



HEALTH, SAFETY,
& ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 15-26

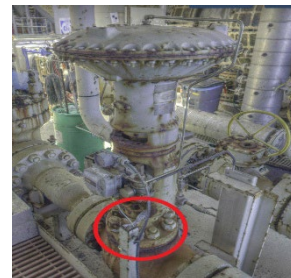
Date: March 13, 2026

Near Miss: Gas Detected During UHP Blasting Operations

A recent near miss occurred involving the NuWave Division while crew members were performing Ultra High Pressure (UHP) Blasting for surface preparation. During the operation, a crew member observed bubbles coming from the stem packing of a control valve, indicating a potential leak.

Demonstrating strong situational awareness, he immediately exercised Stop Work Authority and retrieved a gas detector. As he approached the valve, the detector alarmed, confirming the presence of gas.

The crew member quickly notified his Supervisor, and all personnel evacuated the area. The Customer Representative was informed, and responding personnel confirmed an active gas leak. UHP blasting was suspended pending repair or replacement of the valve. The Incident was reported to the GIS Hotline, documented in an incident report, and the near miss was captured in SMP 2.0.



What Went Right:

✓ **Excellent Situational Awareness**

A crew member noticed an abnormal condition (bubbling at stem packing) and took immediate action.

✓ **Proper Use of Stop Work Authority**

The employee confidently and correctly initiated Stop Work, preventing escalation.

✓ **Correct Use of Gas Detection Equipment**

Verification with a gas detector allowed confirmation of the hazard before anyone was put at additional risk.

✓ **Prompt Communication and Notification**

The Supervisor, crew, and Customer Representative were notified immediately, ensuring coordinated response.

✓ **Effective Emergency Response**

Evacuation was executed quickly and calmly. Responding personnel confirmed the leak and secured the area.

✓ **Timely Reporting and Documentation**

The incident was properly escalated through the GIS Hotline, documented, and captured in SMP 2.0, supporting organizational learning.

Key Takeaways:

- **Trust your observations.** Small signs may indicate major hazards.
- **Stop Work Authority should be used confidently.** It protects lives, equipment and the environment.
- **Clear communication saves time and prevents injury.** Early notification ensures a faster, more effective response.
- **Near misses are learning opportunities.** Reporting them helps prevent future incidents and strengthens safety culture.
- **Looking, Intervening, Facilitating, and Eliminating (LIFE).** This is a perfect example.

Proper use of the **GIS LIFE Processes** can help to create a **FAIL-SAFE** Work Environment.



SAFETY ALERT