

Minutes of the Physics Division ES&H Committee  
Special Safety Meeting  
October 9, 2008

Attendees:

C. Bebek, J. Emes, R. Kadel, J. Kadyk, N. Palaio, F. Rosado, J. Siegrist, H. Speiler, C. Thompson, M. White

HSS – Health, Safety and Security

DOE Safety review coming up; some prep is in order; Very important that we do well on this review

Safety at LBNL

- Accidents are up
- This concerns DOE
- DOE walk-thrus and reviews have revealed lots of other safety violations and concerns
- DOE recommended Lessons Learned and Near Hits program was not implemented to satisfaction
- PH needs to develop a Near Hits Program (Document, communicate them, give out rewards, etc.)
- Based on accidents and procedures, LBNL will probably FAIL its next DOE review
- Further “strikes” could cause us to have to bid again for DOE contract and possibly lose contract altogether; this affects job security and retirement benefits

HSS Review

- Scheduled for January 2009, two weeks, multiple teams
- LBNL needs to prepare so that we do not fail this review
- PH seems to have low exposure to near hits/accidents
- Ergo is probably our biggest issue
- We need to re-define what a “Near Hit” is; Example: Are reports of ergo discomfort reported as near misses?
- Quarterly reports need to include Near Hits
- Random interviews will be conducted during this review

Safety Stand Downs

- LBNL Director has requested that each group conduct a day-long stand down
- Stand downs will consist of talking about safety, looking at JHAs, training profiles, preparing for questions that might be asked by HSS review team
- Pay strict attention to housekeeping, use this time to make sure labs are clean, safety hazards are identified, etc.
- Stand downs will begin next Monday and last for about eight days; start with division office
- Many employees were “opt outs” for JHAs; We need to take a close look at these
- Review all hazards and make sure documentation is on order
- Make sure chemical inventory is up to date
- PH has lots of compliance issues that need to be addressed
- PPE = Personal Protective Equipment; Make sure there is adequate signage

Additional HSS Review Preparation

- Red Team reviews and surprise inspections will be conducted in November
- Make sure that CATS items are entered by Group Leaders; Review team will look at this
- Adopt standards for lab dress code: lab coats, safety glasses, closed-toe shoes

- Issues regarding chemicals, GFIC, electrical grounding, etc., needs to be addressed
- Very important that we address anything that we are in non-compliance of and show a plan of action
- Training compliance: 80% for PH, 91% for LBNL
- Jim will meet with Battaglia's group and see that they are in compliance
- Encourage each other to be more safe, use safe practices, do not be afraid to stop work when you see violations