

Ethics, Organization & Personnel Committee

# Health and Safety Program Update

Item 7b March 13, 2023

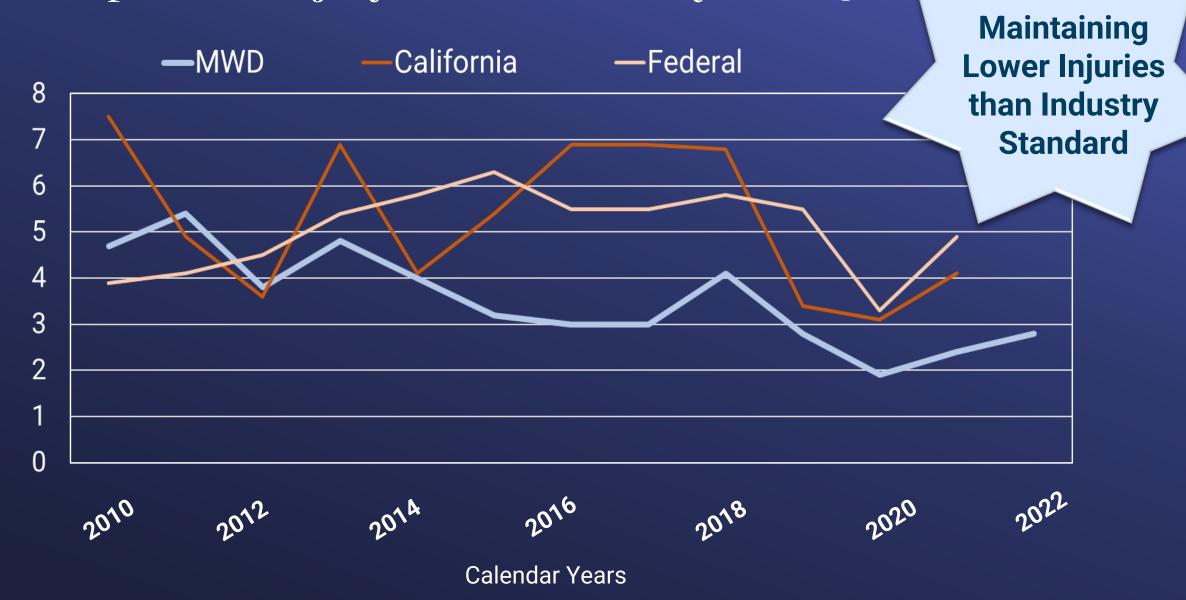
# Protecting Our Most Valuable Asset

SAFETY FIRST

ZERO INJURIES



# Metropolitan's Injury Rate vs. Industry Average



# Health & Safety Programs Update

**Management Commitment** 

Collaboration Partnerships for Success

2022 Activities

- State Audit
- Accomplishments

NSC Safety Culture
Assessment

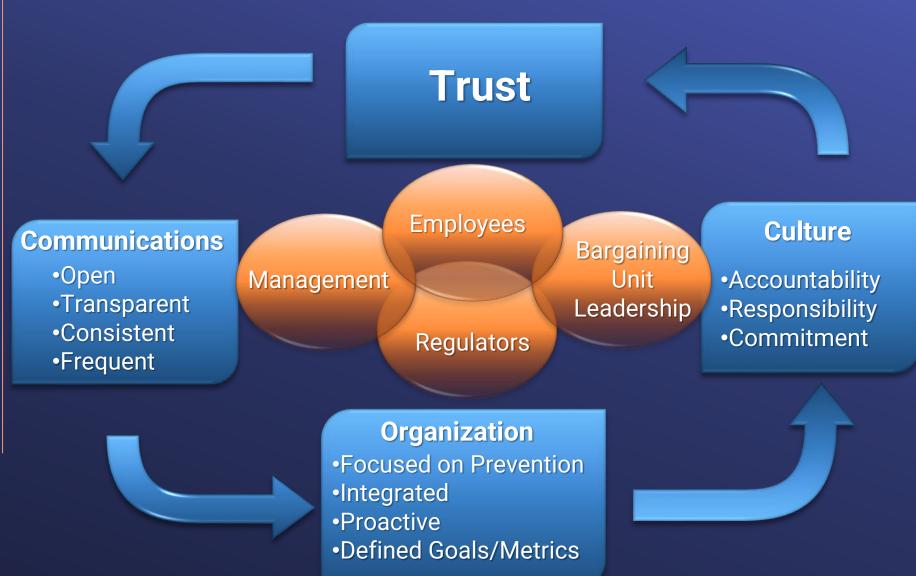
Milestones and Next Steps

2023 Next Steps

- Continue Core Functions
- NSC Initiatives

# Collaborative Approach to Success

# Management Commitment



# Building Partnerships



## Operations and Engineering

- O&M and Shutdowns
- CIP Projects

# Real Property Group and CRA Housing Improvement

- Active and Future Projects
- Abatement and Regulatory Compliance

# **Employees and Bargaining Units**

- Assessment of Employee Health and Safety Concerns
- Ergonomic Virtual Workshops for Office Employees

# Supporting Field Activities



**Upper Feeder** 







**Shutdown** 





# Supporting CRA Housing Renovation



**Bathroom Plumbing** 







# Responding to Employee Safety Concerns

## **Weymouth Basin Cleanout**



Employee Concern:
Working with
organic matter



Resolution: Increased ventilation, tested atmosphere, added PPE

# Meter Cabinet Near Federal Radiation Cleanup Site



Employee Concern: Radiation exposure

Resolution:
Surveyed to confirm
federal clean up was
effective and no
level of concern for
radiation



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"Although Its Safety Program Generally Adheres to State Law, MWD Could Strengthen Its Safety Policies"

## State Audit Process

- Document Review
- Employee Interviews
- Site Visits at Gene and Weymouth

# Safety Audit Successes

- Adheres to State Law
- No Non-Compliance Findings



# State Audit Findings Implemented

# HSE 101.4 Safety Communications

- Written Policies and Procedures for Communication
