## **OSHA Launches National Emphasis Program on Heat Hazards**

This week, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced the launch of a <u>National Emphasis Program</u> to protect workers from heat illness and injuries. As part of the program, OSHA will proactively initiate inspections in over 70 high-risk industries – including demolition contractors - in indoor and outdoor work settings when the National Weather Service has issued a heat warning or advisory for a local area.

On days when the heat index is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, OSHA inspectors and compliance assistance specialists will engage in proactive outreach and technical assistance to help stakeholders keep workers safe on the job. Inspectors will look for and address heat hazards during inspections, regardless of whether the industry is targeted in the NEP.

OSHA's area offices will engage in outreach to unions, employers in target industries and other organizations committed to advancing protections for underserved workers. The agency's <a href="On-Site">On-Site</a> <a href="Consultation Program">Consultation Program</a>, a free and confidential health and safety consulting program for small- and medium-sized businesses, will assist employers in developing strategic approaches for addressing heat-related illnesses and injuries in workplaces.

A fact sheet on the new National Emphasis Program can be found <a href="here">here</a>. OSHA's guidance on protecting workers from heat illness and injuries can be found here.

## **OSHA Initiates Enforcement Program on Form 300A Data**

OSHA recently announced they are initiating an <u>enforcement program</u> that identifies employers who failed to submit Form 300A data on injury and illness records through the agency's <u>Injury Tracking Application (ITA)</u>. Annual electronic submissions are required by all establishments with 250 or more employees and establishments with 20-249 employees classified in specific industries with historically high rates of occupational injuries and illnesses, including the demolition industry. As reported previously by NDA, Form 300A data was due to OSHA on March 2, 2022.

The new enforcement program matches newly opened inspections against a list of potential non-responders to OSHA's collection of Form 300A data through the ITA and reports all matches to the appropriate OSHA area office. If the area office determines that the establishment on the list is the same establishment where the inspection was opened, OSHA will issue citations for failure to submit OSHA Form 300A Summary data.

In addition to identifying non-responders at the establishment level, the agency is also reviewing the 2021 submitted data to identify non-responders at a corporate-wide level. This corporate level review is being conducted for the nation's largest employers.

Learn more about OSHA's injury and illness recordkeeping and reporting requirements here.