



# DOE/NIEHS Worker Training Program

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**Division of Extramural Research & Training**

**2014 DOE and DOE Contractors Industrial Hygiene Meeting**

**June 2, 2014**

**San Antonio, TX**



## National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Worker Education and Training Program (NIEHS WETP)



*Confined Space Rescue Training by the International Union of Operating Engineers*

## Department of Energy and NIEHS WETP Nuclear Worker Training Program

Accomplishments and Highlights September 1, 2012– August 31, 2013



# NIEHS DOE Update

- NIEHS and DOE/NIEHS Training Program Background
- DOE Safety Training Collaboration with HSS, the DOE National Training Center and HAMMER
- DOE Funding Opportunity Announcement



# NIEHS Superfund Worker Training Program

- Created in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), Section 126(g).
- Assistance program for training and education of workers engaged in activities related to hazardous waste generation, removal, containment or emergency response and hazardous materials transportation and emergency response.
- Has trained over 2.5 million workers in high risk occupations such as toxic waste cleanup and chemical emergency response.



**Goals:** The major objective of these cooperative agreements is to prevent work-related harm by assisting in the training of workers in how best to protect themselves and their communities from exposure to hazardous materials, waste and chemical emergency response. Includes the Department of Energy (DOE) Nuclear Complex Program.



**Need:** There are literally thousands of sites that pose severe health and safety concerns to workers and the surrounding communities.

Three distinct program areas including the Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program, Minority Worker Training Program, and the Hazmat Disaster Preparedness Training Program.



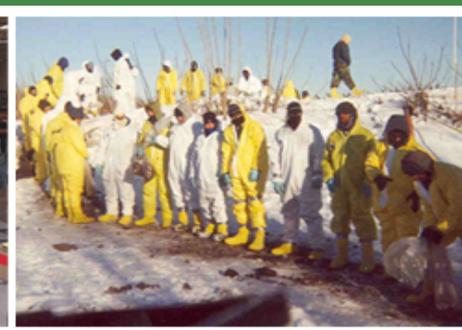
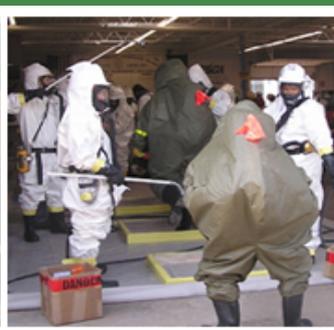
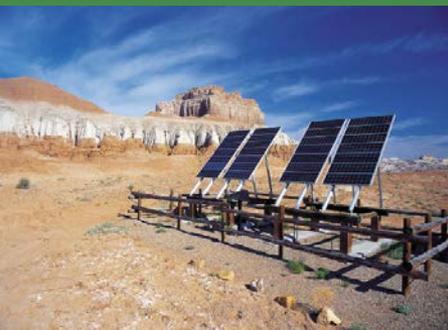
# Safely Cleaning Up Contaminated Communities





# Training and Educating the Cleanup Workforce

- NIEHS Technical Workshops
- Development and use of the Minimum Criteria for Health and Safety Training
- Gold Standard of Training
- Peer Worker Trainers
- Real Life Training Scenarios
- New Areas of Training – Hazmat Disaster, Nanomaterials, Green Jobs, etc.
- Consortium Approach to Training
- Formalized training curriculum and tools (Hurricane, Earthquake, Oil Spills)
- National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety & Health Training
- Interagency Working Groups and Local Partnership
- Over 25 Years of Experience

