



2009 Annual Report

for the

**National Clearinghouse for
Worker Safety and Health Training**

NIEHS WETP

National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training

2009 Annual Report
for the
**National Clearinghouse for
Worker Safety and Health Training**

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Annual Report for the National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training 2009
National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training
2008/2009 Year End Report



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health

INTRODUCTION

Annually, MDB, Inc. highlights its work providing an extensive range of communication and technical assistance services to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Worker Education and Training Program (NIEHS WETP) in the Clearinghouse Fiscal Year-End Report. The 2009 Fiscal Year-End Report covers NIEHS WETP Clearinghouse activities from September 16, 2008 to September 15, 2009. The 2008 fiscal year was a challenging and exciting year for the National Clearinghouse.

MDB Inc. has completed its 4th year in the current contract providing technical and research support for the NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program and ensuring the smooth operation of the NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse.

OVERVIEW

This contract year was largely focused on issues around green jobs, tracking where American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding was going and both building relationships with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Health, Safety and Security and working on the DOE Training Needs Assessment.

Staff also spent time on six tasks: 1) coordinating the Fall 2008 Awardee Meeting and Workshop: Implications for Safety and Health Training in a Green Economy; 2) coordinating the Spring 2009 Awardee Meeting and Conference: Local, State and Federal Partnerships for Chemical Preparedness and Response; 3) Reorganizing the National Clearinghouse Website; 4) Developing the Chemical Incidents Training Tool; 5) Finalizing the Earthquake Responder Training Tool; and 6) Developing Website topic pages on H1N1 (Swine), Pandemic and Avian Influenza, ARRA, and Earthquake Response. Additionally, staff provided ongoing review of the Strategic Plan in an effort to ensure that the program is on track and meeting the operational goals laid out in the plan.

WETP continued its emergency preparedness and response training activities. These activities began in 2005 (immediately following Hurricane Katrina's devastation), and focused on developing more training tools for skilled support personnel who respond to emergencies. The framework for choosing the tools was originally based on the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) 15 Disaster Planning Scenarios. However, it became clear there was a need for some training tools outside of the DHS framework, for instance for wildfires. This year the focus was on chemical incidents. A tool was designed as an awareness-level health and safety resource for "skilled support personnel" who will participate in a response to a chemical release (including weapons and industrial chemicals) and are not required to get chemical training under 1910.120. This tool helps workers understand at an awareness level: the basics of chemical weapons deployment, how to protect against chemical and other hazards associated with a chemical release and response.

PRIME TASK ONE

Establish, manage, and operate an information clearinghouse for the distribution of technical information produced by the WETP of the NIEHS.

Monthly Meetings Summaries

Ms. Deborah Weinstock made monthly trips to Research Triangle Park, NC to meet with the Worker Education and Training Branch (WETB) staff to discuss the past, current and future contract activities, as well as examine remaining budget allocations. Each month, Ms. Weinstock disseminates a new report, which includes a budget spreadsheet and a summary of contract tasks to the WETB. This form of reporting maintains accountability for the project, while introducing a necessary degree of flexibility when faced with changing priorities. Other Clearinghouse team members either accompany Ms. Weinstock or join via teleconference as needed. The meetings provide an opportunity to set priorities and move forward on specific projects.

Health and Safety Library (HASL) and the Curricula Catalog

The MDB, Inc. IT team, spearheaded by Manfred Stanfield, updated HASL and the Curricula Catalog.

Timeframe	Documents added to HASL	Documents downloaded from HASL	Curricula Catalog Downloads
2005/2006	113	74,067*	1220 files by 193 users
2006/2007	250	17,386	1765 files by y325 users
2007/2008	462	N/A	819 files by 159 users
2008/2009	223	30,465	1835 files by 279 users

*Note the large number of HASL downloads during the 2005/2006 contract year was likely due to the Hurricane Katrina PPT and booklet downloads.

