

U.S. Department of Labor issues statement regarding 15th Anniversary of administering the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act

WASHINGTON -- Rachel P. Leiton, Director of the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC), issued the following statement regarding the 15th anniversary of DOL's administration of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA).

"July 31, 2016, marks the 15th anniversary of DOL's administration of the EEOICPA. At this time I would like to recognize those individuals who built this country's nuclear weapons defense program. Nuclear weapons production and testing involved unique dangers and those individuals who worked on this program sacrificed their health for the country. The EEOICPA was enacted to provide medical benefits and financial compensation to help ease these individuals' hardships. I am proud of the work the Department has accomplished thus far administering EEOICPA. To date, the Department has paid over \$12.7 billion in compensation and medical benefits to 105,602 nuclear weapons workers and their survivors. I encourage all individuals who may be entitled to benefits under the EEOICPA to contact one of our 11 Resource Centers located nationwide and file a claim."

To assist individuals regardless of where they live, DEEOIC has 11 stationary resource centers located nationwide that provide an initial point-of-contact for individuals interested in filing a claim under the EEOICPA. Resource center staff provide both in-person and telephone-based assistance. For a listing of each resource center or to obtain additional information about how to file a claim under the EEOICPA, call toll-free at (866) 888-3322 or visit the DEEOIC website at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/energy/>.