

Status of DOE-VPP

What's New?



Alfred Traylor & Matt Ramsey
Director, Office of Worker Safety and Health Assistance

October 22-23, 2024



Agenda

- New DOE-VPP Tagline
- DOE-VPP Technical Standard
- Annual Reports
- Active DOE-VPP Participants
- New Applicants and DOE-VPP Outreach
- Why DOE-VPP?
- Upcoming DOE-VPP Assessment Schedule
- Question & Answer



New DOE-VPP Tag Line

- Recent rebranding of the DOE-VPP coincides with the purchase of a new display booth after 15+ years.
- Focused on streamlining the program and making it more effective with available resources as well as increasing the bidirectional nature of communication.
- Made me ask myself “*How do we summarize DOE-VPP in a few words?*”



New DOE-VPP Tag Line

Building Partnerships

Promoting Safety

Recognizing Excellence



New DOE-VPP Tag Line

Building Partnerships:

Dictionary

Definition

3 : a relationship resembling a legal partnership and usually involving close cooperation between **parties** having specified and joint rights and responsibilities

| The band has maintained a successful *partnership* for 10 years.

- Ensuring communication flows in two directions
- Soliciting post-assessment feedback
- Helping participant sites and potential partners realize the benefit of participation in DOE-VPP
- Conducting non-assessment site visits when possible



Post-Assessment Survey

DOE-VPP Post-Assessment Feedback Survey

Aug 19, 2024

Please provide any feedback you have regarding your assessment experience so we can refine our processes. All feedback will be anonymous unless you decided to identify yourself. If you would like to be contacted, please provide your contact information at the end of the survey.



Post-Assessment Survey

- How would you rate your overall experience with the DOE-VPP assessment process?
- How would you rate your overall experience with the DOE-VPP assessment team members?
- How do you feel the DOE-VPP assessment process could be improved? Please be specific enough to help the DOE-VPP team identify and correct any issues.
- Would you like to provide any other comments on your VPP assessment to the DOE-VPP team?



New DOE-VPP Tag Line

Promoting Safety:

- Sharing best practices and opportunities for improvement across the DOE complex
 - Briefing and participation in SCIP, EFCOG CoPs, etc.
 - Proposed DOE-VPP annual summary report
- Rewriting of DOE-STD-1232-2019 to update our operations, including virtual assessment procedures adopted post-COVID as well as improve application and distribution of resources



New DOE-VPP Tag Line

Recognizing Excellence:

- Publicizing DOE-VPP assessment successes across multiple DOE websites and in various forums
- Awarding programs with outstanding performance
- Increased participation in recognition and award ceremonies on behalf of DOE HQ and EHSS



DOE-VPP Technical Standard

Currently reviewing DOE-STD-1232-2019, the guiding document for DOE-VPP:

- Incorporating virtual assessment process
 - Feedback has been well received from all participating sites where this has been conducted
- Streamline assessment process and adapt assessment length and depth to each site
- Very early in the process but sites should expect little to no impact to their participation, most likely no earlier than late FY25



Annual Reports

From DOE-STD-1232-2019, Volume 2, VI. B.:

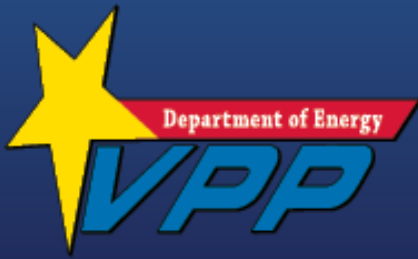
- Each year, by February 15, the participating site shall provide the Field Element DOE-VPP POC with the site's TRC rates and DART case rates (along with the Computerized Accident Incident Reporting System (CAIRS) organization codes), hours worked, the applicable NAICS code, and estimated average employment for the past full calendar year for the contractor and any subcontractors using form found in Volume 2, Appendix A.



Annual Reports

Evaluation criteria can be found in Volume 2, VII.