- Stop Work Authority
- Non-Retaliation Policy

### HSE 101.4 Safety Communications

Injury and Illness Prevention Program

MWD Health, Safety, and Environmental Manual

Revised October 2022

### 1.0 PURPOSE

Metropolitan values every employee's input and strives to provide a work environment of collaboration and communication related to health and safety (H&S).

This procedure outlines systems of communication that create avenues for regular H&S discussion and collaboration between management, Operational Safety and Regulatory Services (SRS) staff, and employees (including interns, contractors and volunteers). This includes minimum levels of collaboration between SRS Site Representatives and management. Also, this procedure encourages employee reporting of hazards in the workplace without fear of retaliation.

### 1.1 AVENUES OF COMMUNICATION

- Managers and Supervisors
- Planning Meetings, All Hands Meetings, and other related meetings
- Regular Toolbox/Safety Talk Meetings
- Shutdown or Special Project Toolbox Meetings
- · Local Safety Committees
- · SRS Site Representatives or other SRS Staff
- Open and Non-Retaliatory H&S Communication Protections
- · Stop Work Authority (Take 5 For Safety)
- Confidential Hotline (213) 217-5504 or Extension 75504

### 2.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 2.1 FIELD UNIT AND FACILITY MANAGERS

Field Unit Managers and Facility Managers (Facility Managers) must include SRS Site Representatives in the meetings described below to encourage open communication and collaboration in developing effective H&S solutions.

### 2.1.1 PLANNING AND/OR MANAGEMENT MEETINGS (TYPICALLY WEEKLY)

 Facility Managers must require that their Team Managers, Supervisors and other lead staff include SRS Site Representative(s) in planning meetings and project review meetings. Integrating and discussing H&S issues during these meetings provides for ongoing collaboration among managers, planner/schedulers, and SRS Site Representatives.

