

APR 28 2021

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ETHICS DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – DECISIONS AND VOTING
State Form 55860 (R / 10-15)
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
IC 4-2-8-9

In accordance with IC 4-2-6-9, you must file your disclosure with the State Ethics Commission no later than seven (7) days after the conduct that gives rise to the conflict. You must also include a copy of the notification provided to your agency appointing authority and ethics officer when filing this disclosure. This disclosure will be posted on the Inspector General's website.

Name <i>(last)</i> Howard	Name <i>(first)</i> John	Name <i>(middle)</i> Philip	
Name of office or agency Indiana Department of Environmental Management		Job title Senior Environmental Manager 1	
Address of office <i>(number and street)</i> 300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.		City South Bend	ZIP code 46601
Office telephone number (574) 245-4870	Office e-mail address <i>(required)</i> jhoward@idem.in.gov		

Describe the conflict of interest:

I am currently a Hazardous waste Inspector for the Office of Land Quality in IDEM. I have applied for a position at NiSource as an Environmental Coordinator. This position is responsible for analysis, design, and implementation and management of new and existing environmental programs and regulations to provide support for Business units inside NiSource. Last year, March 11, 2020 I inspected a Nipsco Substation which is owned by NiSource. Since this inspection I have had no other dealings or discussions with NiSource.

Describe the screen established by your ethics officer: *(Attach additional pages as needed.)*

See attachment

AFFIRMATION

Your signature below affirms that your disclosures on this form are true, complete, and correct to the best of your knowledge and belief. In addition to this form, you have attached a copy of your written disclosure to your agency appointing authority and ethics officer.

Signature of state officer, employee or special state appointee

John Howard

Date signed *(month, day, year)*

4-22-2021

Printed full name of state officer, employee or special state appointee

John Howard

FOR ETHICS OFFICER USE ONLY

Your signature below affirms that you have reviewed this disclosure form and that it is true, complete, and correct to the best of your knowledge and belief. You also attest that your agency has implemented the screen described above.

Signature of ethics officer

Kathleen Mills

Date signed *(month, day, year)*

4-22-2021

Printed full name of ethics officer

Kathleen Mills

**Protocol to Screen
IDEM Employee John Howard
From any matter regarding NiSource**

Mr. Howard is a Senior Environmental Manager at the Northern Regional Office of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (“IDEM”). He is a regulatory compliance inspector in the areas of solid and hazardous waste. His duties in the position include routinely conducting compliance inspections of public and private commercial industrial operations in accordance with 329 IAC and 40 CFR.

Mr. Howard has recently been in discussions with NiSource regarding possible employment as an Environmental Coordinator. NiSource is a regulated utility company serving territories across Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The position is a corporate-wide position. However, NiSource describes Mr. Howard’s potential operating territory as northeast Indiana and northern Ohio. The responsibilities of the position encompass a wide-range of environmental program areas including, air, water, natural resources, and waste management. The duties include enhancing and maintaining the NiSource environmental management system by analyzing and managing data to direct and cause continuous improvement related to environmental performance and enhance and maintain a process to track, monitor, communicate and minimize environmental related risk.

Mr. Howard is currently not assigned any matters involving NiSource. However, in March 2020, he did inspect a NiSource substation.

Because Mr. Howard is located in an IDEM regional office, he currently answers to two supervisors. Office of Land Quality Section Chief for Hazardous Waste Compliance, Susan Lowry, located in Indianapolis, is responsible for assignments and Director of the Northern Regional Office, James Weingart, is responsible for attendance and general supervision. Both supervisors will be a part of instituting the following protocol.

1. Section Chief Susan Lowry will not assign Mr. Howard any current or future matter that may arise involving NiSource.
2. Mr. Howard shall recuse himself from the portion of any meeting in which discussions specific to NiSource are discussed or are expected to be discussed.
3. Mr. Howard shall not discuss any matter involving NiSource with any IDEM employee.
4. Section Chief Lowry and Director Weingart will notify the employees in both the Northern Regional Office and the Hazardous Waste Compliance Section, in writing, that they are not to discuss any matter involving NiSource with Mr. Howard or send him any emails concerning the company.
5. Mr. Howard shall not access any correspondence or files relating to or involving NiSource.
6. Mr. Howard shall not participate in decisions regarding or relating to NiSource.

7. Mr. Howard shall immediately inform his supervisors and the IDEM Chief Ethics Officer if any provision of this screening protocol is violated.
8. Mr. Howard shall follow IC 4-2-6-9(b) and file a written disclosure statement with the State Ethics Commission.
9. All signatories to this protocol shall review it within thirty(30) days from the date of the last signature to assure it has been followed and determine if the circumstances have changed to make the protocol no longer necessary.

John Howard
John Howard
Senior Environmental Manager
Northern Regional Office
IDEM

4/22/2021
Date

Susan Lowry Type text here
Susan Lowry
Senior Environmental Mgr. Sup 3
Section Chief Hazardous Waste Compliance
Office of Land Quality IDEM

4/26/2021
Date

James Weingart
James Weingart
Director
Northern Regional Office
IDEM

4/22/21
Date

Kathleen Mills
Kathleen Mills
Chief Ethics Officer
Office of Legal Counsel
IDEM

04/22/2021
Date

Baker, Nathaniel P

To: MILLS, KATHLEEN
Subject: RE: Ethics Disclosure

From: Howard, John <JHOWARD@idem.IN.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 3:27 PM
To: PIGOTT, BRUNO <BPIGOTT@idem.IN.gov>
Cc: Weingart, James <JWEINGAR@idem.IN.gov>; Lowry, Susan (IDEM) <SLOWRY@idem.IN.gov>; MILLS, KATHLEEN <KMILLS@idem.IN.gov>
Subject: Ethics Disclosure

Bruno,

I'm a Compliance Inspector in the Office of Land Quality Hazardous Waste Section. I'm stationed in the NRO. To comply with IAC 4-2-6-9, I am letting you know I have applied for a position with NiSource as Environmental Coordinator. I have been in touch with Kathy Mills, and we are working on a screening protocol. Please let me know if you need any other information. Thank you.

John Howard

<< OLE **John Howard**
Object: Senior Environmental Manager
Picture Northern Regional Office
(Device Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Independent 300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Suite 450,
Bitmap) >> South Bend, IN 46601
P. (574) 245-4890 • jhoward@idem.IN.gov
C. (574)274-9113

COVID-19 Resources:

- **Indiana State Dept. of Health (ISDH) COVID-19 Call Center:** Call 877-826-0011 (available 8:00 am- 5:00pm daily).
- **Anthem NurseLine:** Call 800-337-4770 or visit the [Anthem NurseLine](#) online for a FREE symptom screening. Available to anyone with an Anthem health plan (this includes State of IN employees)

Anthem Employee Assistance Program (EAP): Available to full-time state employees and their household members regardless of health plan participation. Call 800-223-7723 or visit anthemeap.com (enter State of Indiana) for crisis counseling, help finding child/elder care, legal/financial consultation and much more.

