

Date: Tue, 26 Feb 2002 13:49:52 -0800
From: PHMC_Lessons_Learned@rl.gov
Subject: Yellow Alert- Inadequate Hazard Analysis Results in Lock/Tag Near Miss

Title: Yellow Alert- Inadequate Hazard Analysis Results in Lock/Tag Near Miss

Date: February 14, 2002 Identifier: 2002-OH-WVNS-002

Lesson Learned Statement: Pre-job planning and initial identification of all potential hazards is an integral part of performing work safely. When planning work, careful consideration should be taken to identify all hazards of the job including any form of stored energy present in the system. Planning should take into account the unexpected failure of components or equipment being worked on, as well as the consequences to both the worker and property should a failure occur. Work should only begin after careful consideration of these factors and precautions.

Discussion of Activities: On Wednesday, December 5, 2001, the threaded male end of a 1/2 inch pressure relief valve (PRV) on a sprinkler system riser broke off during an attempt to re-pipe the discharge side of the valve. This failure resulted in approximately 550 gallons of clean fire water (between 120-130 PSI) being discharged in the utility closet and surrounding office areas. There were no personnel injuries as a result of this event and water damage was limited to a few ceiling tiles and a smoke detector. The Fire Protection sub-contractor was working under an approved work document under the direction of a WVNS Field Supervisor. The job was walked down with the worker and his Supervisor and no abnormal conditions were noted. Lockout/Tagout was not used because the sub-contractor was working on the discharge side of the PRV, which was open to atmosphere.

Analysis: Although the proper review, hazard screen, and approval of the work document were performed, a discretionary call was made not to perform Lockout/Tagout on the fire system in this evolution. The Hazards Controls Specialists used their judgement combined with the sub-contractors experience in determining that a Lockout/Tagout was not needed.

Recommended Actions: Work of this nature, including work on the discharge/non-pressurized side of PRVs, shall require a Lockout/Tagout.

Estimated Savings/Cost Avoidance (if applicable): N/A

Priority Descriptor: Yellow/Warning

Work/ Function(s): Conduct of Operations - Lock and Tag; Fire Protection

User Defined Category: N/A

Hazard(s): Personal Injury/Exposure - Other

ISM Core Function(s): Analyze Hazard

Originator: West Valley Nuclear Services

Contact: Larry Myszka (716)942-4727

Authorized Derivative Classifier: N/A

Reviewing Official: N/A

Keywords: Lock and Tag; Hazard Analysis

References: Occurrence Report OH-WV-WVNS-FPS-2001-0001

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 actions taken as a result of this report or of any technical inaccuracies you find. Your feedback is appreciated.