

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West



SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Reclamation employs a staff of safety professionals, industrial hygienists, and collateral duty safety representatives to provide guidance and technical assistance for achieving safety excellence. Through management leadership and employee involvement, Reclamation will:

- Protect its employees, contractors, and visitors, through the implementation of an effective Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) program, recognizing SOH as a core value to Reclamation in accomplishing its mission to manage, develop and protect water and related resources
- Provide a safe and healthful workplace, free of hazards to the maximum degree practicable, for all employees, contractors, and others performing work at or visiting Reclamation facilities
- Continually improve its program and the program's performance
- Comply with both the spirit and the letter of applicable SOH laws and regulations, including those of the Department, and Reclamation SOH requirements
- Ensure that SOH considerations are integrated into organizational planning, decision making, and daily work activities
- Involve employees and their representatives in the development and implementation of the SOH program, processes, plans and procedures specific to their workplaces
- Provide the necessary resources and training to employees



SAFETY

Whether it is an employee scaling the face of a dam or a family visiting Hoover Dam for the first time, one of Reclamation's core values is its commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for employees, visitors, and the public. Here are a few ways Reclamation accomplishes its safety goals:

- Employees keep Reclamation safe by following established safety rules, reporting hazards and/or potential hazards to their supervisors and by incorporating safety into daily work planning.
- Reclamation continually updates its safety policies to remain compliant with the latest industry standards
- Reclamation conducts job hazard analyses to ensure all job duties are being carried out safely.
- Workplaces are also inspected to guarantee employees have a safe working environment.

SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

- Job hazard analysis
- Workplace inspections
- Industrial hygiene
- Exposure assessments
- Ergonomics/ergonomic assessments
- Training and education
- Comprehensive safety and health training
- Occupant Emergency Training

FACILITY SAFETY

A large number of Reclamation workplaces are industrial in nature, with powerplants and dams posing unique safety and occupational health hazards. Reclamation addresses these safety challenges on three fronts: facility safety inspections, life safety, and fire protection.

Facility Safety Inspections

In compliance with federal law and Bureau policy, Reclamation conducts annual safety inspections of all of its workplaces. These inspections ensure safety deficiencies are abated in a timely manner, and Reclamation employees can work in a safe environment.

Life Safety

Life Safety is primarily concerned with ensuring building occupants can safely exit a building in case of a fire or other emergency. Given the age and the unique hazards of our power facilities, Life Safety issues continue to be a challenge for Reclamation.

Fire Safety

As a power-generating organization, Fire Protection and Fire Safety are also high priorities for Reclamation. Beyond the Life Safety implications of having adequate fire protection, Reclamation is also concerned with prioritizing and protecting assets, and providing reliable services to customers.

PROGRAMS

Reclamation's success depends, in part, on a constant commitment to the safety and occupational health programs. Many jobs carry a high risk when performing certain duties, and a special emphasis is placed on these jobs and programs to ensure all work is conducted safely and without employee injury.

Some of the special programs focused on addressing occupational risks are:

- **Hazardous Energy Control Programs:** Potential consequences range from electrocution to explosive arc flash to release of water inside a facility.
- **Permit-Required Confined Space Entry:** Unique challenge to hydroelectric power generation and water conveyance, such as penstocks and water tunnels.
- **Underwater Diving:** Reclamation dive teams utilize highly trained employees to conduct inspections of underwater features at Reclamation facilities.
- **Rope Access:** Reclamation utilizes highly trained employees in rope access techniques to perform inspections of difficult-to-reach areas, such as dam faces.
- **Law Enforcement:** Reclamation employees engaged in law enforcement and physical security at bureau facilities train to maintain physical fitness and firearms proficiency.

Other programs include:

- Medical surveillance program
- Respirator program
- Hearing conservation/hearing loss prevention program
- Chemical hazardous materials



PARTNERSHIPS

- Federal Occupational Health
 - Medical Programs
 - Medical Surveillance
 - Automated External Defibrillator Program
- United States Public Health Service
 - Commissioned Officer detailed to Reclamation
- Office of Naval Research
 - Noise Engineering Controls in Powerplants
 - Decreasing Noise Levels in Sandblasting and Engineering
 - Quieter Sandblast Nozzle
- US Army Corps of Engineers
 - Noise Engineering Controls in Powerplants
 - Electrical safety initiative such as arc flash and lockout/tagout
- National Institute of Occupational Safety & Health
 - Hearing Protection Device WellFit
 - Hearing Loss Prevention Program
- National Safety Council
- General Services Administration
 - Fire Protection Surveys



LEADERSHIP

Grayford Payne - Deputy Commissioner and Designated Agency Safety and Health Official

