules and regulations. Processed \$1,000,000 for Brookwood-Sago grants and \$10,537,000 state grants.
- Supported facility and space related initiatives by analyzing space usage and identifying opportunities to consolidate and improve cost effectiveness.
- Focused on vehicle fleet management initiatives improving operations.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	7,589	9,417	0	-9,417
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	283	333	0	-333
11.5	Other personnel compensation	179	373	0	-373
11.8	Special personal services payments	0	0	0	0
11.9	Total personnel compensation	8,051	10,123	0	-10,123
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	2,797	3,554	0	-3,554
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	130	151	0	-151
22.0	Transportation of things	3	24	0	-24
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	778	715	0	-715
23.2	Rental payments to others	51	32	0	-32
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	300	25	0	-25
24.0	Printing and reproduction	107	14	0	-14
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	25	8	0	-8
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	293	174	0	-174
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	2,035	1,355	0	-1,355
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	0	0	0	0
25.5	Research and development contracts	0	0	0	0
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	1,689	20	0	-20
26.0	Supplies and materials	96	110	0	-110
31.0	Equipment	0	50	0	-50
32.0	Land and Structures	0	0	0	0
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	0	0
	Total	16,355	16,355	0	-16,355
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	1,442	1,166	0	-1,166
	DHS Services	83	123	0	-123
	HHS Services	46	56	0	-56
	Services by Other Government Departments	464	10	0	-10

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$0
Personnel benefits	0
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	0
Benefits for former personnel	0
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	0
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Research & Development Contracts	0
Operation and maintenance of facilities	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Grants, subsidies, and contributions	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0
Land and Structures	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$0**

Net Program **\$0**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$16,355	84
Program Increase	\$0	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

BUDGET AUTHORITY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE				
(Dollars in Thousands)				
	FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
Activity Appropriation	0	0	38,493	38,493
FTE	0	0	122	122

Introduction

Program Administration, Evaluation, and Information Resources (PAEIR) provides executive direction as well as administrative and management advice and services to support all MSHA’s activities. PAEIR consists of the Office of the Assistant Secretary (OAS), and the Directorate of Administration and Management - Program Evaluation and Information Resources (A&M-PEIR).

The Office of the Assistant Secretary supports and strengthens all MSHA’s program activities by providing leadership, policy direction and support as needed, enabling the agency to meet annual performance goals and objectives.

The A&M-PEIR Directorate also manages MSHA’s program evaluations, data processes, reporting, analytics, and serves as the liaison between MSHA and DOL's Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) for MSHA's information technology (IT) program, including all agency information, technology applications, and the agency’s internet and intranet sites. A&M-PEIR conducts program reviews, evaluates the effectiveness of MSHA's programs, and conducts follow-up reviews to ensure that appropriate corrective actions have been taken. A&M-PEIR manages MSHA’s directives system and ensures enforcement personnel have electronic access (online and offline) to handbooks, manuals, and related directives for inspections via their tablets.

A&M-PEIR collects, analyzes, and publishes data obtained from mine operators and contractors on the occurrence of work-related injuries and illnesses in the mining industry. MSHA, the mining community, and the public use this data to assess progress in preventing occupational injuries and illnesses in the mining industry. A&M-PEIR collaborates with stakeholders and contractors, as needed, to develop customer-driven projects that support MSHA’s mission to protect the safety and health of miners. Among other responsibilities, A&M-PEIR serves as a liaison between MSHA and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO).

Successful execution of PAEIR’s mission will help to eliminate fatal mining accidents, reduce the frequency and severity of accidents, and minimize health hazards through enforcement of mandatory safety and health standards in the mining industry.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

FY 2024

MSHA requests \$38,493,000 and 122 FTE for the PAEIR budget activity. This is a total increase of \$3,055,000 over the FY 2023 level of the two separated programs.

PAEIR will:

- **Mission support.** PA will support Departmental activities associated with Agency reform and consolidation for several administrative functions. PA will continue to reduce workers' compensation costs through improved employee health and safety programs and proactive management of the workers' compensation program.
- **Apprenticeship Program.** Broaden the Apprenticeship Program to other states and mining communities with the expectation of adding or possibly doubling the work beyond the 13 states where apprenticeship outreach currently exists.
- **DEIA.** Continue ensuring the promotion of racial and economic hiring as a priority in recruitment to develop a more vibrant and diverse workforce to address projected increase in mining activities. This would include hiring outreach in Latino, Black and Native American underserved communities. Increase recruitment and outreach efforts in areas that are underprivileged or high in poverty to provide opportunities for locals in that community. The program will also focus on outreach to Latino and Native American communities especially in the Western U.S. to address the expanding diverse bilingual mining communities in that region.
- **Outreach.** PA will continue to ensure increased and inclusive outreach to any interested party in the mining community through quarterly calls to help reduce deaths, injuries, and illnesses; improve mine safety and health; and include special emphasis discussions on fatal accidents and health hazards, emerging and troubling trends, and best practices and information to protect miners' safety and health.
- **Outreach to RES and NCAIED.** Support the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) by attending the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) and the Native Business Matchmaking forum.
- **SBA outreach.** Support all four of the Department of Labor's quarterly small business outreach meetings along with four Small Business Administration (SBA) outreach events all to continue exceeding the small business goals while diversifying the contractor pool for MSHA's procurements.
- **Part 90.** Address ways to increase awareness surrounding accessibility and use of the Part 90 program. PAEIR will explore innovative communication strategies to educate and share information with coal miners who have already developed pneumoconiosis to encourage to exercise rights that allow them to continue working in healthier parts of the mine with reduced respirable coal dust levels. Awareness campaigns will also include enforcement and outreach efforts to ensure miners working in potentially dangerous

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

environments take proper precautions to limit exposures to silica and other dangerous toxins.