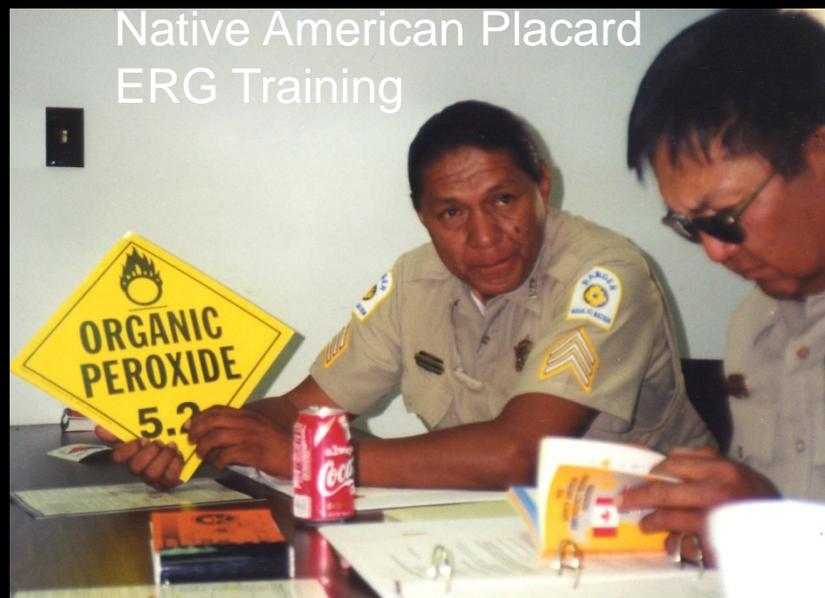


**Partnerships:** The NIEHS WETP operates these two programs in partnership with HHS, DOE, OSHA, EPA primarily, and with over 100 non-profit training organizations across the country.

- The Hazardous Waste Worker Training Program is our Core Program

## Major Successes:

- Each year 175,000 to 200,000 workers receive critical safety and health training.
- Over 2.5 million workers trained in every state and province.
- Program leverages resources to respond to multiple emergencies & disasters.
- For MWTP, 10,000 trained in 30 communities across 20 states with 70% employment.



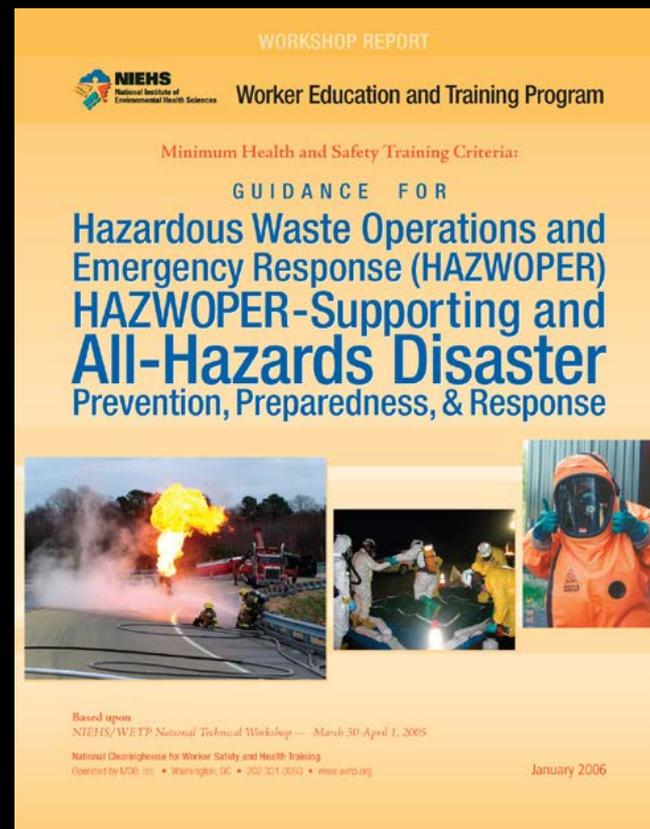


# NIEHS Minimum Health and Safety Training Criteria

**Guidance for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, HAZWOPER- Supporting, and All-Hazards Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Response**  
*Released January 2006*

**Major changes Include:**

- **Advanced training technologies application and integration;**
- **Requirements for additional training programs to support HAZWOPER work; and**
- **Post-9/11 all-hazards preparedness training.**



## DOE/NIEHS Worker Training Program:

- NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT: Section 3131 created the Worker Training Program in 1993 for NIEHS and DOE as a partnership.
- Interagency Agreement with DOE to develop model worker safety and health training programs at DOE facilities.
- Support worker safety training for the purpose of DOE site clean up activities, waste management and hazardous materials response.





# DOE NIEHS Program Objectives

- Create training partnerships with DOE contractors drawing on skilled workers
- Promote a culture of continuous learning and integrated safety management
- Blend advanced training technology with classroom and hands-on learning
- Reduce redundancy and draw on DOE lessons learned in training delivery



## Who Are the Awardees of the DOE Worker Training Program?

- International Association of Fire Fighters
- International Union of Operating Engineers
- United Steelworkers of America
- International Chemical Workers Union Council
- LIUNA Training and Education Fund
- International Brotherhood of Teamsters
- CPWR - Center for Construction Research and Training
- PETE – Partnership for Environmental Training & Education



# What Is the Goal of the Program?

- To provide safety and health training that is both site specific and trade-specific in view of the fact that DOE sites are complicated, featuring a combination of nuclear, industrial, demolition, and construction activities
- To ensure that DOE site workers are prepared to work safely in hazardous environments
- To provide workers with sufficient knowledge to identify hazardous situations and to take appropriate actions to protect themselves, fellow workers, and the environment.