Bruce C. Muller, Jr. - Director, Security, Safety, and Law Enforcement

Phoebe Percell - Deputy Director, Security, Safety, and Law Enforcement

Monte E. Bowman - Safety and Occupational Health Program Manager

Ken Somolinos - Safety and Occupational Health Manager, Denver/Washington

Dan Mitchell - Regional Safety Manager, Upper Colorado

Juli Smith - Regional Safety Manager, Lower Colorado, Acting

Gary Barsness - Regional Safety Manager, Great Plains

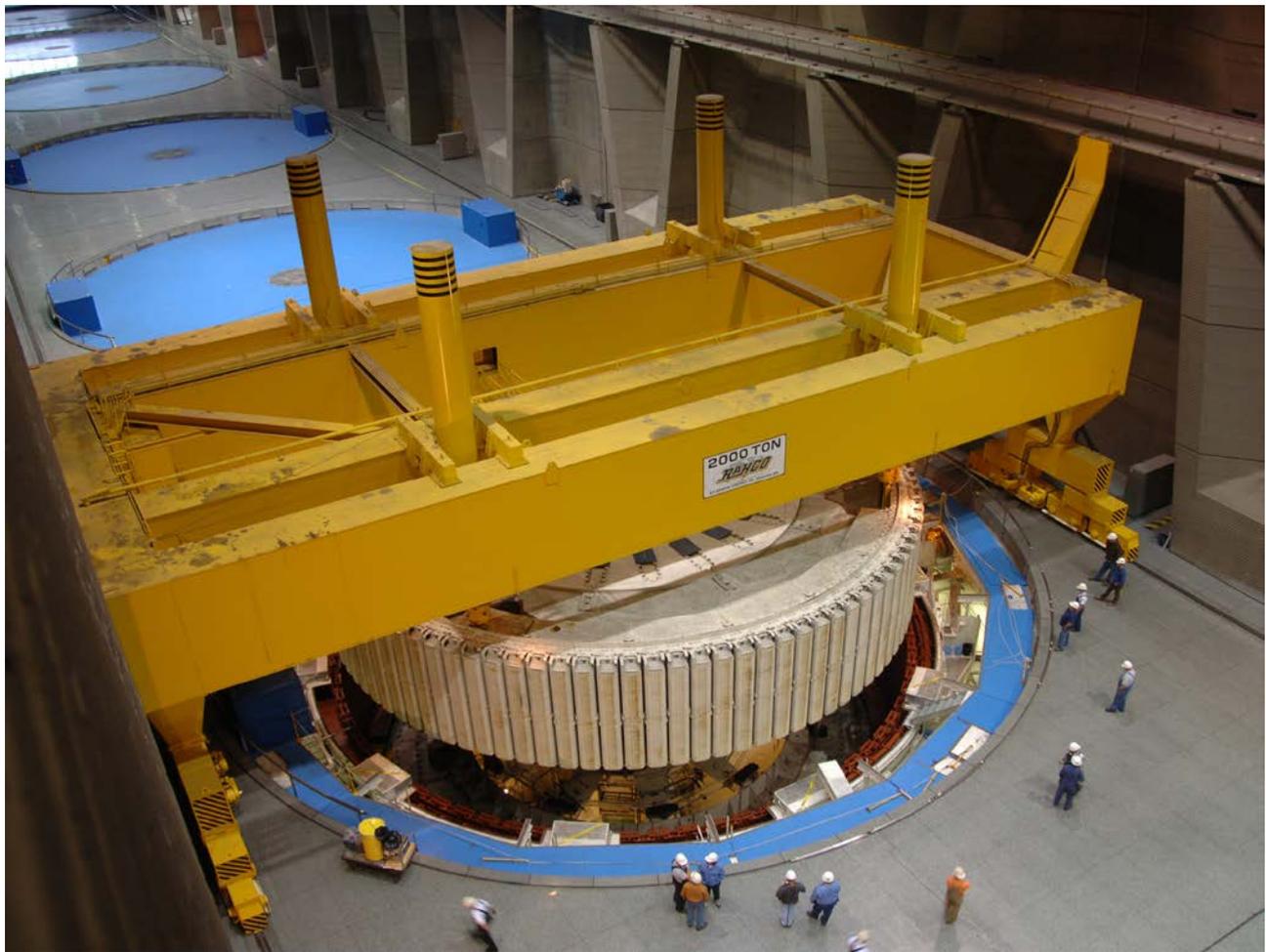
Jaymes Hovinga - Regional Safety Manager, Mid Pacific

Shawn Smith - Regional Safety Manager, Pacific Northwest

SUCCESS

Reclamation's Safety and Occupational Health Program's goal is to provide a safe and healthful working environment for Reclamation employees, contractors, and the public.

Our future success depends in part, on an aggressive commitment to the safety and occupational health program. Employees are Reclamation's most valuable resource, and we urge everyone to use safe practices at work and at home. By doing this, Reclamation continues to achieve its mission and goals - and see every employee go home safe to their friends and families.



“Safety is fundamental to what we do every day at Reclamation. It must always be a priority for us. It must always be a focus. We can't be complacent.”

Estevan López
Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation