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From: Meredith Brown racer@lanl.gov
Subject: Green Alert: Field Changes Affect Hazard Assessment

Title: **U12P Tunnel Hazard Assessment**

Identifier: 1998-NVO-BN-0005
Date: 6/23/98

Lessons Learned Statement: Changes in work procedures that result in additional hazards should be documented in a Job Hazard Analysis that describes hazard mitigation methods.

Discussion of Activities: The Construction Activity Preliminary Hazard Assessment prepared for a project as part of a Hazard Assessment addressed confined space. At that time it was determined that there would be no reason for anyone to enter the horizontal hole and therefore there was no confined space. The Hazard Assessment was completed in May 1998 with no further discussion of confined spaces. On June 23, 1998, the operations plans were altered due to a potential grouting problem. It was determined that a person would be required to enter the hole and insert a 3" pipe in the back of the hole to solve the grouting problem. A safety meeting was held the same day with the involved craft workers present. They discussed the potential safety problems of the change in operation plans and how to best proceed if a worker had to enter the horizontal hole. They determined several safety measures to follow for the potential confined space activity.

Analysis: Hazards assessment are living documents and any changes made during project execution should be reflected in the hazard assessment. Potential hazards discussed in the Hazard Assessment should be periodically reviewed with craft workers to ensure that all potential hazards have been included. Any changes in work procedures resulting in potential hazards should be documented in a Job Hazard Analysis reflecting the potential hazard and the methods for mitigating the hazard. This Lessons Learned was generated not as a result of an injury, but as a result of awareness of the potential for serious mishap if changes in the operation plan had not been addressed.

Recommended Actions: A Job Hazard Analysis should be completed before work in future project activities that involve horizontal holes of a similar nature. The Job Hazard Analysis should be attached as an addendum to the original hazard assessment. The Job Hazard Analysis should state that the horizontal holes are a confined space and refer to provisions within a Confined Space Entry procedure. Future changes to the Job Hazard Analysis should be reviewed prior to the start of work to ensure that the changes have not incurred additional risk.

Estimated Savings/Cost Avoidance: N/A

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Authorized Derivative Classifier: Dennis Murphy

Reviewing Official: Dennis Murphy

Priority Descriptor: Green

DOE Functional Category: Occupational Safety and Health

User-defined Category: Occupational Safety and Health

Keywords: confined-space entry, job hazard analysis, safety assessment, construction safety

References: DOE G 450.4-1, V1 Integrated Safety Management System

DOE O 440.1A Worker Protection Management

DOE G 151.1-1, V2 Hazardous Surveys and Hazards Assessments

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS: Information in this report is accurate to the best of our knowledge. As a means of measuring the effectiveness of this report, please contact the originator of significant action(s) taken as a result of this report or of any technical inaccuracies you find. Your feedback is appreciated.