

Expansion of DOE's Former Worker Medical Screening Program

Background

DOE's *Former Worker Medical Screening Program* (FWP) was established following the issuance of the FY 1993 Defense Authorization Act, which tasked DOE with assisting workers with determining whether they had health issues related to their prior work with DOE.

Mission

The mission of the FWP is to:

- Identify groups of former workers at risk for occupational disease;
- Notify these individuals; and
- Offer them medical screening that can lead to medical treatment.

Issue

In 2004, EH had announced that all regional former worker programs would be shut down and replaced with a single nation-wide medical screening program. Following a review of former worker needs, this earlier decision is reversed. **All existing regional medical screening programs will remain in operation, and several new regional programs are opening.**

Current Plans

In FY 2005 and FY 2006, EH will maintain and expand medical screening services to former workers from all DOE sites through the following initiatives:

1. Retain all existing regional programs for former workers at multiple DOE defense nuclear facilities as shown on the map;
2. Create new regional programs in Ohio at Mound and Fernald; in New Mexico at Sandia; in Iowa at Ames Lab; in California at LLNL and LBNL; in Missouri at Kansas City Plant; and in Florida at Pinellas; and
3. Provide supplemental medical care services, which will focus on the following groups of workers:
 - Former workers at locations not served by regional programs;
 - Former workers served by regional programs who do not reside in close proximity to the regional screening clinics.
 - Former workers from any DOE site who would prefer to see their personal physician.

The above initiatives will result in a different, and more comprehensive, approach than the one proposed by DOE in FY '04.