The table below shows the number of items awardees uploaded to, or changed in, the curricula catalog between **September 16, 2008 and August 31, 2009**.

AFSCME	0
CPWR- The Center for Construction Research and Training	2 added, 8 archived
Dillard University	0
HMTRI/Kirkwood	1 added, 2 archived
IAFF	0
Teamsters	1 added
ICWUC	1 added
IUOE	1 added
UAW	0
Laborers-AGC	0
Midwest Consortium/University of Cincinnati	2 added
OAI, Inc.	3
SEIU Education and Support Fund	0
New England Consortium	0
New Jersey/New York Hazardous Materials Worker Training Center	1 added

University of Alabama Birmingham	12 added, 1 archived
United Steelworkers of America	7 added, 6 archived
Western Region Universities Consortium	3 archived
Western Region Universities Consortium	3 archived

Advisory Board

The Clearinghouse Advisory Board met on April 29, 2009 in Cincinnati, OH prior to the NIEHS WETP Workshop: Local, State and Federal Partnerships for Chemical Preparedness and Response. In addition to the members listed below, nearly all Clearinghouse staff and all WETB staff participate in the Advisory Board meetings. Ms. Weinstock provided an update on the H1N1 flu outbreak, Clearinghouse activities from the past year, and reviewed the Strategic Plan. Members discussed how to incorporate safety and health into “green jobs” and the use of Social Media in emergency response. Members also discussed possible topics and locations for new workshops. The board agreed that the fall meeting would focus on global safety and health activities.

National Clearinghouse Advisory Board

Membership List

Name:	Organization:	Name:	Organization:
LaMont Byrd	Teamsters	Glenn Paulson	UMDNJ
Don Ellenberger	CPWR	Paul Renner	Labor Institute
Mike Gill	USW	Nadine Remington	OAI, Inc.
Mike Glassic	Y-Stress	Craig Slatin	U Mass Lowell
Gary Gustafson	Laborers-AGC	Ron Snyder	Kirkwood
Barb McCabe	IUOE	Ebony Turner	Dillard University
Tom McQuiston	USW	Kizetta Vaughn	CPWR
Pat Morrison	IAFF	Beverly Wright	Dillard University

Strategic Plan

At the Advisory Board Meeting, Deborah discussed where NIEHS currently was in terms of meeting its operational priorities for each strategic priority. Overall NIEHS is doing a good job of addressing the operational priorities. Members discussed how to increase communication with other agencies, including the Department of Energy, environmental justice programs, and green job funding opportunities.

PRIME TASK TWO

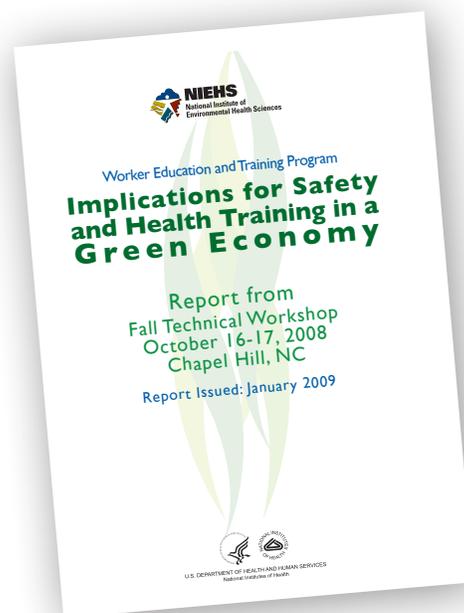
Arrange and manage technical meetings and workshops related to scientific, administrative, and regulatory issues that are associated with training for hazardous waste workers and emergency responders.

