

Environmental Protection Agency
230 S. Dearborn
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The Economic Dislocation Early Warning System

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Region V, Library

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about the impact of its actions on jobs. This is the reason for the Economic Dislocation Early Warning System (EDEWS)

EDEWS information shows that job losses have not been as great as had been anticipated and that these losses are significantly lower than job increases in the pollution control industry. EDEWS reports that from January 1, 1971 to September 30, 1978 closings or curtailments by 128 plants have dislocated approximately 23,737 workers. Conversely, Data Resources, Inc. reports suggest that between 1970 and 1978 some 250,000 more jobs existed than would have in the absence of Federal air and water pollution control legislation.

What Is EDEWS?

- The Economic Dislocation Early Warning System attempts to identify all potential or actual industrial plant closings or curtailments and employment dislocations resulting from Federal, State or local pollution control regulations.
- It was established in 1972 as part of an agreement between EPA and the U S Department of Labor to aid workers affected by pollution control enforcement.
- Under the agreement the EPA is required to report threatened and actual dislocations resulting from environmental regulations to the Department of Labor as soon as they become apparent

What Is The Purpose Of EDEWS?

- The information provided by EPA allows the Department of Labor to act quickly to minimize unemployment problems
- The information also is essential for EPA to evaluate the effects of pollution control regulations on industries

How Does EDEWS Work?

- U.S. EPA seeks advance notice of plant closures where environmental regulations are a significant factor, even though other factors contribute, in a closure
- Information is collected by EPA representatives through a system of contacts with Federal, State, and local enforcement offices
- When the relationship of environmental regulations to a closing is identified, a report is sent to the Department of Labor regional office.

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- The report identifies the plant and number of jobs expected to be lost and describes the enforcement problem. The objective is to assure timely assistance to the workers who lose their jobs
- This information also is collected nationwide and is reported quarterly to the Secretary of Labor

What Other Federal Programs Can Help Alleviate The Impact Of Plant Closings ?

- The Economic Development Administration of the Department of Commerce provides assistance to qualifying communities
- The Small Business Administration issues low-interest loans qualifying businesses to install pollution control equipment

What Can You Do To Help ?

- When you hear of a plant that is likely to close or curtail operations where pollution control requirements are a factor, contact your Region V EPA representatives or your State coordinator

Whom To Contact:

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 Check here if you want EPA to send you Economic Dislocation Early Warning System reporting forms and additional information _____