

## **LABORATORY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**September 8, 2008**

**TO:** All Laboratory Personnel

**FROM:** John Park, Chairman, Laboratory Safety Committee

**SUBJECT:** September 8, 2008 Safety Committee Meeting

**Participants:** John Park, Ray Kelling, Max Overman, Jeanne Carter  
Beth Swanson, Joan Styles, Joe Jurgevich, Heather Parker

The 2008 Chemical Hygiene Plan manual (CHP) has been given to each unit now. If anyone did not receive a copy of the new CHP, please contact John.

Some of the topics from the last meeting of the division safety sub-committee were shared by John and Ray. There was discussion of the frequency of safety inspections/audits in various work environments. The sub-committee members agreed on quarterly audits for laboratories, which would include the prep labs used by sample collectors at the regional offices. Office areas would be audited twice a year. For field sampling, it was recommended that the supervisor accompany sample collectors to observe how things are done in the field and to help assess risks involved with a particular type of field activity.

Ray noted that the safety audits for our lab will be conducted during the middle month of each quarter. The next inspection for the lab will be in November 2008. The last two inspections here at the lab were very good and all of the minor issues cited have been resolved.

Joe mentioned that the oxygen sensor in the mercury clean room is unplugged (since it doesn't work properly). Ray agreed that it needs to be replaced or repaired and asked Joe to have Ellen report it to Roy.

Joe also asked Ray if the steel drums used to contain solvent waste need secondary containment. Ray noted that the inside of the drums are lined with plastic, which serves to prevent corrosion on the inside of the barrel and as a built-in secondary containment. The solvent-waste barrels are replaced every 6 months and are only moved by the contracted company that handles waste disposal for the lab.

The next safety committee meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. Minutes were prepared by Jeanne Carter on September 8, 2008.

MO/jc