The National Clearinghouse arranged and managed these technical meetings and workshops over the contract year:

NIEHS WETP 2008 Fall Workshop: Implications for Safety and Health Training in a Green Economy

October 15 - 17, 2008
Chapel Hill, NC

The National Clearinghouse coordinated and assisted in the facilitation of the NIEHS WETP 2008 Fall Conference: Implications for Safety and Health Training in a Green Economy from October 15-17, 2008 in Chapel Hill, NC. The conference brought together over 100 NIEHS and WETP awardee representatives and interested parties to explore issues in the green economy, including green jobs and industries, green remediation, green chemistry and the safety and health training that will be needed in each area. On October 15 the Awardee Meeting took place. The technical workshop was held October 16th and 17th. The final workshop report can be found at <http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/newsbriefs/Jan09/WETPFallmeeting08.pdf>.



NIEHS WETP 2009 Spring Awardee Meeting and Workshop: Local, State and Federal Partnerships for Chemical Preparedness and Response

April 29-May 1, 2009
Cincinnati, OH

The National Clearinghouse coordinated and assisted in the facilitation of the NIEHS WETP Spring 2009 Awardee Meeting and Workshop: Local, State and Federal Partnerships for Chemical Preparedness and Response, which was cosponsored by the Interstate Chemical Terrorism Workgroup (ICTW) and the City of Cincinnati. The workshop brought together about 150 people from local, state and federal government as well as those from labor, academia and other non-profit groups. Participants heard about partnerships for chemical preparedness and response, were shown a variety of resources that can be used during a chemical response to help protect responders and the surrounding community. Concurrent breakout sessions covered: emergency response; training; risk communication, community preparedness; health care, public health, and mental health; and advanced training technologies. Some of these resources and advanced technologies were then used the next day during a disaster training exercise in which participants worked through the response and recovery phases of the simulated incident, focusing specifically on the health and safety aspects of those workers who would be impacted. Conference presentations can be found at <http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/events.cfm?id=2474>.

Fall 2009 Awardee Meeting and Workshop: Global Safety and Health Activities

October 20-22, 2009
Chapel Hill, NC

The National Clearinghouse and WETP began organizing the NIEHS WETP Fall 2009 Awardee Meeting and Workshop, to be held October 20-22, 2009 in Chapel Hill, NC. The workshop theme is Global Safety and Health Issues and their Impact on Workers. The focus will be on the implications of REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemical substances), Global Harmonization and other international policies on worker training.

Winter 2010 Environmental Justice, Air and Green Jobs: Evolution and Innovation Conference

Clearinghouse staff began planning for the Environmental Justice/Air Conference which NIEHS is cosponsoring with EPA and Dillard University. The meeting will be held January 25-27, 2010 in New Orleans. The theme of the meeting is Environmental Justice Evolution and Innovation.

Brownfields 2009

November 16-18, 2009
New Orleans, LA

Clearinghouse staff participated in planning committee calls for the EJ Caucus to be held the Sunday evening before the Brownfields conference.

PRIME TASK THREE

Facilitate the transmission of technical information related to the development of safety and health training programs for hazardous waste workers and emergency responders.

Web Site Development and Web Site Maintenance

The following activities occurred under Website development and maintenance during the year:

- » Provided technical support to Clearinghouse administrators when HTML input errors or server errors occurred.
- » Troubleshot and fixed site errors as they occurred.
- » Developed the Spring 2009 Award Meeting registration systems with credit card purchasing ability.
- » Developed an abstract submittal form for the Spring meeting abstracts
- » Created new administrative screen for conference registration.
- » Web-based application development modification - Supplemental Operation System (SOS).
- » Deleted the Shopping Cart function in the Curricula Catalog. All curricula should now be downloaded directly by those seeking curricula.
- » Reviewed code for updating the Newsbrief sign up and removal processes.
- » Created an RSS Feed on the Clearinghouse web page.
- » Interface with NIEHS, CTB and SRA Tech Services Team.
- » Conversion of source code repository from CVS to Subversion.



Redesigned the National Clearinghouse Website

MDB began the initial process of redesigning the National Clearinghouse Website by redesigning the home page to include a condensed left side toolbar, a new quickfinder topic section, redesigned Clearinghouse search function, developed new Clearinghouse Information, Key Documents and Clearinghouse Resources boxes, and revised home page text and National Clearinghouse Highlights section.

