

## **SAFETY ACTIVITY WITHIN IBEW LOCAL 77**

### **April 9, 2009 / Revised November 2015**

#### **National Safety Council (NSC)**

The National Safety Council is a nonprofit, charitable, international public service organization dedicated to educating and influencing people to prevent accidental injuries and deaths.

Founded in 1913 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1953, the NSC is the only organization promoting safety in the workplace, in transportation, and in homes and communities.

Members of the NSC include 18,600 companies of all sizes and from a broad spectrum of industries, representing 33,300 locations and 8.5 million employees around the world.

The National Safety Council serves as the nation's leading resource on industry trends, professional development, and strategies for advancing safety and health programs and practices. The Council is active in converting injury research and trends information into injury prevention education, training, consultation, and advocacy leadership.

As a membership organization, the National Safety Council provides opportunities for greater engagement in addressing industry-specific issues.

Members of the Workplace, Transportation, and Home & Community Venues bring their perspectives from multiple industries to identify common issues and trends. Members contribute to the Council's continuing efforts to achieve a holistic safety agenda that supports its strategic plan.

Through the support and collaboration of a national network of 40 state and regional chapters, the National Safety Council has an even greater impact and presence at the local level providing community-based programs and services, trainings, conferences, workshops, and consultations as well as a local voice for safety and health advocacy.

With the generous support of their friends and partners in safety, the National Safety Council is able to have an even greater impact on reducing accidental injuries and deaths in workplaces, on roads and highways, and in homes, and communities throughout the United States and around the world.

## **NSC Labor Division**

Members of Labor Division work with hundreds of other union-based safety professionals and government regulators. Through administrative, professional, and special interest committees to target various safety and health concerns within the labor community.

Assigned members: Lou Walter, Bill Meyer, Steve Cant & Larry Becht

## **IBEW Safety and Health Caucus**

IBEW members from a variety of backgrounds have formed an advisory group to address one of the Brotherhood's biggest historical priorities: safety.

At twice-yearly meetings scheduled around National Safety Council Labor Division sessions, the IBEW Safety Caucus makes recommendations on mobilizing organization resources to deal with the pressing health and safety issues of the day. With approximately 100 members from every IBEW branch and region, the caucus serves as a forum for education, training support and resources. It also helps local union safety and health committees investigate accidents and coordinates with the IBEW Safety Department to promote safety and health as it relates to the industries in which IBEW members work.

Assigned members: Lou Walter & Bill Meyer, Alternate: Steve Cant

## **OSHA Partnership IBEW/NECA (Best Practices)**

OSHA has joined with representatives from the power transmission and distribution industry, as well as trade and labor representatives, to develop a common vision and commitment to provide employees in the electrical transmission and distribution industry (the "Industry") with a safe and healthful workplace, and to demonstrate leadership, responsibility and accountability in furthering worker health and safety.

The primary goal of the Partnership is to reduce the number of fatalities, injuries, and illnesses in the Industry. Additionally, the Partnership will aim to:

1. Perform data analysis as a means to establish causes of fatalities, injuries, and illnesses for electrical work in the Industry.
2. Develop recommended Best Practices to reduce the number of fatalities, injuries, and illnesses that directly correspond to the identified causes, as well as any other significant hazards identified by the Partnership.

3. Ensure that the Industry Partners' employees are effectively trained to utilize the established Best Practices.
4. Effectively communicate safety and health Best Practices, and other useful safety and health information, within the Industry.
5. Establish an effective evaluation strategy to ensure that the goals of the OSP are met.

Partnership goals will be achieved through strategies and objectives that include:

1. Analyze accident and incident data to identify common causes for fatalities, injuries, and illnesses suffered by linemen, apprentices, and other appropriate job classifications.
2. Develop recommended Best Practices for each identified cause.
3. Develop implementation strategies for each Best Practice and share these strategies among the partners.
4. Identify training criteria for foremen, general foremen, supervisors, linemen, and apprentices, including training to promote industry culture change to place value on safety and health.

