Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 27, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: David Michaels, PhD, MPH
Assistant Secretary
Environment, Safety and Health

SUBJECT: Support for Beryllium Rule Implementation Workshop
February 29 - March 2, 2000, Department of Energy (DOE)
Headquarters, Forrestal Auditorium

Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 850, Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program (CBDPP) final rule was published in the Federal Register on December 8, 1999. The rule describes a comprehensive, integrated worker health program that will substantially increase the protection afforded beryllium workers at DOE sites while ensuring that adverse effects from exposure to beryllium will be detected and treated at the earliest opportunity.

To support implementation of effective programs that comply with the rule, this office is sponsoring a series of workshops. The first workshop is scheduled for February 29 - March 2, 2000, and will focus on the development of comprehensive, consistent CBDPP plans throughout DOE. The rule requires employers to submit CBDPP plans to DOE no later than April 7, 2000. Our objective is to bring together Federal and contractor officials responsible for plan development, review, approval, and implementation, as well as others who may be affected by the plans to identify and discuss implementation issues, guidance, expectations, and cost-effective approaches related to the CBDPP requirements. It is anticipated that participation in this forum will greatly facilitate the development and approval of site CBDPPs.

I am asking for your support in encouraging your employees with beryllium responsibility, including line managers, technical safety and health staff, and workers and their designated representatives, to participate in the workshop. Attendees will receive valuable insight into DOE expectations for CBDPP plan content. In addition, the workshop will offer DOE perspectives on the legal, medical, and contractual aspects of the new rule. This is a unique opportunity for both field and program office managers and employees, and I encourage their participation.

A follow-on workshop is scheduled in early May for Federal employees to identify criteria for approving the plans. The third workshop in the series will be held in January or February 2001, to share rule implementation best practices and lessons learned.

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Thank you in advance for supporting this important and timely workshop. A brochure with additional details regarding this first workshop is attached. For more information, contact Ed Patigalia on (301) 903-3972.

Attachment

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