508 Compliance

Clearinghouse staff worked to ensure that documents already posted and those to be posted on the Website were made "508 compliant". In 1998, Congress amended the Rehabilitation Act to require Federal agencies to make their electronic and information technology accessible to people with disabilities. Inaccessible technology interferes with an individual's ability to obtain and use information quickly and easily. Section 508 was enacted to eliminate barriers in information technology, to make available new opportunities for people with disabilities, and to encourage development of technologies that will help achieve these goals. The law applies to all Federal agencies when they develop, procure, maintain, or use electronic and information technology. Under Section 508 (29 U.S.C. '794d), agencies must give disabled employees and members of the public access to information that is comparable to the access available to others.

During the year, MDB made numerous documents on its Web pages 508 compliant.

National Clearinghouse Web Statistics

The web statistics that follow compare web traffic in calendar year 2008 to 2009. So far in 2009, the busiest month for requests has been April. In 2008, the busiest month was February.

Month	2008	2009	Month	2008	2009
January	10,431	8,589	July	9,781	10,662
February	18,457	13,286	August	8,320	18,721
March	11,865	14,978	September	10,515	N/A
April	10,967	22,306	October	9,474	N/A
May	8,795	12,594	November	7,978	N/A
June	10,221	12,580	December	6,501	N/A

For the 2008-2009 contract year, Friday was once again the busiest day for the Clearinghouse web page. Friday is when the NewsBrief is published and subscribers receive an e-mail indicating that it is available. This e-mail directs the user to click on the site.

Among the top twenty organizations by the number of requests in the 2008-2009 contract year were Verizon.net, rr.com, and sbcglobal.net. The top three organizations were 74, Comcast.net, and 128.231. Among the top 50 organizations were uml.edu, uc.edu, umdnj.edu, and epa.gov.

As in the previous contract year, the Clearinghouse home page is the most requested page on the Clearinghouse web site. This is followed by the Health and Safety Library (HASL), the HazMat Safety & Training page and the current issue of the NewsBrief. During the previous contract year, the HazMat Safety & Training page was ranked second and HASL was third.

The top referring site by the number of requests was <http://tools.niehs.nih.gov>. A list of the top 10 is below.

Top Ten Referring Sites

Ranking	Site	Number of Requests
1	http://tools.niehs.nih.gov	66,042
2	http://www.niehs.nih.gov	27,499
3	http://www.google.com	9,859
4	http://search.yahoo.com	5,078
5	http://search.niehs.nih.gov	2,820
6	http://images.google.com	1,249
7	http://stanley.niehs.nih.gov	1,019
8	http://search2.google.cit.nih.gov	937
9	http://www.osha.gov	515
10	http://www.google.co.in	448

The top ten list of queries people used in search engines to find the site were: wetp, niehs wetp, areas of training, dpm.psc.gov, hazmat training, www.dpm.psc.gov, niehs clearinghouse, summary of training, minority worker training program, and <http://www.dpm.psc.gov>.

Internet Explorer is still by far the most used browser to access the site, followed by Firefox, Netscape and Safari. This is identical to the 2007-2008 report.

Weekly Digital Newsbrief

Since its inception, the National Clearinghouse weekly Newsbrief has served as a unique resource for keeping abreast on issues surrounding worker safety, health, and training. The weekly Newsbrief features current news articles, research studies, government reports, upcoming events, and employment opportunities within the topic areas of emergency preparedness and response, homeland security, environmental cleanup, and chemical safety as they relate to worker training and worker safety. The National Clearinghouse weekly Newsbrief is unique for two reasons: it is the only newsbrief distributed by a federal government agency solely devoted to worker training and safety in the areas

mentioned, and rather than feature frontliners, its purpose is to feature articles and documents that don't normally make front page news. The Newsbrief is delivered each Friday to over 1100 recipients.