- Annual Review of Rates and the Annual Program Evaluation
- Annual Review of Investigation Reports
- Annual Review of Employee Concerns
- Annual Compilation of Program Information and Statistics



Annual Reports

Annual reports are the primary tools to determine eligibility for annual awards:

- Volume 1, V. A. Contractor Awards:

To emphasize the fundamental necessity of continued improvement in protecting workers, DOE shall recognize those participants who consistently **perform significantly better than their industry counterparts, exhibit excellence in mentoring, community outreach, and establish challenging and effective safety improvement goals.**



Annual Reports

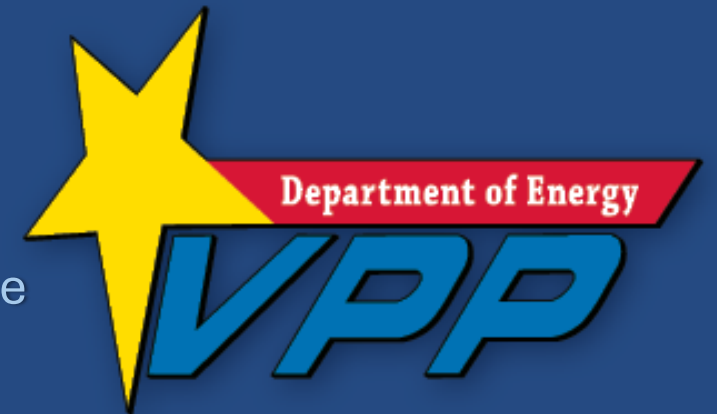
Annual award levels:

- Star of Excellence
 - Full dedication and total commitment to the principles of VPP, they have achieved an outstanding level of performance in meeting established safety and health goals, actively conducting outreach to others, and achieving an injury and illness rate significantly below the average of similar businesses and operations (75% below NAICS average)
- Superior Star Award
 - A leader in safety and health performance, they have achieved a consistently superior level of performance in meeting established safety and health goals, actively conducting outreach to others, and achieving an injury and illness rate significantly below the average of similar businesses and operations (50% below NAICS average)
- Legacy of Stars
 - In lieu of fourth consecutive Star of Excellence award, but only if a triennial review was completed within those four years

Active DOE-VPP Participants

Program participants are actively pursuing safety and health excellence from a variety of backgrounds (national laboratories, cleanup sites, production facilities and more!)

Seek out peers at these sites for benchmarking opportunities or to learn if DOE-VPP participation is right for your site/contract!



Active DOE-VPP Participants



Office of Science

- Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education [ORAU]
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory [Battelle]

Office of Nuclear Energy

- Idaho National Laboratory [BEA]

Active DOE-VPP Participants



NNSA

- Kansas City National Security Campus Engineering Services [FES KCP]
- Los Alamos National Laboratory [Triad]
- Nevada National Security Site [MSTS]
- Savannah River Site [SRNS]
- Y-12 National Security Complex [CNS]

Office of Legacy Management

- Legacy Management Support [RSI EnTech]

Active DOE-VPP Participants



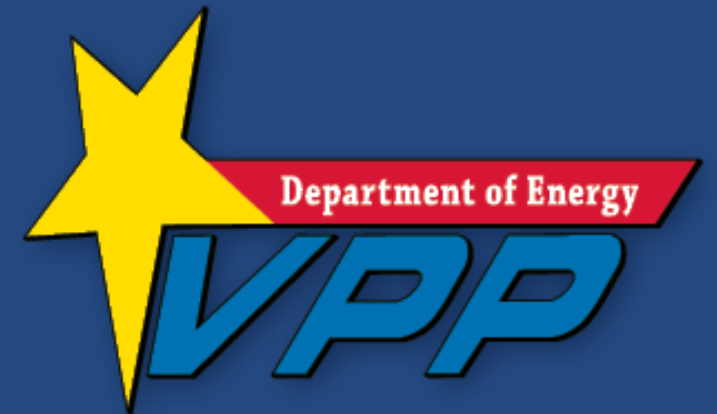
Office of Env. Mgmt.

