RELEASE – TRANSMISSION OF FEDERAL (EEOICPA) PROCEDURE MANUAL VERSION 2.1:

EEOICPA TRANSMITTAL NO. 18-02 March 12, 2018

EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

The Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC) is issuing this transmittal to notify staff of the publication of Version 2.1 of the Federal EEOICPA Procedure Manual (PM). Version 2.1 replaces Version 2.0, effective the date of the publication of this transmittal.

Following are the content edits that make up Federal EEOICPA PM Version 2.1:

- Chapter 14 – Establishing Special Exposure Cohort Status is revised to communicate new information.

  - Section 1 is updated to include language regarding the responsibility of claims staff to utilize the OWCP Imaging System (OIS) and the Energy Compensation System (ECS). The following paragraphs have been added as 1a and 1b:

    a. OIS. DEEOIC employees responsible for claim management must image into OIS relevant documents received or created that relate to a claim. This guidance applies to all of the procedures described throughout this chapter.

    b. ECS. ECS is a claim status database used to manage case adjudication activities of the DEEOIC. CEs or FAB staff record the various screening and development actions for all SEC related claim activities. CEs must pay particular attention to ECS coding requirements for screening of SEC claims and the SER/SEF coding in the SEC causation path. DEEOIC staff is to access ECS user guides and training material available through shared resources.
Section 5 is updated to include language on the addition to the PM of a comprehensive list of SEC designations. The language included in PM v2.0 read:

5. **Additional SEC Classes.** HHS has authority to designate additional classes of employees to be added to the SEC. A class of employees may be included in the SEC if HHS determines that it is not feasible to estimate with sufficient accuracy the radiation dose that members of the class received, and there is a reasonable likelihood that such radiation may have endangered the health of the members of the class.

It is revised in PM v2.1 to:

5. **Additional SEC Classes.** HHS has authority to designate additional classes of employees to be added to the SEC. A class of employees may be included in the SEC if HHS determines that it is not feasible to estimate with sufficient accuracy the radiation dose that members of the class received, and there is a reasonable likelihood that such radiation may have endangered the health of the members of the class. For a complete list of SEC designations refer to Exhibit 14-1.

Section 8b(3), second paragraph, is updated to remove reference to outdated coding. The language included in PM v2.0 read:

Based upon the initial screening, the cases on the comprehensive list are grouped into three categories: those likely to be included in the SEC class (ISL); those unlikely to be included in the SEC class (ISU); and those for which development may be needed (ISD) to determine whether the case can be accepted into the new SEC class.

It is revised in PM v2.1 to:

Based upon the initial screening, the cases on the comprehensive list are grouped into three categories: those likely to be included in the SEC class; those unlikely to be included in the SEC class; and those for which development may be needed to determine
whether the case can be accepted into the new SEC class.

- Section 8b(3)(a) is updated to remove reference to the CE2 position, as that role no longer exists. The language included in PM v2.0 read:

  For cases on the comprehensive list at FAB, a designated CE2 or other FAB staff member is to conduct the initial screening and completion of the worksheet.

  It is revised in PM v2.1 to:

  For cases on the comprehensive list at FAB, a FAB staff member is to conduct the initial screening and completion of the worksheet.

- Exhibit 14-01, List of Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Designated Classes, is added.

- With the addition of Exhibit 14-01, all subsequent Exhibits in Chapter 14 are renumbered.

  Exhibit 14-1, SEC Screening Worksheet is now Exhibit 14-2

  Exhibit 14-2, Sample Letter to Claimant Granting Medical Benefits for Unaccepted Reverse Consequential Condition (Medical Treatment of Underlying Primary Cancer) is now Exhibit 14-3.

- Chapter 15 - Establishing Toxic Substance Exposure and Causation is revised to remove an inappropriate reference to “high level” exposure.

  PM v2.0, Exhibit 15-4, Exposure and Causation Presumptions with Development Guidance for Certain Conditions, contained the following reference under 7b(2):

  An IH has provided a well-rationalized discussion of case-specific evidence opining an employee has had 20 years of significant asbestos exposure at high levels during any time period.

  It is revised in PM v2.1 to:
An IH has provided a well-rationalized discussion of case-specific evidence opining an employee has had 20 years of significant asbestos exposure during any time period.

- Chapter 18 - Eligibility Criteria for Non-Cancerous Conditions, is revised for clarity.
  
  o Section 4b in PM v2.0 read:
    
    b. Under Part E. To satisfy the employment requirement under Part E, the employee must meet the same requirements as stated above for Part B, but the employee must be a DOE contractor or subcontractor employee.
    
    It is revised in PM v2.1 to:
    
    b. Under Part E. To satisfy the employment requirement under Part E, the employee must have at least one day of verified employment as a DOE contractor or subcontractor at a DOE facility.
    
- Chapter 22 - Wage-Loss Determinations is revised to correct a content error.
  
  o Section 3(e) in PM v2.0 read:
    
    e. A quarter is defined as the three-month period of January through May, May through June, July through September, or October through December.
    
    It is revised in PM v2.1 to:
    
    e. A quarter is defined as the three-month period of January through March, April through June, July through September, or October through December.
    
- Chapter 24 - Recommended Decisions, is revised for clarity.
  
  o Section 11e in PM v2.0 was titled:
    
    e. Issuing a RD When There is a Prior Overpayment.
    
    It is revised in PM v2.1 to:
e. Issuing a RD When There is a Previously Established Outstanding Debt.

- Chapter 27 - Reopening Process, is revised to include new guidance relating to issuing Director’s Orders to vacate a letter decision.

  o Section 5 in PM v2.0 read:

    5. Reopening and Vacating a FAB Decision. The DEEOIC Director, or an individual acting under a delegated authority, reopens a FD by issuing a Director’s Order.

  It is revised in PM v2.1 to:

    5. Reopening and Vacating a FAB Decision. The DEEOIC Director, or an individual acting under a delegated authority, reopens a FD or letter decision by issuing a Director’s Order.

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