

HEARING CONSERVATION	Identifier: PRD-2108 Revision*: 5 Page: 1 of 3
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Subcontractors	Program Requirements Document	For Additional Info: http://EDMS	Effective Date: 08/28/23
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Manual: Subcontractors Requirements

Change Number: 379706

*The current revision can be verified on EDMS.

1. PURPOSE

This document provides requirements for a subcontractor hearing conservation program (HCP), the goal of which is to prevent noise-induced hearing loss by keeping occupational noise exposures below established regulatory requirements for subcontractor employees. This document implements requirements from regulatory standards along with *contractor* (see def.) requirements. All applicable regulatory or contractor requirements must be followed, with the most stringent requirement being met.

2. APPLICABILITY

This document applies to all subcontractors working at the Idaho Cleanup Project (ICP) whose employees are exposed to noise levels at or above 85 decibels measured using an A-weighted scale for evaluating sound pressure levels, or as specified in their contract with the ICP contractor. Stricter requirements may be imposed by subcontractors upon their employees or subtier contractors. The requirements of this document must be followed by subcontractors; however, the means of implementation may be determined by the subcontractor.

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 General Requirements

- 3.1.1 When employees are exposed to noise levels that are at or above 85 decibels measured on an A-weighted scale, controls for occupational noise exposure will be implemented in accordance with 29 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) 1910.95, "Occupational Noise Exposure."
- 3.1.2 Subcontractors shall implement engineering and administrative controls to reduce noise exposures as much as feasible prior to use of hearing protective devices.
- 3.1.3 Subcontractors shall implement the necessary measures to ensure that employee exposure to noise does not exceed the limits contained in the 2016 *ACGIH* (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists) *TLV booklet*.
- 3.1.4 An initial evaluation of noise exposure shall be performed for each work area or task where noise levels may be expected to routinely equal or exceed the action level.

HEARING CONSERVATION	Identifier: PRD-2108 Revision*: 5 Page: 2 of 3
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- 3.1.5 If employee exposure to noise meets or exceeds the 2016 ACGIH TLVs for noise, individual employees shall be notified in writing. The contractor's point of contact will also be notified.

3.2 Hearing Conservation Program

- 3.2.1 Subcontractors shall implement a continuing HCP in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.95, using the action levels and limits established by the ACGIH and cited above.

3.3 Noise Evaluation

- 3.3.1 All potential hazardous noise exposures with the potential to exceed an occupational limit shall be evaluated and documented in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.95.
- 3.3.2 Dosimeters used to evaluate employee exposure to noise shall be set using the ACGIH criteria of a 3-dB exchange rate and an 8-hour criteria level of 85 dBA.
- 3.3.3 Appropriate signs shall be posted to identify high-noise areas.

3.4 Audiometric Testing

- 3.4.1 Audiometric testing shall be in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.95.

3.5 Hearing Conservation Training

- 3.5.1 Hearing conservation training shall be in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.95.

4. DEFINITIONS

See LST-27, "Glossary"

5. REFERENCES

29 CFR 1910.95, "Occupational Noise Exposure"

29 CFR 1926.52, "Occupational Noise Exposure"

American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienist; "TLVs and BEIs; Noise"; 2016

PRD-2001, "Personal Protective Equipment"

PRD-2022, "Safety Signs, Color Codes, and Barriers"

<p style="text-align: center;">HEARING CONSERVATION</p>	<p>Identifier: PRD-2108 Revision*: 5 Page: 3 of 3</p>
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6. APPENDIXES

None