



U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS CHANGE SUMMARY

Report:	Xcel Energy Hydroelectric Plant Penstock Fire
Recommendation Number:	2008-01-I-CO-R19
Date Issued:	August 25, 2010
Recipient:	Southern California Painting and Drywall Industries Joint Apprenticeship and Training (SCPDI-JAT) Committee
New Status:	R19: Closed—Acceptable Acton
Date of Status Change:	February 14, 2013

Recommendations Text:

Include a safety knowledge and skills component to your journeyman and apprentice evaluation criteria.

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for the Recommendations

On October 2, 2007, five contract workers from RPI Coating, Inc. were killed and three others injured after a fire triggered by the ignition of a flammable solvent trapped them inside a penstock at the Xcel Energy, Inc. Cabin Creek hydroelectric power plant in Georgetown, Colorado. The CSB examined the training provided to the RPI workers by the Southern California Painting and Drywall Industries Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (SCPDI-JAT Committee) and concluded that the RPI work crew received inadequate training on the specific and unique hazards of the penstock, including the safe handling of flammables, proper and safe use of spray equipment in a confined space, fire prevention and mitigation, and emergency response and rescue awareness. The CSB also concluded that the crew's knowledge and skills pertaining to safety were not assessed by SCPDI-JAT as part of their training. Therefore, the Board voted to recommend training course and skill evaluation enhancements to the SCPDI-JAT Committee.

B. Response to the Recommendations:

The SCPDI-JAT responded to R19 by developing a "Skills Assessment Evaluation Procedure" for apprentices that includes a hands-on evaluation criteria. For those journeymen who enter the program, recommendations for additional safety training are obtained from the union and skills are assessed in the same manner as for apprentices.

C. Board Analysis and Decision

As the evaluation criteria developed by SCPDI-JAT appears to be consistent with the intent of CSB Recommendation No. **2008-01-I-CO-R19**, the Board voted to change the status of this recommendation to "Closed- Acceptable Action."