

10 Things to Do When You Visit a Power Generation Facility

Power generation operations are full of hazards that range from routine to rare. An organized, systematic method of exposure and risk assessment is key to controlling these hazards through an industrial hygiene program. Many industrial hygienists are asked to conduct initial qualitative exposure assessments at plants they've never visited. If you find yourself in that position, keep these 10 safety musts in mind.

1

Participate in visitor safety briefings.

These may include a review of emergency procedures and site-specific hazard areas.



2

Wear proper arc-rated clothing.

Could you be exposed to an arc flash of 2 cal/cm² or greater in incident energy? Stay protected.



3

Properly wear NFPA 2112 clothing.

Combustible dust is present at coal-fired generation plants and presents a flash fire hazard.



4

Leave unrated equipment behind.

Items such as cell phones and cameras are not rated for Class 1 or Class 2 hazardous locations.



5

Wear a hard-hat-mounted light.

This will help you avoid dangers in the event of a power outage and backup power failure.



6

Use fall protection equipment.

Wear the appropriate PPE for your environment and follow fall protection best practices.



7

Use respiratory protection equipment.

In proximity to respiratory hazards, you will need to wear respiratory protection.



8

Wear appropriate eye protection.

When monitoring hot work activities or other eye hazards, proper eye protection is a must.



9

Obey warning signage and barriers.

Watch for indicators of active lead or asbestos, scaffolding, radiofrequency radiation and more.



10

Maintain situational awareness.

Be alert to potential crush hazards, such as remote-controlled locomotives and conveyor belts.



Learn More

Want to better understand the industrial hygiene essentials you need on the job? Connect with peers who are facing similar challenges and work together to find solutions in our SafetyFOCUS Event Series.

<http://assp.us/SafetyFOCUS-Events>



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