



## ***Administrative Procedure***

# **PRC-PRO-SH-28034**

## **Adverse Weather**

**Revision 1, Change 0**

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**Project: CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company  
Topic: Occupational Safety & Industrial Hygiene**

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**Administrative Use**

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**Description of Change**

Rev 1-0:

Expand on wind condition precautions; provide more specific direction.

Add requirements and recommendations for PPE for the eyes during windy conditions.

Clarification that individual projects need to evaluate local area weather concerns and

May authorize an early release due to hazardous localized weather issues.

Editorial changes to align with current CHPRC procedures format, and reference and form numbers and titles.

0-1: Editorial changes to align with current CHPRC procedures format, and reference and form numbers and titles.

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### 1.0 PURPOSE

At Hanford, and throughout Southeastern Washington, seasonal weather conditions are typically very stable. However, on occasion, severe storm fronts pass through the region, which may be accompanied by lightning strikes, high winds, snow, or torrential rains. A microclimate is a local atmospheric zone where the climate differs from the surrounding area. The term may refer to relatively small areas and can also cover larger areas of many square miles. Microclimates may exist on the Hanford site and need to be recognized and communicated by CHPRC Management.

Since such weather phenomena occur infrequently and often appear quite suddenly, it is incumbent upon CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company (CHPRC) Team management and employees to plan for exposure to these conditions when performing outdoor work activities.

### 1.1 SCOPE

This Level 1 Administrative Procedure is applicable to CHPRC Team employees performing CHPRC work scope. The CHPRC management team is responsible for safety throughout the CHPRC and for creating a safe work environment for all employees. This responsibility includes implementing the following adverse weather safety policies. Facility and Project Managers will ensure that a means to communicate appropriate guidance to subordinate Managers and Supervisors is in place when adverse weather conditions exist.

**NOTE:** *Real-time weather information is available from the Hanford Meteorological Station (HMS) web site and/or by telephone from the "On-duty Forecaster" at 373-2716. During the hours HMS is not available, contact the National Weather Service; Pendleton, Oregon (NWS-PDT) weather forecast office at (541)276-4493 for necessary real-time weather information.*

### 1.2 IMPLEMENTATION

This procedure is effective upon publication.

### 2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

All responsibilities associated with this procedure are identified in the process steps.

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### 3.0 PROCESS

Actionee	Step	Action
Employee	1.	TAKE ownership of his/her personal safety during adverse weather conditions, as well as for the safety of those with whom they work.
	2.	Every employee is accountable to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COMPLY with direction and policy relating to adverse weather safety.</li> <li>RECOGNIZE job hazards and associated controls when working outdoors during adverse weather conditions.</li> </ol>

### 3.1 Lightning Safety

Actionee	Step	Action
Management	1.	ENSURE safe work measures are established and implemented when lightning is detected within specified range of the Hanford Site by the HMS or the NWS-PDT. At a minimum: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SUSPEND all elevated outdoor CHPRC work activities [e.g., work associated with the use of forklifts, dump trucks, elevated booms (e.g., cranes, drilling/telescopic forklift masts), aerial lifts (e.g., JLGs), scaffolds, ladders, etc.] when lightning is detected within a 50-mile radius.</li> <li>SUSPEND all outdoor CHPRC work when lightning is detected within a 10-mile radius.</li> </ol>

**NOTE:** *Where essential CHPRC work activities cannot be suspended (e.g., critical operations and emergency response), CHPRC management will develop and implement appropriate administrative and engineering controls to protect employees from lightning hazards.*

- OBTAIN confirmation from HMS or NWS-PDT that lightning hazards are no longer detected within the applicable radius (e.g., 10-mile, 50-mile) of the Hanford Site prior to recommencement of affected work activities.

**NOTE:** *USE caution when declaring a return to work following a weather-related work stoppage.*

- CONSULT with Safety, and others as appropriate, to assure the hazards have been abated.