- Hanford 222-S Laboratory [HLMI]
- Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup [CPCCo]
- Hanford Site Support, Safeguards/Security, and HAMMER [HMIS]
- Hanford Tank Operations [WRPS]*
- Hanford Waste Treatment Plant [WTCC]
- Idaho Cleanup [IEC]
- Oak Ridge Cleanup [UCOR]
- Portsmouth Infrastructure Support [NWD]
- Savannah River Integrated Mission [SRMC]
- Savannah River National Laboratory [BSRA]
- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant [SIMCO]
- West Valley Demonstration Project [CHBWV]

*Transitioning to new H2C contract week of 10/21/2025

New Applicants and DOE-VPP Outreach

DOE-VPP HQ staff are consistently accepting new or contract-transition program applications and are available as needed to provide virtual or onsite assistance to prospective or existing participants.



Recent New and Transitional Program Applicants

Application Notes:

- Prospective program participants apply for recognition of their pursuit of safety and health excellence and to join the DOE-VPP community of practice to support continuous improvement.
- Information about DOE-VPP application and participation can be found in DOE-STD-1232-2019, *U.S. Department of Energy Voluntary Protection Program, Vol. 1-4*, accessible via our website:

<https://www.energy.gov/ehss/voluntary-protection-program>

Recent Applicants:

- Savannah River National Laboratory [BSRA]
- Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup [CPCCo]
- Hanford Site Support, Safeguards/Security, and HAMMER [HMIS]
- Idaho Cleanup [IEC]
- Portsmouth Infrastructure Support [NWD]
- Legacy Management Support [RSI EnTech]
- Savannah River Integrated Mission [SRMC]



DOE-VPP Outreach

Assistance to prospective and current applicants:

- DOE-VPP HQ staff have traveled to prospective participant sites to meet with operations and safety SMEs and support the application process.
- Program staff are preparing a comprehensive update of the program technical standard for process clarification and streamlining.

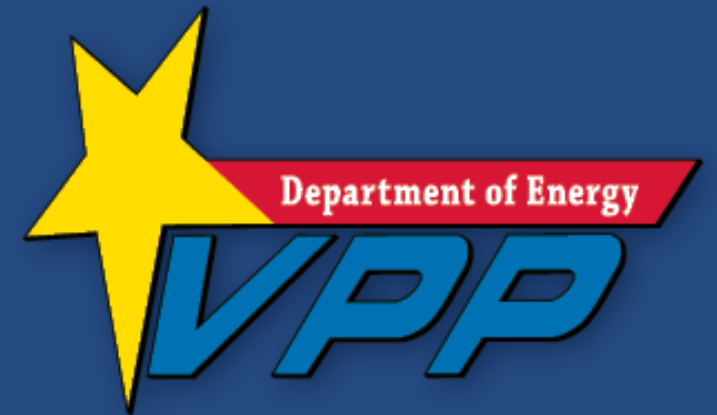
General outreach:

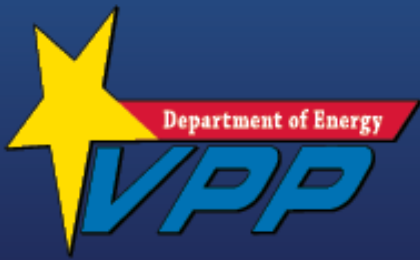
- DOE-VPP assessors connect participant sites with best practices of the DOE-VPP community during assessments.
- DOE-VPP HQ staff and participant SMEs share best practices and lessons learned in various industry forums (VPPPA, EFCOG, SCIP, ASSP, etc.)



So Why DOE-VPP?

DOE-VPP participation is strictly voluntary.





Program Benefits

- DOE-VPP provides a direct opportunity to benchmark peer best practices.
- DOE-VPP fosters partnership and cooperation between corporate and labor entities.
- DOE-VPP offers a framework to promote safe work practices and safety culture and recognize accomplishments
- DOE-VPP recognized organizations stand out among competitors
- DOE-VPP offers a conduit to regular interaction and support with DOE EHSS resources.



Upcoming DOE-VPP Assessment Schedule

• CY 2025:

- SRMC
- BSRA
- IEC
- BEA
- CPCCO

• CY 2026*:

- MSTs
- HMIS MSS
- HMIS S&S
- ORAU/HLMI**
- SIMCO

• CY 2027*:

- CNS
- Triad
- SRNS
- CHBWW
- BMI

* Notional

** Split Travel



Questions

DOEVPP@doe.gov