



# ZERO ACCIDENT POLICY

**October 22, 2004** 

### VALUE AND PHILOSOPHY

The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP) believes that all accidents are preventable. Further, ORP expects that the prevention of all accidents is a value held by all our workers rather than simply a goal. ORP is committed to the philosophy and practice of achieving and sustaining an accident free work environment across the River Protection Project.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

An accident free workplace.

## METHODS TO OBTAIN OBJECTIVE

- Senior managers will "lead by example" to achieve an accident free workplace;
- Utilize continuous improvement practices to achieve an accident free workplace;
- Show ownership and control of health and safety across the River Protection Project;
- Create greater accountability for following the principles of safe work habits;
- Enhance employee awareness of health and safety philosophy, principles, and guidelines;
- Communicate and illustrate to all that the River Protection Project is dedicated to the philosophy and practice of accident prevention; and
- Select contractors and subcontractors that are committed to and can demonstrate commitment to an accident free performance environment.

#### **OWNER COMMITTMENT**

A driving force for safety performance is management commitment and involvement in the safety process from the beginning to the end. Senior managers will take a leadership role in partnering with supervisors, team leaders, employees, contractors, and subcontractors to build and sustain a safety culture conducive to an accident free workplace. Senior managers should "lead by example." Senior leadership responsibility includes:

- Ensuring each employee works safely;
- Ensuring work is performed each day without occupational injuries or illnesses;
- Fostering and maintaining a work environment that encourages free and open expression of safety concerns;
- Ensuring no reprisal or discrimination to employees for reporting safety concerns;
- Attaining employee participation in program review, feedback, and continuous improvement; and
- Evaluating all incidents to determine cause and implementation of corrective actions.

Every employee is expected to take ownership of his/her personal safety and the safety of those working around them. Every employee is accountable for:

• Following safety policies and procedures;

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- Recognizing job hazards and applying appropriate controls before starting a task;
- Remaining injury free each and every day;
- Actively eliminating unsafe conditions and behaviors;
- Correcting or reporting to supervision hazards identified in the work place; and
- Immediately reporting any injury, illness, or near-miss to their supervisor.

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