

# SAFETY TAILGATE MEETING

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Company		San Joaquin Valley Homes: Construction			Project	Sar	San Rio		
Date	Jun	e 09, 2021	Time	11:50 AM		Cond	ductor	Steve Upchurch	

# **BENZENE AWARENESS**

#### INTRODUCTION

Workers at jobs using chemicals may have been exposed to Benzene, which was banned as solvent since the early 1980's. Unfortunately, millions of workers may still be exposed to this dangerous chemical.

In this meeting, we will discuss:

- (1) WHAT BENZENE IS
- (2) BENZENE HAZARDS

# (3) HOW TO PROTECT OURSELVES

#### WHAT BENZENE IS

Benzene is a component of products derived from coal and petroleum and is found in gasoline and other fuels. Benzene is used in the manufacture of plastics, detergents, pesticides, and other chemicals.

Workers at the most risk include:

- Industrial plant workers who use solvents
- Painters
- Gasoline Workers
- Oil Refinery Workers
- Chemical Lab workers
- People in the rubber industry
- Pesticide manufacturing
- Adhesive production

## **BENZENE HAZARDS**

**INHALATION:** Can irritate the nose or throat, cause headache, nausea, dizziness confusion, or unconsciousness.

**SKIN CONTACT:** Can cause skin irritation, pain, redness, swelling.

**EYE CONTACT:** It is an irritant than can cause sore, red eyes and tearing.

**INGESTION:** Can be drawn into the lungs, cause severe harm and death.

**Cancer Causing:** With exposures from less than five years to more than 30 years, individuals have developed, and died from, leukemia. Long-term exposure may affect bone marrow and blood production.

**FLAMMABLE:** It is highly flammable and must be worked with and stored safely.

### **HOW TO PROTECT OURSELVES**

- Know if you are working with any chemicals or other products that contain it.
- 2. Determine if the exposure is above OSHA's acceptable level and implement medical surveillance if required.
- Use stringent control measures to prevent the release of the material due to equipment failure. Use non-sparking ventilation and approved explosion proof equipment and safe electrical systems where the chemical is being used.
- Utilize PPE including eye, face, skin and respiratory protection.

Attendees Names Attendees Signatures

Joe Kellerhals

Steve Upchurch N/A

# **CONDUCTOR SIGNATURE**



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