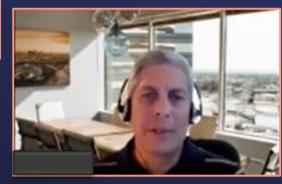


# State Audit Findings Implemented

# Non-Retaliation Training



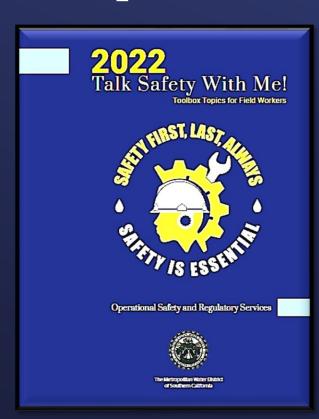




## Partnered with Ethics Office

- Why Preventing Retaliation Matters
- Reviewed MWD Retaliation Policy (Admin Code 7128)
- Tips for Employees and Managers
- How to File a Retaliation Complaint
- Investigation Procedures

# 2022 Accomplishments



Cover Designed by Chad Bonnett Mills I&C Technician



# Safety Talks

### **MWD Safety Talk**

Employee Environmental, Health & Safety Information for



m be cause by a faulty trigger, hose failure or

use can whip around violently until the air is shut hose or while scrambling to get out of its way. When using quick disconnect type fittings,

### **MWD Safety Talk**

Employee Environmental, Health & Safety Inf Pneumatic Tool Safety



Hazards of Pneumatic Tools

### **MWD Safety Talk**

**MWD Safety Talk** 

e when visiting right of ways, blight neighborhoods, re liar with the area, ask your manager, co-workers, or your yourself before the site visit and follow the guidelines be

Il Center: 1-800-555-5911

ell: 310-926-7181 or Ext. 76180



ming stretches at the beginning of the workday helps warm up muscles and improve elasticity. Investing 5-15 nutes to stretch throughout the workday helps reduce fatigue, prevent body sprain/strain injuries, improve posture

- allowing you to push your body beyond

e feeling of the stretch changes to a mild stret

athe with a slow, normal rhythm. Don't hold y

stretch focuses on a specific part of the bod ich stretch should be done slowly and gently

**MWD Safety Talk** on - increasing the blood flow to your musck ental, Health & Safety Information for e & Technique - preventing muscles and join Welding Safety



tye and skin damage, injuries from inhaling furner, electrocution and burns

### ards produced from welding includes the following:

- dans provinces onto securg notation or entirety.

  All Cestimization—Vestign produce that the fact that one make up of tools pass and fine particles. Here it may be produced from healing up tour make from of morning making and produced from healing up included making of making control of minuted (film particles). The healing of making control of minuted (film particles) and of making control of making cont
- We after prefer press, press, and exposures can result from names, and, motion metals Med surfaces, or treats legistres. Specific form seeding can have great distances, so be see of your surroundings as well as objector below? I wilding from above, excited thecks—Electrical shocks can occur when proper precursions are not taken. I seed to the press of the press of the proper precursions are not taken.

- (Mix vesting redunations)

  Training Welder control to partnered by tained employees

  Equipment: Use only opposed and properly maintained entering engineers. Take damaged equipment and of
  service and upport large for subtrainings. Engineering damaged of defection experiment with

  TOMAGE, URLANF CO NOT USE for subtrainings. Engineering damaged or defection experiment with

  Levariates. Welder comy but done in department of subtrainings areas. If welding in remained to be performed in a

  subtraining for any other completed and deprived by Land French to the following:

  1 Nor-described enables (Louison)
- A reverse where for house design of the contract of the contra

**MWD Safety Talk** 





lealth hazard concerns come from generating airborne asbestos fibers from disturbance of the ginal matrix of the asbestos containing material (ACM). This can happen when removing gaskets at do not come away in one piece, drilling or cutting into drywall systems, scraping mastic, putly, or alant, removing or replacing broken virigi flooring tiles, and other suspected ACM. Asbestos fibers in become airborne, enter the employee's breathing zone, and may potentially cause asbestosis,

