## EBSA News



**U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration** Washington, D.C. USDL 03-25 For Immediate Release August 18, 2003 Contact: Sharon Morrissey (202) 693-8664

## Department of Labor, IRS and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Extend Deadline for Annual Reports Following Power Blackout

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA), the Internal Revenue Service and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation today announced an extension of the deadline for filing Form 5500 and Form 5500-EZ annual returns/reports because of last week's power blackout in nine states.

The extension applies to plan administrators, employers and other entities, who are located in the areas directly affected by last week's power blackout in the northeastern and midwestern United States. The extension also applies to filers located outside the affected areas who were unable to obtain the information necessary for filing from service providers, banks or insurance companies whose operations were directly affected by the blackout.

Under this relief, those filings due on Aug. 14 or 15, 2003 will be granted an extension until Friday, Aug. 22, 2003.

Filers entitled to this extension relief should check Part 1, Box D, on the Form 5500 or Part 1, Box B on Form 5500-EZ, and attach a statement labeled "Northeast Blackout 2003" explaining the basis for the extension being claimed under this relief. Filers who have additional questions may contact the EFAST Help Line at 1-866-463-3278.