Significant progress towards achieving the Partnership's goals was made during the first two years of work. Ten years of industry fatality data was collected and analyzed to determine trends. The Partners then created an industry-specific OSHA 10-Hour training course that focuses on areas pertinent to the industry and highlights safety measures that impact the identified fatality trend areas. To date, more than 2,100 employees have received this training. Additionally, in conjunction with the renewal of the Partnership Agreement in August 2006, the partners agreed to implement several industry best practices, including:

- **Job Briefings**
- **Pre-use inspection of Rubber Protective Equipment**
- **Administrative Controls**
- **Qualified Observer**
- **Insulate and Isolate Safety Performance Check**
- **Lock to Lock Use of Rubber Gloves and Sleeves**

### **OSHA Partnership IBEW/NECA continued (Best Practices)**

#### **Task Team III (Live Line Tools/Rubber Glove & Sleeves)**

Invited participation:

Lou Walter & Rick Strait

## **Electrical Utility Safety Advisory Committee (EUSAC)**

Voting Members: Local 77

Rick Johnson – President  
Lou Walter – Business Manager (Voting)  
Steve Cant, Business Representative (Voting)  
Charles Campy – Puget Sound Energy  
Bill Meyer – Snohomish Co. PUD (Voting)  
Damian Hernandez – Lewis Co. PUD (Voting)  
Larry Becht – Grant Co. PUD  
Justin Bean – Avista (Voting)  
Brad Kime – Snohomish Co. PUD

### **Local 77 Accident Investigation Committee**

#### **Mission Statement:**

The I.B.E.W. International mandates that all Local Unions report accidents to the International Office. Each accident investigator is assigned a geographic area and is asked to investigate all fatalities, electrical contacts, and equipment failure accidents. In some cases other types of serious accidents may be investigated as well. The goal of Local 77 is to provide information to the membership to help avoid future accidents. Local 77's purpose is to point out accident factors to assist its members. Local 77's investigations do not assign blame or establish responsibility.

#### **Committee Members and Assignment Areas:**

##### **SNOHOMISH**

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##### **CONSTRUCTION, CONSTRUCTION/TREES**

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**CENTRALIA, COWLITZ, GRAYS HARBOR, LEWIS, MASON, PACIFIC & WAHIAKUM**

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**AVISTA, INLAND POWER & LIGHT, LINCOLN, PEND O'REILLE & SPOKANE**

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**BENTON CO. PUD, BENTON REA, CASHMERE, CHELAN, DOUGLAS, FERRY, FRANKLIN, GRANT, OKANOGAN, PUGET SOUND ENERGY & USBR**

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Jessie Grad: Cell# 509.366.4825; Home# 509.547.0779 Email [aajgrad@gmail.com](mailto:aajgrad@gmail.com)

**KING COUNTY METRO LIGHT RAIL & DOT, SEATTLE DOT, SEATTLE CITY LIGHT, SEATTLE STEAM & WESTIN PBX**

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**PUGET SOUND ENERGY**

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**CLEARWATER POWER**

Gary Stephens: Cell# 208.791.6736 E-mail [garyandsandrastephens@gmail.com](mailto:garyandsandrastephens@gmail.com)

**WHATCOME COUNTY AND SKAGIT COUNTY:**

Andy Cross: Cell# 360.640.0389 Email [crossa75@hotmail.com](mailto:crossa75@hotmail.com)

\* Alternates

**OSHA 10 Hour Training Course**

The OSHA Outreach Training Program is our primary way to train workers in the basics of occupational safety and health. Through the program, individuals who complete a one-week OSHA trainer course are authorized to teach 10-hour or 30-hour courses in construction or general industry safety and health hazard recognition and prevention. Authorized trainers can receive OSHA course completion cards for their students. The OSHA 10 Hour Course for High Voltage Electrical Workers is available through Local 77.

