



Corporate Safety & Industrial Hygiene

Date: February 14, 2017

From: Arlen Siert, PhD, CIH, CSP, Senior Industrial Hygienist/Asbestos, Lead,
Hexavalent Chromium Program Manager, Corporate Safety & Industrial Hygiene

Re: George Bunker Letter of Appreciation for:

**Outstanding Regulatory Compliance and Safety and Health Efforts for
Blackeagle Energy Services Work at Xcel Energy**

On behalf of Xcel Energy, Corporate Safety & Industrial Hygiene is issuing this well-deserved and long overdue letter of appreciation for George Bunker, Safety Director, Blackeagle Energy Services for his outstanding safety and health and regulatory compliance efforts pertaining to work at Xcel Energy.

Some of the critical High Pressure Gas work that Blackeagle Energy Services performs for Xcel Energy is highly hazardous and triggers numerous OSHA regulatory requirements. Some examples include: abrasive blasting lead, hexavalent chromium and cadmium painted piping and valves, and spray painting flammable and polyurethane paints in enclosed areas. OSHA requirements for this work are extensive, covering the above mentioned hazardous metals, respirable crystalline silica, isocyanates, explosive atmospheres requiring explosion proof and intrinsically safe ventilation, lighting, gas testing, and supplied air respiratory protection with grade D breathing air, respirator training, medicals and fit tests, and OSHA training on all of the above hazards.

Many contractors have sought after this work in recent years, but due to the extensive regulatory requirements and compliance efforts involved, I have only been able to approve two companies to perform this work to date, one of them being Blackeagle, due to George Bunker's conscientious efforts, which have been exemplary.

Thank you Blackeagle, and thank you George Bunker! Please continue the great work.