



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (Bulkley Valley)

SECTION 10.2

WORKPLACE MONITORING

SAMPLE



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WORKPLACE MONITORING

Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 5.53 requires a “walkthrough survey” to assess the potential for overexposure taking into account all routes of exposure, including inhalation, ingestion and skin contact.

5.53 Workplace monitoring

(1) If a worker is or may be exposed to a hazardous substance, the employer must ensure that

(a) a walkthrough survey is conducted to assess the potential for overexposure taking into account all routes of exposure, including inhalation, ingestion, and skin contact, and

(b) reassessment is conducted when there is a change in work conditions which may increase the exposure, such as a change in production rate, process or equipment.

(2) If the walkthrough survey required by subsection (1) reveals that a worker may be at risk of overexposure to an airborne contaminant, the employer must ensure that air sampling is conducted to assess the potential for overexposure.

(3) Additional workplace monitoring to reliably determine worker exposure is required if

(a) the assessment under subsection (2) reveals that a worker may be exposed to an air contaminant in excess of 50% of its exposure limit, or

(b) measurement is not possible at 50% of the applicable exposure limit.

(4) Workplace exposure monitoring and assessment must be conducted using occupational hygiene methods acceptable to the board.

(5) The results of workplace exposure monitoring and assessment, or a summary of the results, must be provided to workers at their request without undue delay.

In order to comply with section 5.53 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation School District No. 23 Central Okanagan retained Byrne & Associates to conduct a walkthrough survey.

During the week of June 17 – 21, 2002 Patrick Byrne Msc., CIH, ROH of Byrne & Associates conducted a walkthrough survey in the following areas at Operations:

- The bus and vehicle repair shops
- The welding shop
- The painting shop
- The woodworking shop
- Misc. shops, including electrical, HVAC & Plumbing
- The administration building/storage facilities
- The Operations yard



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A further survey was conducted at the following representative elementary, middle and secondary schools:

- Rutland Senior Secondary
- Dr. Knox Middle School
- Pearson Elementary

These schools were chosen as representative of similar schools based on the assumption that the school curriculum, programs and facilities are relatively uniform throughout the school district.

At each school maintenance and custodial facilities were surveyed. As were, science labs, chemical storage/prep areas, woodworking shops, metal working shops, vehicle/motor repair shops, art rooms & painting rooms.

The vast majority of processes that generated contaminants were equipped with local exhaust ventilation. Only sand blasting and spray painting (in a spray booth) were identified as areas requiring respiratory protection. Some processes were not equipped with local exhaust ventilation, however, their use was very infrequent and in my opinion would unlikely overexpose workers.

The sand blast operators and the spray painters wear appropriate respirators, eye protection & gloves to protect them against exposure and no air monitoring is required.

I could not identify any areas within Operations or the schools that would require air monitoring or further investigation to control workplace exposure to contaminants.

Patrick L. Byrne Msc., CIH, ROH
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