Subpart P—Tennessee

§ 1952.220 Description of the plan as initially approved.

(a) The plan identifies the Department of Labor and the Department of Health as the agencies designated to administer the plan throughout the State. It adopts the definition of occupational safety and health issues expressed in §1902.2(c)(1) of this chapter. All standards, except those found in 29 CFR parts 1915, 1916, 1917, and 1918 (ship repairing, ship building, ship breaking and longshoring) will be adopted and enforced immediately upon approval of the plan by the Assistant Secretary.

(b)(1) The plan includes legislation passed by the Tennessee Legislature during its 1972 session which became effective July 1, 1972. Under the law, the Department of Labor and the Department of Public Health will have full authority to enforce and administer laws respecting safety and health of employees in all workplaces of the State with the exception of employees of the United States or employees protected under other Federal occupational safety and health laws such as the Atomic Energy Act of 1959 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), The Federal Coal Mine Safety Act of 1969 (30 U.S.C. 801), the Federal Metal and Nonmetallic Mine Safety Act (30 U.S.C. 721 et seq.) railroad employees covered by the Federal Safety Appliances Act (45 U.S.C. 1 et seq.) and the Federal Railroad Safety Act (45 U.S.C. 421 et seq.), the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 901 et seq.), domestic workers, and any employee engaged in agriculture who is employed on a family farm. The Act further provides for the protection of employees from hazards, procedures for the development and promulgation of standards, including standards for protection of employees against new and unforeseen hazards; procedures for prompt restraint or elimination of imminent danger situations.

(b)(2) The plan provides a comprehensive description of personnel employed under the State’s merit system and assurances of sufficient resources. The plan further sets out goals and provides a timetable to bring it into full conformity with the requirements of part 1902 of this chapter.

(c)(1) The plan further includes proposed amendments submitted by the State which will be presented to the 1974 session of the State legislature to bring its Occupational Safety and Health Act into conformity with the requirements of 29 CFR part 1902. These amendments pertain to such areas as permanent variances, employee protection against discharge or discrimination in terms and conditions of employment, imminent danger situations, sanctions, and walkaround. A statement of the Governor’s support for the proposed amendments and a statement of legal opinion that they will meet the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and is consistent with the Constitution and laws of the State are included in the plan.

(c)(2) The plan provides a comprehensive description of personnel employed under the State’s merit system and assurances of sufficient resources. The plan further sets out goals and provides a timetable to bring it into full conformity with the requirements of part 1902 of this chapter.

(d) The Tennessee plan includes the following documents as of the date of approval:

(1) The plan description documents including the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act, the proposed amendments to the Act and appendices in three (3) volumes;

(2) Letter from Ben O. Gibbs, Commissioner of Labor to Henry J. Baker,
§ 1952.221 Developmental schedule.

The Tennessee state plan is developmental. The following is the developmental schedule as provided by the plan:

(a) Formal adoption of Federal standards immediately upon approval of State plan. (Existing State standards were repealed by the enabling legislation). Enforcement of standards commences immediately upon promulgation.

(b) Amendments to legislation to be submitted to 1974 State legislative session.

(c) Regulations for recordkeeping and reporting will be promulgated upon plan approval.

(d) Regulations for inspections, citations, and proposed penalties will be promulgated immediately upon plan approval.

(e) Variances regulations will be promulgated within 60 days of plan approval.


§ 1952.222 Completed developmental steps.

(a) In accordance with §1952.223(b), the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1972 was amended by Chapter 585, Public Acts of 1974, on March 20, 1974, with an effective date of July 1, 1974 and approved by the Secretary of Labor in August 15, 1975 (40 FR 36556). Further State-initiated amendments to the Act transferring all occupational safety and health responsibility to the Commissioner of Labor were promulgated effective July 1, 1977, and approved by the Assistant Secretary on May 3, 1978.

(b) In accordance with §1952.223(d), regulations governing inspections, citations, and proposed penalties were originally promulgated by the Commissioner of Labor on July 2, 1973 (effective July 13, 1973) and approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 15, 1975 (40 FR 36556). These regulations were subsequently codified as Tennessee Department of Labor Chapter 0800–1–4 and reapproved by the Assistant Secretary, as amended, on May 3, 1978. The Tennessee Commissioner of Public Health promulgated parallel regulations on April 3, 1974 (effective May 3, 1974) which were also approved on August 15, 1975. These Department of Public Health regulations became inoperative on July 1, 1977.

(c) In accordance with §1952.223(e), regulations governing temporary variances were promulgated by the Commissioner of Labor on July 2, 1973 (effective July 13, 1973) and approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 15, 1975, (40 FR 36556). These regulations, which were subsequently codified as Tennessee Department of Labor Chapter 0800–1–2, were expanded to include permanent variances, and amended in response to Federal comment, and reapproved by the Assistant Secretary on May 3, 1978. The Commissioner of Public Health promulgated regulations dealing with temporary variances on April 3, 1974, (effective May 3, 1974) which were also approved by the Secretary on August 15, 1975. These Department of Public Health regulations became inoperative on July 1, 1977.

(d) In accordance with the requirements of 29 CFR 1952.10, the Tennessee occupational safety and health poster...