

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 11-24 Date: March 19th, 2024

Effective Communication While Working

This safety alert did not involve any GIS personnel or any team members of affiliated companies.

Recently, during a routine boiler feed water test for a furnace, people working on maintenance were preparing to conduct activities for a pre-hydro test. During discussions around the pre-hydro tests, the workers discussed opening up one of the test boundary blinds while working. While there was a verbal agreement about this, this agreement was never documented within the permit being used. This, in turn, caused work on the furnace to be immediately halted whenever coordinators on the work noticed that the blinds were open — unaware that the opening was agreed upon by the workers.

While this incident did not result in any major injuries, this scenario highlights the importance of effective communication between everyone working on something. If there is not proper communication between workers, then that increases the risk of incidents occurring in the workplace. With this in mind, it is always important to discuss the important details about a job to everyone involved so that the chances of an incident occurring lowers as much as possible.



Report all incidents immediately to the GIS Hotline 1-855-543-5163.