# How Many Are Trained?

- Across the DOE complex 6,439,741 contact hours of safety and health training were delivered by the NIEHS/DOE awardees between 1993 and 2012.
- During this period awardees have trained 479,320 workers and presented 33,475 classroom and hands-on training courses.
- In 2012-2013, 27,737 workers received 309,977 contact hours of training in 1,790 classes.





# DOE/NIEHS Training Delivery

- 25,000-35,000 DOE workers trained annually at over 30 cleanup sites
- Over 5,000 workers trained at Hanford and Oak Ridge with LANL at 4260 and Savannah River at 2615
- Over 1000 workers trained at Nevada Test Site, and Portsmouth with Paducah over 500.
- Wide range of hazardous waste & emergency response classes offered



# NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training



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## Careers and Training

HazMat Safety & Training

About Worker Education and Training Program

Areas of Training

### Clearinghouse

Curricula Catalog

Emergency Preparedness Resources

Hazardous Waste Worker Training Issues - Areas of Training

Meetings and Workshops

Other Links and Resources

Workforce Development

Funding Opportunities for Worker Training

Meetings and Workshops

Other Links and Resources

What's New

## National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training

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### National Clearinghouse QuickFinder

[Curricula Catalog](#)

[Earthquake Preparedness](#)

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[Nanotechnology](#)

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The National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training is the national resource for [hazardous waste worker curricula](#), technical reports, and [weekly news](#) on hazardous materials, waste operations and emergency response. Funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences' Worker Education and Training Program ([NIEHS WETP](#)), the Clearinghouse provides assistance for NIEHS WETP staff, program grantees, and the general public.

The National Clearinghouse's services include disseminating technical information related to safety and health training development, organizing and documenting [NIEHS WETP meetings and workshops](#), and analyzing research products to enhance and support on-going and new initiatives. For more information, please view our [Clearinghouse Fact Sheet](#) (179 KB).

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### Key Documents



# DOE Safety Training Collaboration

- HAMMER, NIEHS and the DOE National Training Center coordinated Safety Training Collaboration meetings at Oak Ridge, Los Alamos and Savannah River.
- The focus of these meetings was on health and safety training to meet the requirements of Title 10 CFR Part 851. To this end, the collaborators conduct a self-assessment in order to identify training gaps that may exist in the NTC/site/union/etc. training that is available to site workers.
- The expected outcomes of the meetings include:
  - Strengthening the safety of site operations
  - Enhancing the quality and efficiency of safety training programs
  - Reducing the redundancy/duplication of safety training



# Workshop Background

- Worker S&H Training Integration Collaborative Workshops
  - Collaboration of NTC/NIEHS/HAMMER and DOE sites
  - Federal, contractor, union staff involvement
  - HAMMER participation (lessons learned/successes)
  - Focus on safety training efficiencies and challenges
  
- Workshop Sites
  - Oak Ridge/Y-12 - July 21-22, 2009
  - Savannah River – December 8-9, 2009
  - Los Alamos – July 26-27, 2010
  - Idaho – October 19-20, 2010



# DOE Safety Training Workshop Results

## General Conclusions

- Workers receive appropriate hazard-based training
- Significant training redundancy across projects, sites, facilities, and contractors
- Lack of standardized criteria for evaluating training courses & providers

## Critical Needs Identified

- Improved training quality
- Enhanced training standardization
- Improved training portability for workers



## Post Workshop Activities

- NTC/NIEHS/HAMMER Activities
  - Reported workshop results
  - Developed a “straw man” program and path forward to expand collaborative training
- Impressive Progress at ORR
  - Lessons learned could benefit other DOE sites
  - Documentation of ORR experience and achievements to share across DOE



- Training Integration Model Elements
  - Workers training workers
  - Blended learning (e-learning/hands on)
  - Training transportability
- Benefits
  - Enhance worker safety and health
  - Training standardization – reduce redundancy & cost savings
  - Training transportability – increased worker mobility
  - Labor union buy-in and support of site safety programs
  - Worker involvement in the development and delivery of site safety programs
  - Communication – networking/collaboration



# Plans & Next Steps



Release Funding Opportunity  
Announcement for all of WETP  
Programs in Summer 2014  
Hazardous Waste Worker  
Minority Worker Training  
Hazmat Disaster Training  
DOE Nuclear Worker Training





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