**Current Trainers:**

Jeff Cash  
John Cunningham

**Governor’s Industrial Safety and Health Advisory Board**

Appointed Bill Meyer (Secretary)

The Governor's Industrial Advisory Board on Safety and Health is committed to promoting safe and healthy work environments for the people of Washington State by providing education and outreach training programs.

Every year the Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference offers two days of training and education, providing the latest tools, technologies and strategies for workplace safety and health. Alternating between the eastern and western side of the state, each year it attracts approximately 3,000 safety and health attendees. More than 300 volunteers, representing the diversity of industrial Washington contribute to its success year after year!

**Sub-Committees/Panels:**

**Duties:**

The Panel Committees should consist of not less than three members appointed by each Advisory Board member from the industries and affiliation(s) which they represent. There shall be representation from both labor and management, except for Accident Prevention Fundamentals.

Panel members shall serve for one year, subject to re-appointment or replacement by the respective Advisory Board member.

The Panel Committees shall be responsible for outlining and finalizing the programs of the respective industries they represent for the Industrial Safety and Health Conference.

The Panel Committee members will assist in publicizing the conference; including distribution of promotional material.

The Assistant Director of the DOSH Services Division shall appoint one or more staff to serve as liaison between the Panel Committees. The Consultation, Education, and Outreach section of DOSH Services shall furnish support staff, statistical information, and assist with arrangements as needed.

**Panel Members:**

Electrical Panel (Pole-top Rescue)

Bill Meyer, Chairman  
Lance Stotts  
Bill Shaffer  
Jeffrey Roberts  
Karl Freudenstein

Hassel Dotson  
Mark Johnston  
Larry Becht

Communication Panel

Bill Meyer

Gas Panel

Bill Meyer

### **WISHA Monitoring Committee**

This committee monitors the enforcement and implementation of the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act, one of the strongest occupational safety and health laws in the country. Committee members testify on proposed job safety and health legislation, and participate in seminars and workshops on job safety and health issues. This committee is affiliated with the Washington State Labor Council and meets quarterly.

Appointed Members: Bob Guenther

### **WSDOT Traffic Control Oversight Committee**

The Traffic Control Oversight Committee (TCOC) is an interagency committee that has the designated authority by the Work Zone Safety Task Force and responsibility to administratively oversee training programs for Traffic Control Flagger, and Traffic Control Supervisor. The committee has members from WSDOT, Labor and Industries, State Board of Technical and Community Colleges, Employer, Employee, Utilities, Association of Cities and Counties, and Flagging Instructor Providers.

The committee meets at least quarterly to discuss Work Zone Traffic Control Training and Safety Issues.

#### **The Committee is Responsible For:**

- Establishing the minimum requirements for the qualification and training of flagging instructors authorized to issue the state Traffic Control Flagger card;
- Maintaining, modifying, and enforcing the criteria and administrative process for obtaining the State Traffic Control Flagger;
- Maintaining, modifying, and enforcing the criteria and administrative process for agreements of reciprocity with other states for Traffic Control Flagger, Traffic Control Supervisor;
- Providing suggestions and recommendations for the improvements of work zone safety and work zone safety education to the department through the Work Zone Safety Task Force; and,

- Communicating information on work zone safety issues and education to interested parties in the roadway construction and maintenance industry.  
Appointed Member: Bill Meyer

**IBEW Local 77 Safety and Training Committee (Construction/Utility)**

President: Rick Johnson

Business Mgr./  
Financial Secretary Lou Walter

Staff Rep.'s Steve Cant

District 1	Bill Meyer, Jry. Lineman Charles Campy Brad Kime	Snohomish Co. PUD Puget Sound Energy Snohomish Co. PUD
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District 2	Damian Hernandez, Jry. Lineman	Lewis Co. PUD
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District 3	Larry Becht, Jry. Lineman	Grant Co. PUD
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District 4	Justin Bean, Jry Lineman	Avista Utilities
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