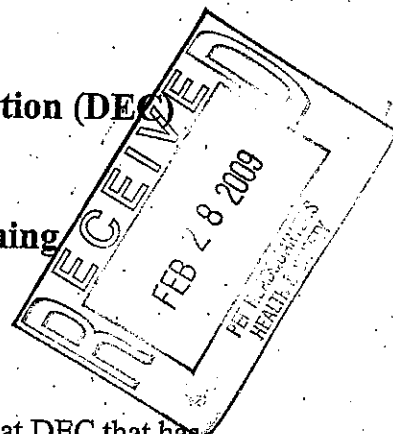


New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Application
Safety and Health Initiatives Program
Pesticide Control Specialist Safety & Health Training



1. Program Need and Description

Commissioner Peter Grannis has established a labor/management workgroup at DEC that has been addressing health and safety concerns of pesticide control specialist (PCS) employees. The concerns originated when two employees in this small workgroup of thirty-five employees were diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. The workgroup has been evaluating the following issues:

- 1) The need for dedicated vehicles for the PCSs to prevent chemical contamination and improve access to equipment.
- 2) Availability and use of personal protective equipment and respirators.
- 3) Site risk assessment procedures that enable PCSs to determine use of PPE and respirators.
- 4) Medical monitoring program criteria and practices.
- 5) Training and education of PCSs regarding the health hazards associated with pesticides.

A draft proposal has been written addressing the vehicle issue. It has been determined that access to PPE and respirators are adequate. However, there is confusion about site risk assessment and determination of appropriate use of PPE and respirators.

On July 11th, 2008, the workgroup met with physicians from Mt Sinai Occupational & Environmental Health Center, the Civil Service Employee Health Service (EHS), and the Cooperstown Agricultural Medicine Clinic. The EHS concurred that the medical monitoring program should be modified to more closely follow current recommendations for cholinesterase testing. Additionally, a plan was discussed to conduct end of shift medical monitoring and other testing to evaluate the effectiveness of current industrial hygiene control measures used by PCSs.

We are requesting \$11,420 in SHIP grant funding to enable a one day training and education program for PCSs. The goals of the program are:

- 1) Raise PCSs knowledge and awareness of hazards and hazard controls
- 2) Educate and inform PSC inspectors about changes to the medical monitoring program
- 3) Conduct an exercise to learn about current practices and indentify gaps in site risk assessment procedures.
- 4) Communicate with PSCs about plans for conducting occupational risk evaluation

The agenda is attached. The program will be conducted by Steve Levin, MD, John May, MD, physicians from Employee Health Services (EHS) and Health & Safety staff from DEC and PEF.

2. Budget

The program will be conducted at PEF Headquarters on September 24th, 2009. Thirty-five regional staff will attend. Twenty-six will need two overnights due to the distance. Six would

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need one overnights. Approximately, twenty DEC and PEF leaders will attend. Two of these leaders will need one overnight and one will need two overnights. Sixty-two overnights at \$160 per-diem = \$9,920. Honoraria for the two physicians will be a total of \$1,500. Total cost = \$11,420.

Terry Tyos 2/25/09
Terry Tyos Date
PEF/ENCON Council Leader
Phone #: (518) ~~793~~ 2746
315

Joseph R. Lattanzio February 25, 2009
Joseph Lattanzio Date
DEC Director of Employee Relations
Phone #: (518) ~~402~~ 9388

Tentative Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions – M. Serafini and T. Tyoe
2. Overview of the work of the Workgroup – M Cadrette and J Rosen
3. Toxicology and health effects of chemical pesticides – S Levin, MD and J. May, MD
4. Changes to the Medical Monitoring Program – Employee Health Services
5. Risk assessment exercise. Small groups (five each) will work with various exposure scenarios to determine selection of PPE, respirators, and other actions. Report back and discussion – D Nelson and M Solan. The medical and industrial hygiene experts will be on a panel to respond.
6. Discussion of Workgroup's risk evaluation plans and what PSCs can anticipate will be asked of them. TBD