**MWD Safety Talk** 

Employee Environmental, Health & Safety Information for Crane Use and Travel

oppling under the load; and extended a

area under no load at the start of each shift. oad capacity, then lest the hoist brai

### **MWD Safety Talk**

**Employee Environmental, Health & Safety Information** for Hantavirus and Safe Clean-up of Rodent Waste



What is Hantavirus? . Hantaviruses are a family of viruses spread mainly by rodent species. Transmission is usually throu

handling and breathing dusts from rodent droppings, urine and saliva or from rodent bite.

Hantaviruses are known as "New World" hantaviruses and may cause hantavirus pulmonary synd

### Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS)

ere are other illnesses that can

- · Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a severe-sometimes fatal, respiratory disease in humans caused by infection with hants
- Sin Nombre virus (SNV) is the cause of HPS in the western United States. (In California, door mice are the primary carriers of SNV
- Rat, Rice Rat, Deer Mouse & White-Footed Mouse

### **MWD Safety Talk**

**Environmental, Health & Safety Information for** Proper Use and Donning of Hearing Protectors







lolder Spark Plugs, NRR 33 E-A-R (3M) Classic, NRR 29 E-A-R Eartoft, NRR 31 tem #45-108-60120



the entire tapered end of the earning to a <u>small wrinkle-free</u> cylinder. Insert Plug - Reach hand over head and gently sull ear upward and outward. earplug well inside ear canal. Hold 30-60 seconds until earplugs expands. Release and push in again for 5 se ensure fit. Tug lightly to ensure they are sung and secure.





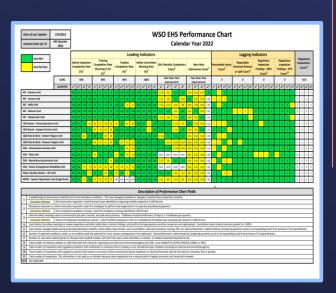






# 2022 Accomplishments

EHS Performance Chart and Award Recognitions





# Water System Operations 2021 SAFETY AWARDS



### BEST IN OVERALL SAFETY Diemer Unit

Awarded to all Units that met the required goals for both leading and lagging indicators.



### BEST IN SAFETY COMMUNICATION Diemer, Mills, & Weymouth Units

Awarded to all Units that met the required goals for leading indicators.



### BEST IN INJURY PREVENTION Mills Unit

Awarded to the Unit that was most proactive in preventing injuries.



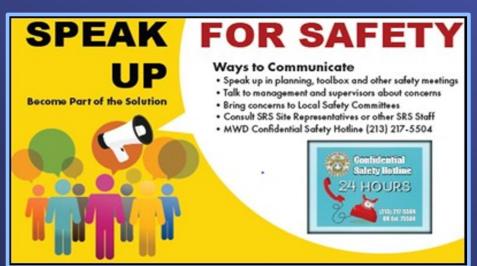
## MOST IMPROVING SAFETY PROGRAM Construction Services Unit

Awarded to the Unit that improved the most in the required leading and lagging indicators.

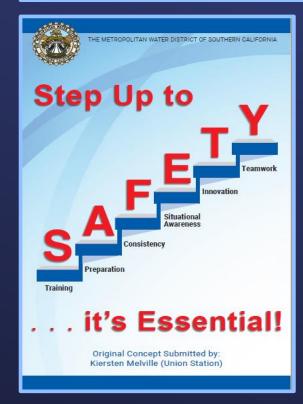


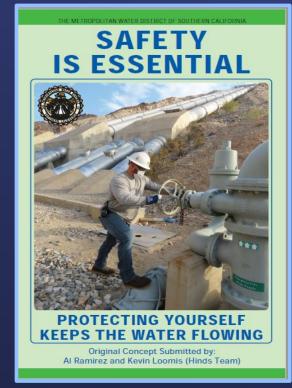
# 2022 Accomplishments

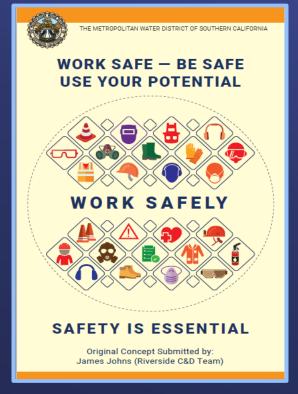
Enhance Communications and Promote Safe Behaviors











