

(b) [Reserved]

[59 FR 14556, Mar. 29, 1994. Redesignated at 60 FR 20193, Apr. 25, 1995]

Subpart U—Vermont

SOURCE: 38 FR 28659, Oct. 16, 1973, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1952.270 Description of the plan.

(a) The State's program will be administered and enforced by the Department of Labor and Industry. Safety standards are to be promulgated by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry while the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services is to promulgate health standards. The Division of Industrial Hygiene, within the Department of Labor and Industry, will then have the responsibility of inspecting workplaces for violations of health standards. However, enforcement of the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Act, including the issuance of citations for all violations, rests with the Department of Labor and Industry. Administrative adjudications will be the responsibility of an independent State Occupational Safety and Health Review Board.

(b) The State program will protect all employees within the state including those employed by the State and its political subdivisions. Public employees are to be granted the same protections as are afforded employees in the private sector. Specific administrative procedures for implementing the plan within the State agencies are to be drafted by the Vermont Agency of Administration.

(c) Vermont has adopted all Federal standards promulgated before December 31, 1972. Future permanent Federal standards will be adopted by the state within one year after promulgation by the Secretary of Labor.

(d) The State enabling legislation became law on July 1, 1972. The Act sets forth the general authority and scope for implementing the plan. The plan also contains proposed amendments to the Act which are designed to bring the legislation into full conformity with section 18(c) of the Federal Act and part 1902. The State has also adopted

regulations patterned after 29 CFR parts 1903, 1904 and 1905.

(e) The Vermont Act and the regulations drafted pursuant to it provide procedures for prompt and effective standards-setting for the protection of employees against new and unforeseen hazards and for furnishing information to employees on hazards, precautions, symptoms, and emergency treatment; variances; the giving to employer and employee representatives an opportunity to accompany inspectors and to call attention to possible violations before, during, and after inspections; the protection of employees against discharge or discrimination in terms or conditions of employments; notice to employees or their representatives when no compliance action is taken upon complaints, including informal review; notice to employees of their protections and obligations; adequate safeguards to protect trade secrets; prompt notice to employers and employees of alleged violations of standards and abatement requirements; effective sanctions against employers; the right to review alleged violations, abatement periods, and proposed penalties with the opportunity for employee participation in the review proceedings; prompt restraint or elimination of imminent danger conditions; and the development of a program to encourage voluntary compliance by employers and employees.

(f) The plan includes a statement of the Governor's support of it and of the proposed amendments to its legislation. It sets out goals and provides a timetable for bringing the plan into full conformity with part 1902. Personnel hired under the state's merit system will carry out the program.

§ 1952.271 Where the plan may be inspected.

A copy of the principal documents comprising the plan may be inspected and copied during normal business hours at the following locations:

Office of State Programs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N3700, Washington, DC 20210;

Office of the Regional Administrator, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, John F.

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Kennedy Federal Building, Room E-340, Boston, Massachusetts 02203; and Office of the Commissioner, Vermont Department of Labor and Industry, National Life Building-Drawer 20, 120 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3401.

[65 FR 36626, June 9, 2000]

§ 1952.272 Level of Federal enforcement.

Pursuant to §§1902.20(b)(1)(iii) and 1954.3 of this chapter under which an agreement has been entered into with Vermont, effective February 19, 1975, and based on a determination that Vermont is operational in issues covered by the Vermont occupational safety and health plan, discretionary Federal enforcement authority under section 18(e) of the Act (29 U.S.C. 667(e)) will not be initiated with regard to Federal occupational safety and health standards in issues covered under 29 CFR Parts 1910 and 1926, except as provided in this section. The U.S. Department of Labor will continue to exercise authority, among other things, with regard to: Complaints filed with the U.S. Department of Labor about violations of the discrimination provisions of section 11(c) of the Act (29 U.S.C. 660(c)); federal standards promulgated subsequent to the agreement where necessary to protect employees, as in the case of temporary emergency standards promulgated under section 6(c) of the Act (29 U.S.C. 665(c)), in the issues covered under the plan and the agreement until such time as Vermont shall have adopted equivalent standards in accordance with Subpart C of 29 CFR Part 1953; in private sector offshore maritime activities and will continue to enforce all provisions of the Act, rules or orders, and all Federal standards, current or future, specifically directed to maritime employment (29 CFR Part 1915, shipyard employment; Part 1917, marine terminals; Part 1918, longshoring; Part 1919, gear certification) as well as provisions of general industry and construction standards (29 CFR Parts 1910 and 1926) appropriate to hazards found in these employments, as they relate to employment under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal government on the navigable waters of the United States, including dry docks, graving docks, and marine railways; and investiga-

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tions and inspections for the purpose of the evaluation of the Vermont plan under sections 18(e) and (f) of the Act (29 U.S.C. 667(e) and (f)). Federal OSHA will also retain authority for coverage of Federal government employers and employees; and of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), including USPS employees, and contract employees and contractor-operated facilities engaged in USPS mail operations. The OSHA Regional Administrator will make a prompt recommendation for the resumption of the exercise of Federal enforcement authority under Section 18(e) of the Act (29 U.S.C. 667(e)) whenever, and to the degree, necessary to assure occupational safety and health protection to employees in Vermont.

[65 FR 36627, June 9, 2000]

§ 1952.273 Developmental schedule.

(a) Introduction and enactment of amendments to the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Act in the 1974 session of the State legislature;

(b) Completion of the State's Compliance Manual;

(c) Drafting of rules governing the operation of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Board;

(d) Development of specific administrative procedures for implementing the occupational safety and health program within the State agencies by January 1974;

(e) Development of the State's Voluntary Compliance Program for Employers and Employees by January 1974;

(f) Appointment of advisory committees for safety and health standards upon plan approval;

(g) Within three years of plan approval all developmental steps will be fully implemented.

§ 1952.274 Completion of developmental steps and certification.

(a) In accordance with §1952.273(a), amendments to the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Act were passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor on April 3, 1974.

(b) In accordance with §1952.273(c), rules governing the operation of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Board have been adopted, under