- **Data as a Strategic Asset.** Develop a foundation for using data as a strategic asset by establishing data governance and developing data policy and road map to support mission business strategies and goals. PAEIR will cultivate data culture, accelerate decision-making through analytics, establish mission-driven data management, promote innovation and collaboration, and build and enhance data governance. Key activities include data identification, management policy, issue management, assessment, oversight, and communication.
- **Improve Analytic capabilities.** Identify opportunities to leverage new and existing data sources to better manage and improve analytic capabilities in support of strategic planning, mission, and operations. PAEIR will create value and concentrate on a key area to promote stakeholder analytics, strategic analysis, forecasting, and risk management. This data acquisition undertaking will support strategic planning and business intelligence. PAEIR will continue efforts to better define the mining workforce to assess the number of miners affected by exposure to occupational contaminants and growth.
- **Opioid outreach.** Continue outreach for opioid hazard awareness suitable for miners, new miners, and employers to manage potential opioid hazards.
- **Building infrastructure for fleet electrification goals.** Continue to support the Administration's goal to transition MSHA's vehicle fleet to clean and zero emission vehicles (ZEV).
- **Decreasing footprint.** Continue to comply with OMB's National Strategy for Real Property (National Strategy) and the Reduce the Footprint Policy. PA will be executing MSHA's goal of decreasing the Agency's footprint by implementing strategies to improve more flexibilities for personnel such as remote or telework.
- **Automate Hazard Condition Complaints.** Automate the categorization of Hazard Condition Complaints to identify or recognize hazards that are present and harvest new and existing data to effectively manage safety and health programs proactively.
- **Analysis of BIL and expansion of mining.** Continue to evaluate and analyze the impact of the BIL on the expansion of mining to meet the demand of producing key minerals and metals, federal mine and state permit approvals, commodity price fluctuations, and mine registration and legal identification requests for workforce acquisition planning.
- **Access of Health and Communications in underserved communities.** Continue to assess whether miners in underserved communities face vulnerabilities by exploring and defining the number of mines located in areas with broadband access at the federally defined broadband standard (25 Mbps down/3 Mbps up). The use of low bandwidth technology may serve as a cost-effective way to deliver services to underserved areas. Digital technology apps and telemedicine can serve as a resource to deliver information

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

and evidence-based treatment and recovery support services that emerge as cost-effective solutions to address continuum-of-care gaps in rural and underserved areas including the treatment of mental illness and substance use disorders.

- **IT Modernization.** Complete the IT Modernization project, MSHA's Centralized Application System (MCAS), and sunset MSHA's Standardized Information System (MSIS).
 - MCAS Modernization and Enhancement projects include:
 - Modernizing lab sample uploads to the MSIS/MCAS interface using an application programming interface
 - Electronic submission and approval of inspection data (digitization)
 - Electronic submission of all MSHA inspection forms through IAS
 - Create additional data entities/attributes from MCAS/MSIS available in the Data Warehouse to include Diesel Inventory, Student Information System, Sentinels of Safety, Self-Contained Self Rescue (SCSR) and other Enforcement enhancements
 - Underground Mine Training using Virtual Reality
 - Automate Distribution of Lab Results for Coal Mines – Upload the additional Coal Lab Samples attributes and would require modifications to the lab upload interface

**PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION
RESOURCES**

BUDGET ACTIVITY BY OBJECT CLASS					
(Dollars in Thousands)					
		FY 2022 Revised Enacted	FY 2023 Revised Enacted	FY 2024 Request	Diff. FY24 Request / FY23 Revised Enacted
11.1	Full-time permanent	0	0	13,686	13,686
11.3	Other than full-time permanent	0	0	333	333
11.5	Other personnel compensation	0	0	405	405
11.9	Total personnel compensation	0	0	14,424	14,424
12.1	Civilian personnel benefits	0	0	5,246	5,246
12.2	Military Personnel Benefits	0	0	0	0
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	0	0	171	171
22.0	Transportation of things	0	0	28	28
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	0	0	1,035	1,035
23.2	Rental payments to others	0	0	32	32
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0	0	335	335
24.0	Printing and reproduction	0	0	2,022	2,022
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	8	8
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	0	0	214	214
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources 1/	0	0	14,610	14,610
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	0	0	20	20
26.0	Supplies and materials	0	0	118	118
31.0	Equipment	0	0	50	50
32.0	Land and Structures	0	0	0	0
42.0	Insurance claims and indemnities	0	0	180	180
	Total	0	0	38,493	38,493
	1/Other goods and services from Federal sources				
	Working Capital Fund	0	0	3,075	3,075
	DHS Services	0	0	178	178
	HHS Services	0	0	72	72
	Services by Other Government Departments	0	0	11,285	11,285

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

CHANGES IN FY 2024

(Dollars in Thousands)

Activity Changes

Built-In

To Provide For:

Costs of pay adjustments	\$590
Personnel benefits	253
Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA)	2
Travel and transportation of persons	0
Transportation of things	0
Rental payments to GSA	0
Rental payments to others	0
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	0
Printing and reproduction	0
Advisory and assistance services	0
Other services from non-Federal sources	0
Working Capital Fund	210
Other Federal sources (DHS Charges)	0
Other goods and services from Federal sources	0
Operation and maintenance of equipment	0
Supplies and materials	0
Equipment	0
Insurance claims and indemnities	0
Land and Structures	0

Built-Ins Subtotal **\$1,055**

Net Program **\$2,000**

Direct FTE **0**

	Estimate	FTE
Base	\$1,055	0
Program Increase	\$2,000	0
Program Decrease	\$0	0