



MEETING MINUTES

Power Generation VPP Call

Date / time 5/18/2023 1:30 PM | *Meeting facilitated by* Kelli Heflin & Alex Miller

1. **Roll call via chat function**
2. Welcome and Acknowledgement – Kelli Heflin
 - a. Recognized new members and OSHA representatives.
3. Safety Moment: Don't Fry Day – Mark Maranda – Luminant, Sayreville
 - a. Skin cancer prevention – <https://skincancerprevention.org/get-involved/dont-fry-day/dfd/>
4. New VPP Updates:
 - a. John at Kleen Energy – rescheduled initial evaluation in August with Region 1
 - b. Chad – Reapproval audit, one million hours safe work
 - c. Todd Wulf, Talen Montana – preparing for 3rd 5-year evaluation in June Star in 2007
 - d. Alex Miller – Rob Coit new SGE for Region III
 - e. Next SGE class in June, another one before VPPPA in September. Application deadline July 15th.
<https://www.osha.gov/sge/sge-training>
5. VPP Element: Management Leadership and Employee Involvement: Michael Circle – Onward Energy
 - a. Safety – The Emotion (dog analogy).
 - b. Feeling safe in a known atmosphere vs. unknown or obscured safe zone.
 - c. Helps us work safely.
 - d. Safety Culture starts from the top and management must be committed by providing resources and leading by example.
 - e. Management must be involved.
 - f. Must plan work with safety as a priority.
 - g. Must have clear understanding of VPP/Safety and what it entails.
 - h. Safety must be included in budget planning. #1
 - i. Management Leadership is a the very LEAST, good PR. At the very MOST, a safety culture
 - j. Employee Involvement – starts at the bottom.
 - k. Meeting management mid-way builds a good safety culture.
 - l. When employees have a seat at the table, they feel secure in the culture and environment and take pride in work.
 - m. Safety Cops – Safety has a bad rep.
 - n. Workers do not go to work to get hurt and unsafe acts are typically not intentional.
 - o. Psychology of safety and behavior should be understood at all levels, management and employees.



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- p. Safety Cops agitate workers and work can become unsafe.
 - q. Looking out for each other's safety is a much better approach.
 - r. Accountability – Managers and employees hold themselves accountable for failures and successes. Obtains a safety culture beyond compliance.
 - s. Management Leadership and Employee Involvement - First and Major element listed. Extremely IMPORTANT.
6. Committee Updates:
- a. Mike Circle – Newsletter went out today, 05/18. Looking for feedback and topics for next quarter. Reach out to Michael for details.
 - b. QEW Team update: Darrell Bauman – Energy Keepers, Montana. Several members are working together to build a great program. Three components. Training, hands on training for tasks and equipment, and annual assessment of skill. Recognizing Darrell, Oma, and Cade for all of their hard work and efforts. If interested in joining the team, reach out to Alex Miller or Kelli Heflin.
7. Benchmarking
- a. 2023 Goal: Develop benchmarking questionnaire for deployment in Q1 2024. Best practice approach for auditing and training practices. Need volunteers. Meeting to be scheduled in Q3, possibly Q4.
 - b. Any other suggestions for benchmarking?
8. PGVPP Alliance Agreement with OSHA Region VIII on March 10, 2023. Big milestone!
- a. OSHA's Alliance Program enables the agency to develop voluntary, collaborative working relationships with organizations that are committed to workplace safety and health. Through the Alliance Program, OSHA works with organizations such as trade and professional associations, labor unions, educational institutions, community and faith-based groups, and government agencies to share information about OSHA's initiatives and compliance assistance resources with workers and employers and educate workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities. <https://www.osha.gov/alliances/>
 - b. Formalize groups efforts in last four years.
 - c. Developed best practices and continue to learn from each other.
9. Open Discussion
- a. Ryan – Tiverton Power, Rhode Island – Anhydrous Ammonia PSM Site, Large scale Emergency responder drill. A lot of lessons learned. Ryan to give a presentation on lessons learned for this element. Discuss in December planning meeting. Driven by software Aloha, on EPA website. Marplot, google map overlay. Models other chemicals.
 - b. Richard Brown (OSHA) – OSHA is asking for stakeholder input on their current use of leading indicators and their impact on managing their safety and health management systems. <https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/trade/05172023>



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- c. John Condry, Vistra – Anybody familiar with California VPP? Mentorship program. Contact information on CAL/OSHA site. (Iraj—VPP Manager, Cal/OSHA)
- d. Alex Miller – Planning to attend OSHA listening sessions? Can anyone provide feedback from these sessions. The meeting will be held June 15, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Frances Perkins Building, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20210. Those wishing to attend must register by June 1 by selecting the Registration button below. Attendees can choose from several levels of participation in the discussion. For those who may not be able to attend in person, you can attend virtually via Webex. Register online to attend the meeting. Virtual attendees will only be in listening mode; questions and comment opportunities will not be available. Here is a link with information on the VPP Modernization project. <https://www.osha.gov/vppmodernization>
- e. Kelli H. – 2023 VPPA Conference Schedule. Upcoming...
 - Region 1 - August 22 – 24, 2023. Southbridge, MA
 - Region 2 – In conjunction with Region 3
 - Region 4 – In conjunction with VPPPPA Safety+
 - Region 5 – June 14-15, 2023. South Bend, IN
 - Region 6 – May 22 – 25, 2023. Corpus Christi, TX
 - Region 7 – June 19-21, 2023. Branson, MO
 - Region 8 - In conjunction with VPPPPA Safety+
 - Region 8 Networking Day—June 7 (registration closes May 23)
 - Region 9 – In conjunction with VPPPPA Safety+
VPPPPA Safety+ - September 18 – 20, 2023. Orlando, FL

10. Next meeting – August 17th, 2023