Resource Pages

The National Clearinghouse created two resource pages that provide documents and resources that address government and public emergency preparedness in earthquake and H1N1 outbreak situations. The earthquake page contains background information, documents and state and federal resources that address emergency preparedness during earthquakes. The H1N1 page contains information from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The National Clearinghouse also created an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Resource page. President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) into law on February 17, 2009 with the purpose of stimulating the American economy through job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, and other means. With this funding, green job training, including teaching principles such as green chemistry, green engineering and green remediation, is critically important because new work processes, new toxic substances and new health and safety risks will be created in the newly created jobs. Green job training and education is an environmental public health imperative, if we want to avoid the creation of negative health impacts on the newly developing workforce.

NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse Compendium

Resources were reallocated to accommodate other priorities.

PRIME TASK FOUR

Develop, analyze, and compile program research products to support new training initiatives and the continuation of program efficacy measures.

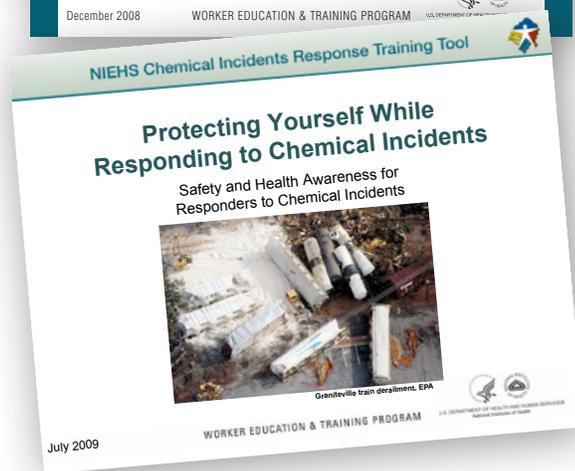
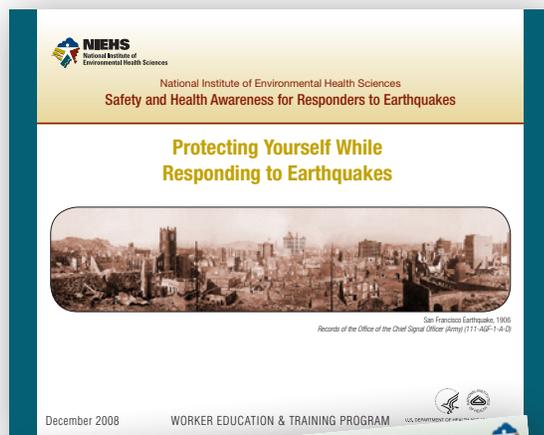
Major initiatives that took place under Task 4:

- » **Training Tools - WETP continued its emergency preparedness and response training activities.** These activities began in 2005 (immediately following Hurricane Katrina's devastation), and focused on developing more training tools for skilled support personnel who respond to emergencies. The framework for choosing the tools was originally based on the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) 15 Disaster Planning Scenarios. However, it became clear there was a need for some training tools outside of the DHS framework, for instance for wildfires. During the 2008-2009 contract year the focus was on chemical incidents.
- » **Development and production of an NIEHS Earthquake training tool.** In July 2008 WETP and the National Clearinghouse arranged and facilitated an Earthquake Safety and Health Training Tool Stakeholders Meeting in Emeryville, CA. WETP and the National Clearinghouse used comments from the 50-plus participants who attended to develop upgrade the training tool. An Earthquake Emergency Responder Booklet was finalized and the booklet is now available. A companion earthquake resource page was also created on the Clearinghouse Website.
- » **Development of a Chemical Incidents training tool.** A tool was designed as an awareness-level health and safety resource for support personnel who will participate in a response to a chemical release (including weapons and industrial chemicals) and are not required to get chemical training under 1910.120. This tool helps workers understand at an awareness level: the basics of chemical weapons deployment, how to protect against chemicals and other hazards associated with a chemical release and response.
- » **Developing an H1N1 Response Training Tool (ongoing).** In August 2009, the Clearinghouse began the process of developing an H1N1 awareness training tool aimed at helping stem the transmission of the virus and to protect workers who will be in direct contact with the virus, such as health care workers, school employees and janitorial staff and others asked to clean public spaces or their own work places. The tool is expected to be complete shortly after the October 20, 2009 Awardee Meeting.

