

Construction Worker Safety Training Program Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2011

Attendees

Kristin Eby	Gary Karnofski	Karen McGinnis	Rachel Scully
Jim Gamin	Mike Kelly	Red McKennon	Chris Tannahill
Ted Giltz	Bob Legard	Jamie Morris	
Paul Gravelle	Mark Manderbach	Stan Scott	

Red McKennon chaired the meeting.

Safety Topic

Bob Legard presented the safety topic on electrical safety. The safety topic included a video produced by the Energy Facility Contractor Group (EFCOG), Electrical Safety Subgroup. The theme for the video was “When in doubt, lock it out”. The video emphasized recurring electrical problems across the DOE complex. It stated that over the past year, DOE has experienced 121 lock and tag violations (highest rate since 2005). Contributing factors included poor planning, failure to follow procedures and failure to accurately verify zero energy. The expectation for LOTO on the Hanford Site is that all personnel who may be exposed to the unexpected release of any hazardous energy must have authorization, training and follow LOTO procedures when conducting work.

Discussion followed regarding the Electrical Safety Program at Hanford and promoting a 24/7 safety culture that includes working safely on home projects.

Stan Scott thanked Bob Legard, Mike Stordahl, Jenn Bilskis and other HAMMER staff who helped develop the EFCOG safety video.

Bob Legard summarized the programs Hanford uses to protect its workers from electrical hazards. The Electrical Safety Board, Electrical Codes Board, and the Site-Wide Electrical Program each provide safety mechanisms to protect the workers and environment from electrical mishaps. He also provided charts that showed comparisons between electrical and non electrical workers, and between contractors and subcontractors.

Bob offered to send the EFCOG Website link or the May monthly report to anyone who would like to read the full report.

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written.

Status Updates

Bob Legard reported on the HAMMER Steering Committee and the HAMMER/Hanford Training Board of Directors meetings. Bob stated that there is continued support for the program. Payment of tuition for displaced Hanford workers was discussed at each meeting along with the other focus areas. At this time, this process has been determined to be an unallowable cost for the contractors.

Gary Karnofski stated that initially funding from EM was intended to be used, but he is still searching for funding from existing state money. Gary was unsure if TRIDEC or CBC money has come through for other programs. WorkSource has funding and allows their students to choose the courses they want and our classes may be included.

Karen McGinnis said that Rob Hastings would be the best one to champion this.

Red McKennon stated that at this particular point the group cannot proceed, but that we have shown current progress.

This subject has been tabled for six months.

Web Page Update

Kristin Eby is currently formatting the Equivalency Matrix to ensure that it fits on the Website and is easy to read. The new matrix will be added in the near future. Kristin also presented a fact sheet that will be sent to the union halls and Construction Board to help explain the process for obtaining the HAZWOPER training that HAMMER is currently managing. The fact sheet includes background information along with contact numbers designed to answer general questions about the program.

Equivalency Update

Bob Legard provided the following statistics for Fiscal Year 2011 to date:

- Equivalencies granted - 312
- Tuition costs avoided - \$150, 947
- Man/hours cost avoided - \$345, 930
- Total costs avoided for 2011 - \$496, 871.

Bob displayed charts comparing total costs avoided since we started tracking statistics for this program.

Jim Gamin asked if the costs shown reflect that the same workers are migrating from job site to job site or if new workers are still coming in.

Bob said it shows new workers coming in during the last quarter and added that he expects the numbers to drop gradually. He also noted that recently we experienced a pleasant bump in the numbers due to the ability to grant several equivalencies for NFPA 70E courses that were completed at the IBEW Local 112 training facility.

Pilot Program New Ideas

Bob Legard stated that Gary Karnofski is attending a meeting on May 19 with HSS and he will discuss this program issue and ask if they have any way to fund this through the perspective of more savings across the complex.

HAZWOPER Classes

Bob Legard stated that the HAZWOPER classes being discussed are the ones presented by the Grantees to allow the displaced construction workers a chance to receive this training. If there are any empty seats in a HAZWOPER class, they are filled from the displaced construction workers list. Bob provided the following statistics since October 2010:

- 70 people have inquired
- 20 of those have been placed in classes.

Jim Gamin asked if we can schedule these workers ahead of time instead of asking them to be on standby.

Bob answered that two 40-hour HAZWOPER classes have been currently scheduled at HAMMER for this reason. In the future, more classes like this will be scheduled.

Pre-Job Briefs

Bob Legard said that the pre-job briefs have been going well. Bob attends these meetings to answer any training questions that come up. Bob stated that in FY 2011 he has attended 15 pre-job meetings that have potential for 163 new employees being hired. Bob has been asked to attend the pre-bid meetings to gain a greater time advantage, but he needs scheduling information so that he can attend. Red McKennon has an action on this. Bob and others agreed it was helpful that he attend since he is able to review the Statement of Work with the training requirements prior to the meeting and give this information to others.

Items for Discussion

Since there was not enough members present for a quorum, no decisions will be made. Regarding elections, Red McKennon recommended that each member within their organization put together a nominating list and send it to Bob Legard prior to the next meeting. Please choose people who would make viable and effective chairperson.

Equivalency Update Course Review

Bob Legard said the process for equivalency approval has been working well. Equivalency reviews have been completed for the Electric Cord and Power Tool course. By adding a few slides to the Hanford General Employee Training, HAMMER is able to grant equivalencies for some affiliate's electrical safety training courses. The information added to these slides meets Hanford-specific training requirements. This should be a significant savings to the Site. HAMMER staff is currently reviewing Scaffold User, Scaffold Safety for Erectors and Dismantlers, and Scaffolding Inspector courses for possible equivalencies.

DOE-HSS Collaboration Update

Bob Legard provided information about the DOE-HSS Collaboration that he and other HAMMER staff have been involved in. Bob talked about a worker dialogue survey that was conducted by an independent firm through DOE-HSS and the meetings that they attended at several different sites within the DOE Complex. The following items were identified as areas for improvement in the executive summary for the survey results and at each participating site location:

- Workers training workers and a hands-on element in the training.
- Standardized training
- Database for tracking training
- HAMMER model- Labor/Management design and participation in training programs.

Closing

Bob Legard and Red McKennon thanked everyone for participating and the following Action Items were discussed:

- Red McKennon follow up to getting Bob Legard invited to pre-bid meetings.
- Create nomination list for new chairperson.