

any agent of the employer), deliberately causes a violation of any requirement of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 94-469, title I, § 23, Oct. 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 2044; Pub. L. 98-620, title IV, § 402(19), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3358; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 99-519, § 3(c)(1), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2989.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 98-620 struck out provision that civil actions brought under this subsection had to be heard and decided expeditiously.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-620 not applicable to cases pending on Nov. 8, 1984, see section 403 of Pub. L. 98-620, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1657 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

### § 2623. Employment effects

#### (a) In general

The Administrator shall evaluate on a continuing basis the potential effects on employment (including reductions in employment or loss of employment from threatened plant closures) of—

- (1) the issuance of a rule or order under section 2603, 2604, or 2605 of this title, or
- (2) a requirement of section 2604 or 2605 of this title.

#### (b) Investigations

(1) Any employee (or any representative of an employee) may request the Administrator to make an investigation of—

- (A) a discharge or layoff or threatened discharge or layoff of the employee, or
- (B) adverse or threatened adverse effects on the employee's employment,

allegedly resulting from a rule or order under section 2603, 2604, or 2605 of this title or a requirement of section 2604 or 2605 of this title. Any such request shall be made in writing, shall set forth with reasonable particularity the grounds for the request, and shall be signed by the employee, or representative of such employee, making the request.

(2)(A) Upon receipt of a request made in accordance with paragraph (1) the Administrator shall (i) conduct the investigation requested, and (ii) if requested by any interested person, hold public hearings on any matter involved in the investigation unless the Administrator, by order issued within 45 days of the date such hearings are requested, denies the request for the hearings because the Administrator determines there are no reasonable grounds for holding such hearings. If the Administrator makes such a determination, the Administrator shall notify in writing the person requesting the hearing of the determination and the reasons therefor and shall publish the determination and the reasons therefor in the Federal Register.

(B) If public hearings are to be held on any matter involved in an investigation conducted under this subsection—

- (i) at least five days' notice shall be provided the person making the request for the investigation and any person identified in such request,
- (ii) such hearings shall be held in accordance with section 2605(c)(3) of this title, and

(iii) each employee who made or for whom was made a request for such hearings and the employer of such employee shall be required to present information respecting the applicable matter referred to in paragraph (1)(A) or (1)(B) together with the basis for such information.

(3) Upon completion of an investigation under paragraph (2), the Administrator shall make findings of fact, shall make such recommendations as the Administrator deems appropriate, and shall make available to the public such findings and recommendations.

(4) This section shall not be construed to require the Administrator to amend or repeal any rule or order in effect under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 94-469, title I, § 24, Oct. 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 2045; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 99-519, § 3(c)(1), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2989.)

### § 2624. Studies

#### (a) Indemnification study

The Administrator shall conduct a study of all Federal laws administered by the Administrator for the purpose of determining whether and under what conditions, if any, indemnification should be accorded any person as a result of any action taken by the Administrator under any such law. The study shall—

- (1) include an estimate of the probable cost of any indemnification programs which may be recommended;
- (2) include an examination of all viable means of financing the cost of any recommended indemnification; and
- (3) be completed and submitted to Congress within two years from the effective date of enactment of this chapter.

The General Accounting Office shall review the adequacy of the study submitted to Congress pursuant to paragraph (3) and shall report the results of its review to the Congress within six months of the date such study is submitted to Congress.

#### (b) Classification, storage, and retrieval study

The Council on Environmental Quality, in consultation with the Administrator, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, and the heads of other appropriate Federal departments or agencies, shall coordinate a study of the feasibility of establishing (1) a standard classification system for chemical substances and related substances, and (2) a standard means for storing and for obtaining rapid access to information respecting such substances. A report on such study shall be completed and submitted to Congress not later than 18 months after the effective date of enactment of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 94-469, title I, § 25, Oct. 11, 1976, 90 Stat. 2046; Pub. L. 96-88, title V, § 509(b), Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 695; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 99-519, § 3(c)(1), Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2989.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The effective date of enactment of this chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a)(3) and (b), probably means January 1, 1977, the effective date of the chapter prescribed