NIOSH 10-Year Program Review Implementation

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Five Review Reports

- **Reports focus on the following topic areas:**
  - **Dose Reconstruction**
  - **Quality of Service**
  - **Timeliness of Program Products**
  - **SEC Petitions**
  - **Quality of Science**
- **Summary of the reports and recommendations are available on the NIOSH Web site at:**

  http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docket/review/docket194/default.html)

Quality of Service

- **Issues related to customer-supplied information**
  - **Develop system(s) for collecting all customer comments along with disposition action**
- **Issues related to understandability of information**
  - **Improve understandability and quality of communication vehicles: Web site, information sheets, letters to claimants or petitioners, etc.**
- **Issues related to access to information**
  - **Ensure Board and Work Group work products are posted on the Web site as soon as practical**

Timeliness

- Give higher priority to claims returned by DOL for new dose reconstruction
- Continue to adopt aggressive timeliness objectives for dose reconstruction
- Adopt aggressive time limits for the completion of the review of SEC petitions

SEC Petitions

- **Separate "policy" issues from "science" issues**
  - **Include more detail on the evolution of a science decision in SEC Evaluation Reports (e.g., thorium exposures)**
  - **Develop a policy memo with each Evaluation Report that identifies policy decision and the thought process behind the decisions**
- **Work to define "sufficient accuracy"**
- **Utilize staff "other than health physicists" when appropriate to guard against "professional orientation" toward accepting adequacy of techniques**

Quality of Science

- **Consider subjecting program documents to formal peer review**
  - **NIOSH is developing an implementation guide to identify levels of review of program documents**
- **Assess validity of indirect exposure methods**
  - **NIOSH is conducting trial-run validation using Savannah River Site data**

Quality of Science—cont.

- **Characterize degree of claimant-favorability in current methods**
  - **Compare "claimant-favorable" approaches to assessment methods commonly used in other applications**
- **Evaluate utility of EPA surrogate data protocol**
- **NIOSH review of EPA protocol indicates its recommendations are similar to information in "The Use of Data from Other Facilities in the Completion of Dose Reconstructions Under EEOICPA" (DCAS-IG-004)**
  - **Non-NIOSH reviewers will review EPA protocol against methods used by NIOSH**

Dose Reconstruction

- **Work with Subcommittee on Dose Reconstruction Reviews on QA/QC evaluation**
  - **Develop duplicate analysis program in order to identify potential issues with dose reconstruction process**
  - **Review recent dose reconstruction review findings to determine cause of findings**
- **Prioritize elimination of overestimating dose reconstructions relative to implementation of other program review actions**
  - **Analyze cost of eliminating overestimating dose reconstructions**
  - **Consider impact on long-range budget planning**