



FACT SHEET

Department of Energy Ethics Program

DESCRIPTION

In an effort to continue improving overall quality, efficiency, and visibility of the Department of Energy's (DOE) ethics program, there has been a focus on developing more attorneys to provide ethics advice at Headquarters (HQ) and in field offices, and improving our working relationships with field counsel through site ethics program reviews and regular videoconferences. Upon recommendation of field site counsel during one of the program reviews, we also began conducting videoconferences in which HQ ethics officials present a particular topic(s) of interest to the field. Additionally, HQ has provided standard template advice letters for both OGE Form 450 and 450A filers.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the ethics program reviews is to take a snapshot of the status of each field ethics program and evaluate its compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Our reviews have shown that field counsel are often few in number and always generalists; therefore, our role has been to provide more ethics attorney training opportunities, access to standard advice documents, and an efficient centralized notification and tracking system for financial disclosure report filers. It is also our objective to learn more about the operations and resources of each site for the purpose of more fully understanding the site's mission and how we can leverage the resources of our office to support it.

PRODUCT ADAPTABILITY

All of the methods and applications mentioned in this submission are certainly transferable to other federal agencies and to ethics officials in their field offices, if applicable.

AGENCY CONTACT

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