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Effective July 6, 1978 Additions to Maine Safety & Health Standards for Water/Sewer Operations

Labor/Labor Standards

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EFFECTIVE JULY 6, 1978
ADDITIONS TO MAINE SAFETY & HEALTH STANDARDS
FOR WATER/SEWER OPERATIONS

General

W/S 1. The employer shall instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his work environment to control or eliminate any hazards or other exposure to illness or injury.

W/S 2. Employees required to handle or use poisons, caustics, and other harmful substances shall be instructed regarding the safe handling and use, and be made aware of the potential hazards, personal hygiene, and personal protective measures required.

W/S 3. Employees required to handle or use flammable liquids, gases, or toxic materials shall be instructed in the safe handling and use of these materials and made aware of the specific requirements contained in subparts D, F, of 29 CFR 1910 and other applicable subparts.

W/S 4. All employees required to enter into confined or enclosed spaces shall be instructed as to the nature of the hazards involved, the necessary precautions to be taken, and in the use of protective and emergency equipment required. The employer shall comply with any specific regulations that apply to work in dangerous or potentially dangerous areas.

W/S 5. Protection shall be provided at lagoons, ponds, open tanks, etc., to protect employees from hazards of drowning.

W/S 6. All free standing cylinders subject to accidental knockover shall be secured.

Confined Spaces

W/S 7. A confined space means an enclosed or underground area not having natural air circulation, or mechanical ventilation in operation where an oxygen deficiency or gases may be expected, such as wet wells, manholes, tanks or vats, etc.

W/S 8. (a) Confined spaces shall be tested for oxygen deficiency and presence of explosive gas prior to entering, and while occupied.
(b) Confined spaces shall be ventilated if necessary until tests show a safe atmosphere and ventilation shall be maintained while employee(s) is in the space.
(c) Or self contained breathing apparatus or an air line respirator meeting OSHA standards shall be worn by the employee(s).

BL-OSHA #4 Adopted April 7, 1978
An employee(s) entering a confined space shall wear a safety harness with lifeline attached, and be attended by an employee stationed outside.

Emergency rescue procedures shall be established.

**Chlorine**

Plants having one (1) ton cylinders shall have the chlorine institute emergency repair kit "B" available.

Trained personnel shall be available to use the repair kit.

No employee shall work alone on the repair of any chlorine leak.

Self contained breathing apparatus (meeting OSHA requirements) shall be provided for two (2) persons at plants using one (1) ton cylinders.

All plants shall have at least one (1) self contained breathing apparatus (meeting OSHA requirements).

Personnel shall be trained in the use of the self contained breathing apparatus. Refresher training shall be conducted annually.

The vaporizer and chlorinator room shall be provided with mechanical ventilation with exhaust suction as close to the floor as practical and an air intake as high as practical.

All newly connected chlorine cylinders shall be tested for leakage.

*Edited for clarification 11/28/79*