

**EFCOG Electrical Safety Subgroup
Teleconference Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2008
Submitted by Jackie McAlhaney**

Attendees

Lloyd Gordon	Bill Baptist	Pat Tran, DOE
Joe Kilar	Chip Barnhart	Bobby Gray
Max Wright	Sal Sferrazza	Bobby Sparks
Jim Luhring	Jackie McAlhaney	Larry Perkins
Gary Dreifuert	Mike Hicks	Dave Mills
Mark McNellis	Jim Durnan	Russell Harwood
John Pearson	John Lacenere	Daryl Magers
Jim Follansbee	Clyde Saunders	Todd Kujawa

Introduction

Lloyd Gordon chaired the teleconference call and welcomed everyone to the February teleconference.

Recent Electrical Occurrences

Lloyd discussed a shock event at LANL that resulted from a damaged electrical cord for a desk lamp. The cord was apparently damaged from a rodent that chewed into the insulation.

Mark McNellis discussed an event at Sandia where three cords providing power to a portable clean room were mis-wired in a junction box. The neutral conductor of two of the cords was crossed in the junction box. Because of the crossed neutrals, the neutral connected to "fan circuit 2" was wired to the plug (lighting) the employee was holding. When the employee's finger touched the neutral and ground terminals on the plug, the circuit to "fan circuit 2" was completed and the employee was shocked.

Jackie McAlhaney discussed an electrical shock event at Savannah River Site where a computer technician was shocked on the metal case of a personal computer. The case became energized with about 60 volts when the computer surge protector failed internally. The ground prong for the surge protector plug was missing. A lesson learned was issued to all personnel to inspect for missing ground prongs on electrical cords.

John Lacenere discussed a UPS battery event at Princeton and indicated that

the event was not an arc flash as initially reported. Six sections of a battery rack shorted out and arced and resulted in failure of the cells. More information on this event will be provided by PPPL when the investigation is completed.

Russell Harwood reported on an event at the Office of River Protection where a 500 HP evaporator recirculation pump was inadvertently started up during maintenance work. The startup was not recognized until about 15 hours later. Bearings were damaged from lack of cooling water. The follow-up investigation revealed that all electrical sources to the pump were not de-energized and locked out, resulting in the inadvertent startup of the pump when a failed circuit board containing a failed relay was inserted.

Lloyd mentioned that we are experiencing an increase in electrical shock events. He reminded all not to get distracted by smaller type events and encouraged everyone to use the Severity Measurement Tool to assess events. Clyde Saunders said that we need to monitor small type events as precursors.

Mike Hicks reported that the pending revision of the Occurrence Reporting Standard that includes the severity measurement tool will be included in a DOE review of the HSS Safety Directives. The review is scheduled to be initiated in November 2008 and the draft revision completed by March 09. Mike requested Jackie to forward an email containing the HSS Safety Directives Project Plan to all members.

Spring Meeting Plans

Jackie and Lloyd discussed plans for the Spring EFCOG Electrical Safety Subgroup meeting in Dallas on March 17-18 at the Hyatt Regency Reunion Tower. Jackie reported that the proposed agenda and a registration page for the meeting have been posted to the EFCOG home page. He encouraged everyone to register and to consider registering for the IEEE Electrical Safety Workshop that follows the EFCOG meeting. The website for registering for the Spring meeting is:

http://www.efcog.org/wg/esh_es/events/ESSG_Spring_08_Meeting/ESSG_Spring_08_Meeting.htm

Summer Electrical Safety Workshop Plans

Sal Sferrazza briefed the group on plans for the summer DOE Electrical Safety Workshop on July 28 to August 1. The workshop will be sponsored by NREL and held at the Denver Marriott West. Sal mentioned that the hotel has been arranged with government rates and a website for registration will be up by next week. The Workshop will consist of 2 ½ days of presentations and 2 days of breakout working sessions. Jackie reported that a draft agenda has been developed and will also be posted to the website next week. Jackie summarized the agenda and reported that several industry experts including James Stallcup, Hugh Hoagland and Ken Mastrullo will be participating in the meeting. Lloyd

commented that the meeting will be structured similar to last years meeting in Albuquerque and should be a very productive meeting. Sal said that tours are being planned of the NREL wind farms for those who are interested.

DOE Electrical Safety Handbook Revision

Lloyd informed all that the changes for the DOE Electrical Safety Handbook revision are ready. Pat Tran explained the review process for the Handbook. Larry Perkins indicated that we should be prepared for delays in approval if we wait until the Revcom process to get comments on the changes. Larry suggested that we attempt to identify team of key review personnel and get comments before submitting to Revcom. Bobby Gray suggested that we develop a formal review process for future revisions to the Handbook. Because of the length of the review cycle for the Handbook, Lloyd suggested that we post the two new chapters to the Center of Excellence home page until they are approved for the Handbook. Lloyd said that these chapters have been under extensive review and use by R&D folks over the last three years. Lloyd also emphasized that one goal for our subgroup should be to develop a formal process for making future revisions to the Handbook as Bobby suggested earlier.

General Discussion-All

Bobby Sparks asked about guidance for DC voltage. Lloyd indicated that he should use guidance in the severity measurement tool.

Lloyd mentioned that several lessons learned have been added to the Center of Excellence website and that the names of new members and officers have also been included on the website. He encouraged everyone to check the COE site for updates.

Larry Perkins asked about the status of the R&D training modules. Lloyd responded that the R&D battery module was recently revised and all the training modules will be posted to the website by the end of February.

Larry Perkins also asked about posting the latest event charts for January. Bobby Gray responded that the charts are available but need to be cleared before they are posted to the website. Bobby said he will approach DOE about a blanket approval for posting these charts in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 1145 Eastern Time. The next teleconference is scheduled for Wednesday March12, 2008.