

News Release



U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
USDL 03-444

For Immediate Release
August 19, 2003
Contact: Sharon Morrissey
Phone: (202) 693-8664

Department of Labor, IRS and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Extend Annual Reports Deadline After 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 due to last week’s power blackout in nine states.

The extension applies to plan administrators, employers and other entities located in areas directly affected by the 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, filings due on Aug. 14 or 15, 2003, will be granted an extension until Friday, Aug. 22, 2003.

Filers entitled to this extension of 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.

###