# Health & Safety Programs Update

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NSC Safety Culture Assessment

Milestones and Next Steps

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# Safety Culture Assessment

2021-2022

All Employees Survey Completed

Focus Group & Program Assessment Completed On-Site Assessment Completed FINAL REPORT 2022

IMPLEMENTATION 2023

**75**%

**85**%

Participation Level

# Metropolitan's Strengths

Safety
Culture
Assessment

- Leadership's openness to participate and invest in the Safety Culture Assessment, focused action to drive continuous improvement
- Employees who demonstrate a commitment and sense of personal responsibility for safety and health
- Stable organizational climate, employee loyalty and commitment resulting in long-term employment with MWD

# Safety Program Maturity



MWD Safety Program benchmarked to thousands of organizations in NSC database



# All Employee Access to NSC Report



# Safety Culture Final Report





**NSC Safety Culture Assessment** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) 2021-2022

- Memo with Report Link
- Link on SRS Webpage



February 13, 2023 All Metropolitan Employees

Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager Release of Safety Culture Assessment Report

letropolitan partnered with the National Safety Council (N Culture Assessment to identify opportunities to improve ou rogram. After more than a year of this assessment, I am pleased that the fir has been completed and is now available for all employees to view.

want to thank all of you who participated in the s up sessions and individual nterviews, especially those individuals who sh suggestions on how to mprove our safety program for all employees.

want to make sure every employee has the op

One of the Outcomes in my Strategic Priorities is to complete the NSC analysis and mplement its recommendations. Beginning this year NSC will work with Metropolitan leadership on implementing the following top 3 recommendations:

- Office of the General Manager and Executive Management setting safety vision, mission, and annual safety goals.
- Develop and adopt a continuous improvement process and regularly assess
- Provide adequate safety staff and resourcing to effectively support safety, and review organizational structure to enable Safety & Regulatory Services (SRS) to operate with independence and consistent application of requirements.

If you have any questions about the NSC Safety Culture Assessment Report, please contact Dan Guillory, Operational Safety and Regulatory Services Section Manager, at (213) 217-5507 or dquillory@mwdh2o.com.

hank you all for your continued commitment to safety

# Supporting Field Safety Awareness Safety is Essential

# Celebrating Safety Day

Site-wide cleanups, awards, facility tours, technical workshops, vendor exhibits, staff celebratory luncheons, and more







# Safety Advisory Notifications



Near Miss Safety Advisory Notice

"Near Miss"
Incident with potential for more serious consequences, if not addressed

### **SAFETY ADVISORY**

January 2023

### **NEAR MISS RECOGNITION**

Operational Safety and Regulatory Services Section (SRS) recognizes the C&D Western Region Unit, Valley Team for preventing a potentially serious injury by identifying a faulty ground switch linkage in the Venice Power Plant switchyard's operating equipment. Sharing lessons-learned is a good example of how reporting near misses helps improve safety and brings awareness to others.

### **Event Details**

While performing the "Return to Service" steps during an Intercompany Clearance with Southern California Edison (SCE), MWD's staff (Switcher) observed that a ground switch linkage malfunctioned during its operation. Staff's strict adherence to following training and procedures led to the detection of the faulty equipment, specifically the visual confirmation that disconnects, such as ground switches, are all in the correct position.

Event Date Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022





Location
Venice PCS/HEP
Switchyard

vard Ground Sv

Background: SCE had MWD de-energize the Venice Switchyard so SCE could perform maintenance on their system.