To date, training tools and booklets have been developed on the following topics:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| » Hurricanes | » Floods |
| » Avian Influenza | » Earthquakes |
| » Radiological Dispersion Devices (Dirty Bombs) | » Chemical Incidents |
| » Wildfires | » H1N1 (Swine Flu) <i>in progress</i> |

- » **Overview of Stimulus Allocations.** Clearinghouse staff developed a paper that provided a snapshot of where federal agencies and states were allocating money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The document was prepared for use by NIEHS WETP awardees applying for Administrative Supplements available from NIEHS WETP as a result of ARRA. WETP supplements were focused on 1) health and safety training for target populations employed in the hazardous components of jobs that will be supported by ARRA; 2) for the emerging



green sector, the customization of safety and health training for emerging jobs in commercial and residential weatherization, alternative energy development, green remediation, green construction and emerging industries like nanotechnology; 3) for newly recruited workers to stimulus projects and emerging green jobs, career-enhancement and life skills components to supplement basic required safety and health training and 4) the development of federal, state and local safety and health training partnerships to facilitate integration with ongoing stimulus and economic recovery activities is strongly encouraged.

- » **Development of a factsheet on Worker Safety Training in a Green Environment: The On-Going Role of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Worker Education and Training Program.** In an effort to communicate that the NIEHS WETP has always been a “green” program, Clearinghouse staff developed a fact sheet describing the program and its mission to ensure that green jobs are safe jobs.
- » **Importance of Disaster Preparedness Training paper.** During this contract year, a paper was drafted that attempts to emphasize the critical need for workers who will be responding to disasters to be properly and comprehensively trained prior to their deployment to the disaster site.
- » **OSHA outreach courses.** Given the recent enhanced scrutiny of OSHA’s 10 and 30 hour construction industry safety and health training courses, NIEHS WETP believes it is prudent to evaluate the OSHA 10- and 30-hour construction and general industry safety and health training courses (OSHA Outreach Training Courses) provided with the support of NIEHS funding. Clearinghouse staff began the process of looking at current training program quality control criteria included in the NIEHS Minimum Criteria document to evaluate the possibility of creating an easily adoptable evaluation process and quality control criteria for OSHA to use with its OSHA 10- and 30-hour courses.
- » **DOE Training Needs Assessment.** Throughout the year, Clearinghouse staff have been involved in developing a training assessment for the DOE complex. This has involved developing safety and health profiles for each of the DOE sites where awardees provide training. Safety and health profiles are comprised of background and history of the site, including cleanup activities and amount of ARRA money received; injury and illness statistics from 2000 to 2008 from the CAIRs system; data on occurrences from the ORPS system; and training data from the DMS. Rather than being a traditional training needs assessment, this document provides a road map for how DOE should move forward on worker training and particularly worker involvement in safety and health under 10 CFR 851, Integrated Safety Management and Voluntary Protection Programs. A final draft of the report will be available for the October 20, 2009 Awardee Meeting.

Partnerships and Representation

Members of the Clearinghouse staff represented the Clearinghouse and the WETP throughout the year:

