Safety & Health Plan Question and Answer

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Question:
What overhead utility safety issues are to be included in a project safety and health plan?

Answer:
An overhead utility plan shall include:

- Notify Utility to identify overhead utility voltages and required clearances prior to work.
- Process to inform workers of overhead utility hazards and precautions to prevent contact.
- Ensuring workers are not placed in dangerous proximity (within 3.05 meters (10')) to high voltage.
- Contacting the Utility to identify energized facilities and determine the need to protect the facility against accidental contact.
- Conspicuously marking and maintaining marks of the location of overhead utilities.
- Post Warning decals on equipment/trucks regarding 3.05 meter (10') minimum clearance.
- Ensuring a spotter observes clearance and directs equipment/truck operator where an operator is unable to assess clearances.

References:
Standard Specification §107-05(J) - "Electrical Safety" - page 1-86 ' Pursuant to the High Voltage Proximity Act, for all electrical systems carrying 600 volts or more, the Contractor shall:

Notify the Utility at least 5 working days before any work begins which requires the Utility to identify voltages and clearances, or de-energize, insulate or relocate lines. Ensure employees are not placed in dangerous proximity to high voltage. Dangerous proximity is defined as within 3.05 m (10ft) for voltages up to 50 kilovolts, and an additional 0.1m for every 10 kilovolts over 50 kilovolts. Dangerous proximity applies to the individual and any conductive object. Inform employees of the hazards and corresponding precautions when working near high voltage. Post warning decals on equipment regarding 3.05 m (10ft) minimum clearance. Ensure that when any equipment operator is unable to assess clearances, a "spotter" observes for clearance and directs the operator.
Answer:
The Contractor is to provide a written Project Safety and Health Plan which documents the Contractor's company policy relative to safety, and which identifies and addresses specific safety and health concerns to be encountered on the project, whereas it shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to perform all necessary planning, supervision, and training activities to ensure that all of the requirements of 29 CFR 1926 will be adequately addressed and are fully met for all workers employed in the construction of the contract.

References:
Standard Specification 107-05 (B) - Project Safety and Health Plan

It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to perform all necessary planning, supervision, and training activities to ensure that all of the requirements of 29 CFR 1926 are fully met for all workers employed in the construction of the contract.

The Contractor shall provide to the Department prior to the start of work satisfactory evidence that all current requirements of 29 CFR 1926 will be adequately addressed. The Contractor shall provide a written Project Safety and Health Plan which documents the Contractor's company policy relative to safety, and which identifies and addresses specific safety and health concerns to be encountered on the project.

Before the work begins and periodically throughout the project, the Contractor's project supervision staff shall meet with the Engineer to review and discuss the status of safety issues on the project.

An appropriate notice shall be posted on the job site that the Project Safety and Health Plan is available for examination by any worker employed on the project.

As a minimum this plan shall include the following items:

- Identification of project and company safety officers
- Company safety policy
- Hazardous Materials Communications Plan
- Employee Safety Training Program
- Procedures for compelling worker compliance with safety and health requirements
- Procedures to address project safety and health concerns

29 CFR OSHA 1926.20(a)(1)
Section 107 of the OSHA Act requires that it shall be a condition of each contract which is entered into under legislation subject to Reorganization Plan Number 14 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1267), as defined in 1926.12, and is for construction, alteration, and/or repair, including painting and decorating, that no contractor or subcontractor for any part of the contract work shall require any
laborer or mechanic employed in the performance of the contract to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to his health or safety.

**Safety and Health Plan**
A safety and health plan is a document defining those responsible for the management of company and project safety and health policies, company safety policy, procedures to address project safety and health concerns, hazard communications and right to know programs, employee training program, and procedures for compelling worker compliance with safety and health requirements.

The key to a safety and health plan is that it must be an efficient indexed structured document that is consistently used to ensure project operations address project safety and health concerns.

The following outline develops a consistent and efficient safety and health plan.

The Safety and Health Plan index assures easy planning to address all project site safety and health concerns.

Click here to see the Project Safety and Health Plan 📖