- When the Switchyard is de-energized, the ground switch may be requested to be closed (i.e., vertical position).
- When the Switchyard is energized, the ground switch is open (i.e., horizontal position).

<u>Safety Issue:</u> When MWD Switcher completed the switching step to "Open the Ground Switch," the ground switch linkage remained in the closed (i.e., vertical) position. The MWD Checker noticed the ground switch (vertical linkage member) did not operate into the open (i.e., horizontal) position. Switching staff immediately stopped switching and made notifications.



Figure 1 - Examples of Closed (left) and Opened (right Ground Switches

Resolution: The system was isolated to repair the faulty equipment and the system was returned to service

Safety Improvements

Kev

Take-Aways

- Additional lighting was installed in the switchyard to help employees see the ground switch linkage vertical disconnect position, especially under low light times of morning and night.
- The Hydroelectric Team and System Operations Review Committee (SORC) will evaluate the testing and maintenance requirements for ground switches to ensure their functionality.
- Whenever de-energizing or energizing, make sure to visually confirm that the ground switch linkages are in correct position.
- Always visually inspect equipment before, during, and after work tasks to confirm opened/closed or disconnect switches are in correct position.
- Stop work and evaluate any potentially unsafe equipment or work conditions.
- Notify appropriate Facility Operations Manager and other appropriate parties of any faulty equipment so it can be repaired or replaced.

Recognize employees who identify "Near Miss" situations and resolve the potential hazard

Advisory Notice is shared with all affected work forces across the District

# Office Safety Awareness



Communicating Safety Implementation beyond Field Activities







# Ergonomics Virtual Workshop

January Workshop 78 attendees

February Workshop
45 attendees

"Excellent.
Felt very good after all the stretches"

"This was one of the best workshops I've attended. Learned a great deal in a very short amount of time"







### FEBRUARY 15, 2023 11:00AM-12:00PM ERGONOMIC VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

# Posture, Pain Prevention, and Productivity

The workshop is highly interactive and teaches how ergonomic breaks implemented multiple times a day can prevent pain and musculoskeletal disorders. Attendees will be taught 5 to 10 targeted posture exercises that they can perform at their workstations with no equipment. needed.

Presented by WSO, Safety & Regulatory Services

Zeena Dhalla, Certified Posture Alignment Specialist



### **Topics**

- Good postureCauses of poor
- Causes of poor posture
- Common posture problems
- Posture break exercises
- Right way to work at a desk
- How to text on a cell phone w/o neck pain
- Posture assessment by group on a volunteer

"The exercises were very helpful and appropriate for the office environment"

> "Very easy to follow along. Great teacher"

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# Safety Culture Assessment

# 2023 Top Priority Recommendations

- l. Office of the General Manager and Executive Management needs to set safety vision, mission, and annual safety goals.
- 2. Adopt a continuous improvement process and regularly assess progress.
- 3. Top Management needs to provide adequate safety staff and resourcing to effectively support safety requirements in all instances. Review organizational structure to enable Safety to operate as an independent function.

# NSC Full Implementation Schedule

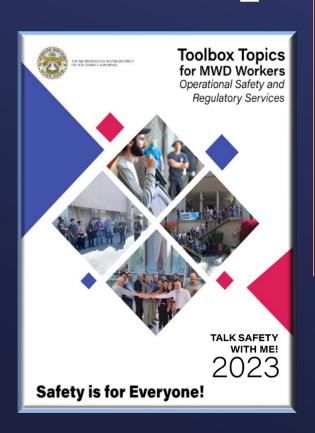








# 2023 Next Steps



# Implement Top 3 NSC Recommendations

- Safety Vision and Goals
- Adopt Continuous Improvement with Regular Assessments
- Review of Organizational Structure

# Continue Safety Support and Partnership

- O&M, Shutdowns, and CIP Projects
- CRA Housing Improvement
- Address Safety Concerns
- Develop and Conduct Safety Training and Toolboxes
- Support Field and Office Activities