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### 3.2 Wind Conditions

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
Management	1.	<p>ENSURE worksite hazard analysis is performed and safe work measures are established and implemented when windy conditions are reported or detected either by the HMS, NWS-PDT, or onsite wind monitoring instrument, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. CONTROL radiological material/activities in windy conditions in accordance with facility or project specific requirements.</li> <li>b. CONSULT with an occupational safety professional for assistance when sustained winds exceed 15 mph. Crane and aerial device (lift) operation shall be analyzed for hazard potential and safe continuation.</li> <li>c. DO NOT USE personnel platforms when sustained winds exceed 20 mph.</li> <li>d. MAINTAIN work sites in a safe status when wind conditions (sustained or gusts) reach 25 mph, by securing and anchoring loose or lightweight materials and objects, debris, tools, and equipment.</li> <li>e. CURTAIL work on roofs and elevated surfaces (e.g. scaffolds, ladders) <u>AND</u> LIMIT work to those activities specifically evaluated for continuing safe operation and approved by the Project Vice-President.</li> <li>f. SECURE equipment <u>AND</u> SUSPEND operations of crane and other material lifting/hoisting equipment when sustained winds meet or exceed 25 mph and /or gusts meet or exceed 35 mph.</li> <li>g. Continuation of operation will be DETERMINED by a qualified person following a completed analysis of the hazard (to include parallel and side wind impacts).</li> </ol> <p>2. CONTACT the responsible industrial safety and health representative for specific actions (e.g., PPE requirements) and recommendations based on locations, work performed, and expected job duration, when cloud dust conditions are visible.</p>
All Employees	3.	<p>WEAR appropriate eye protection for sustained wind speeds exceeding 20 mph, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Personnel performing work outdoors are REQUIRED to wear safety goggles.</li> <li>b. Personnel transitioning from one work location to another work location, or traveling between buildings, are RECOMMENDED to wear safety goggles.</li> </ol>

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### 3.3 Snow/Ice Safety

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
Management	1.	<p>ENSURE safe work measures are established and implemented when hazardous snow/ice conditions are reported or detected, either by the HMS, the Hanford Patrol, or CHPRC Management. At a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Snow and icy conditions will be monitored by CHPRC Management, the HMS, and the Hanford Patrol.</li> <li>b. Conditions and precautions to be taken by employees will be communicated using established employee notification and communications processes and procedures.</li> <li>c. COMMUNICATE to all CHPRC and CHPRC contractor employees, as/when appropriate, the content of the Snow Removal Plan for the Hanford Site. This Plan, developed and maintained by Transportation Services, addresses snow removal from CHPRC maintained roads, parking lots, and walkways, and includes emergency points of contact.</li> </ul>
All Employees		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. STAY on cleared paths or walkways, where available.</li> <li>e. REPORT to supervisor/manager any areas of concern that appear to pose a weather-related hazard (e.g., slippery, uneven, etc.).</li> </ul>

### 3.4 Torrential Rain and Hail Safety

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
Management	1.	EVALUATE and MINIMIZE operation of government vehicles and equipment during periods of torrential rains and hail storms, where possible.

### 3.5 Early Release Due to Adverse Weather

<i>Actionee</i>	<i>Step</i>	<i>Action</i>
Management	1.	IMPLEMENT PRC-PRO-EM-8951, <i>Early Release for Localized Extraordinary Conditions</i> , when early release required due to localized extraordinary conditions such as high winds, snow/ice, or other conditions that could potentially affect the health and safety of personnel or preclude personnel from safely occupying a facility, building, or groups of buildings.

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**4.0 FORMS**

None

**5.0 RECORD IDENTIFICATION**

None

**6.0 SOURCES**

**6.1 Requirements**

ASME B30.23, *Personnel Lifting Systems*

**6.2 References**

DOE RL 92-36, *Hanford Hoisting and Rigging Manual Snow Removal Plan for the Hanford Site*

PRC-PRO-EM-8951, *Early Release for Localized Extraordinary Conditions*