- » Deborah Weinstock attended the American Public Health Association Meeting in San Diego, CA in October 2008;
- » Don Elisburg, Deborah Weinstock and Daniel Youhas attended the Good Jobs Green Jobs Conference in February 2009 in Washington, DC;
- » Don Elisburg attended the 2008 Worker Safety & Health Technical Conference sponsored by the National Response Team Safety and Health Subcommittee in October 2008 in Washington, DC;
- » Daniel Youhas attended the 2008 NIOSH Dream Workshop in November 2008 in Washington, DC;
- » Daniel Youhas attended the Social Media in Government Training Workshop in February 2009 in Washington, DC;
- » Daniel Youhas attended the NIOSH Emergency Preparedness and Response Strategy Meeting in February 2009 in Washington, DC;
- » Daniel Youhas attended the ANTI-Social Media: What Not to Do in Web 2.0 in February 2009 in Washington, DC;
- » Deborah Weinstock attended the HAMMER Steering Committee Meetings in October 2008 in Washington State and May 2009 in Washington, DC;
- » Daniel Youhas and Deborah Weinstock attended some of the DOE Nuclear Cleanup Caucus briefings
- » Deborah Weinstock spoke at the United Steelworkers Atomic Energy Worker Council Meeting in May 2009;
- » Deborah Weinstock and Tim Fields attended the Environmental Justice in America Conference in May 2009 in Washington, DC. The Clearinghouse organized a Green Jobs panel comprised of WETP awardees to highlight their training activities in this area;

- » Deborah Weinstock participated in COSH Network calls on Green Jobs;
- » Deborah Weinstock participated in the National Response Team, Safety and Health Subcommittee meetings and calls;
- » Deborah Weinstock helped organize and attended the Healthy Aging for Workers: Anticipating the Occupational Safety and Health Needs of an Increasingly Aging Workforce February 17-18, 2009 in Washington, DC;
- » Deborah Weinstock presented on Disaster preparedness: Current activities of the NIEHS Worker Education and Training Program and its awardees in preparing skilled support personnel for disaster response and recovery at the 2008 APHA conference in San Diego, CA;
- » Deborah Weinstock attended the Department of Energy National Training Center's Safety Training Advisory Committee Meeting April 2009 in Albuquerque, NM;
- » Deborah Weinstock attended part of the Energy Facility Contractors Group meeting in Washington, DC, followed by a joint meeting with EFCOG members, union representatives and NIEHS;
- » Don Elisburg and Deborah Weinstock met with Acting Assistant Secretary for OSHA, Jordan Barab regarding training issues;
- » Don Elisburg participated in the Center for Construction Research and Training Technical Advisory Board meetings;
- » Deborah Weinstock attended the IUOE HAZMAT Program Advisory Board Meeting;
- » Deborah Weinstock and Katherine Secrest attended the Oak Ridge Safety Training Collaboration Meeting in Oak Ridge, TN in July 2009;
- » Deborah Weinstock participated in the planning committee meeting for the NIOSH Make Green Jobs Safe workshop to be held in December 2009;
- » Deborah Weinstock and Tim Fields met with the Deputy Associate Director for Policy Outreach and the Deputy Associate Director for Green Jobs at the Council on Environmental Quality;
- » Deborah Weinstock attended the DOE ISM Conference in Knoxville, TN in August 2009;
- » Don Elisburg presented at the 26th Annual Voluntary Protection Programs Participant's Association (VPPPA) conference in August 2009;
- » Joy Lee attended the EPA Community Involvement Training in August 2009 in Seattle, WA;
- » Daniel Youhas and Joy Lee participated in many of the Interstate Chemical Working Group conference calls throughout the year;
- » Don Elisburg and Tim Fields attended the LIUNA Education and Safety Fund (formerly Laborers-AGC) Advisory Board Meeting in September 2009; and
- » Deborah Weinstock and Daniel Youhas attended the Green Jobs/Green Homes New York: Expanding Home Energy and Efficiency and Creating Good Jobs in a Clean-Energy Economy briefing, sponsored by the Center for American Progress.

CONCLUSION

The 2009 NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse Report is designed to highlight Clearinghouse activities and, in turn, the Program's achievements for September 2008 to September 2009. For the past year MDB, Inc. has assisted with building partnerships between WETP and other agencies, and enhanced the operational research capabilities of the NIEHS WETP National Clearinghouse and will continue to do so in the years to come.