

NOMINATION FORM



H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM

AGENCY: Helix Water District

ERGO-LPP

Employee Nominated:

Name: Mike Maynard

Job Classification: System Operator II

Reason for Nomination: Helix Water District's (HWD) Fletcher Hills Combined Tank stands approx. 135 feet tall. Shared with Padre Dam Municipal Water District, HWD's water is stored in the upper portion of this divided tank. Routine maintenance and inspection requires HWD to gain access to the inside of the tank using a side hatch. To facilitate entry, a ladder must be set up on the tank landing in order to remove the hatch plate and climb into the tank. When a ladder is set up in this location, the person accessing the ladder is no longer protected by the existing guardrail. The tank landing and access hatch are approximately 100 feet from the ground below. A fall from this height would be fatal.

Recognizing the potential fall hazard, we originally met with an engineering firm to discuss modifications to the existing guardrail system. We were unable to find a safe, cost effective approach due to problems with weight, fabrication, etc. Mike came up with the idea for a portable guardrail/platform that easily moves into place when access is needed. He completed the design which includes: casters for easily rolling the platform into position; stairs with a rise and run that meet standard stairwell dimensions for easy climbing; a handrail on the stairs; and support braces which attach to the existing guardrail to prevent the platform from moving or tipping when in use. When not in use, the support braces are easily removed and the guardrail/platform are moved out of the way. Mike sought feedback from the District's end users to ensure all operational needs were met in the design.

In addition to creating the design specifications, Mike facilitated the fabrication. He worked with the fabricator on the selection of materials and final on-site adjustments to make sure the entire work area was protected. To eliminate hot work concerns, Mike ensured the majority of the fabrication was completed off site.

We commend Mike for coming up with this creative solution to a rather large and problematic safety hazard. Please see attached photos.

Nominated by: Susen Doubrava, Safety/Risk Administrator

Signature: _____

Date: 8-26-14

Reviewed by: Kevin Miller, System Operations Supervisor

Signature: _____

Date: 8/26/14

General Manager: Carlos V. Lugo

Signature: _____

Date: 8/26/14

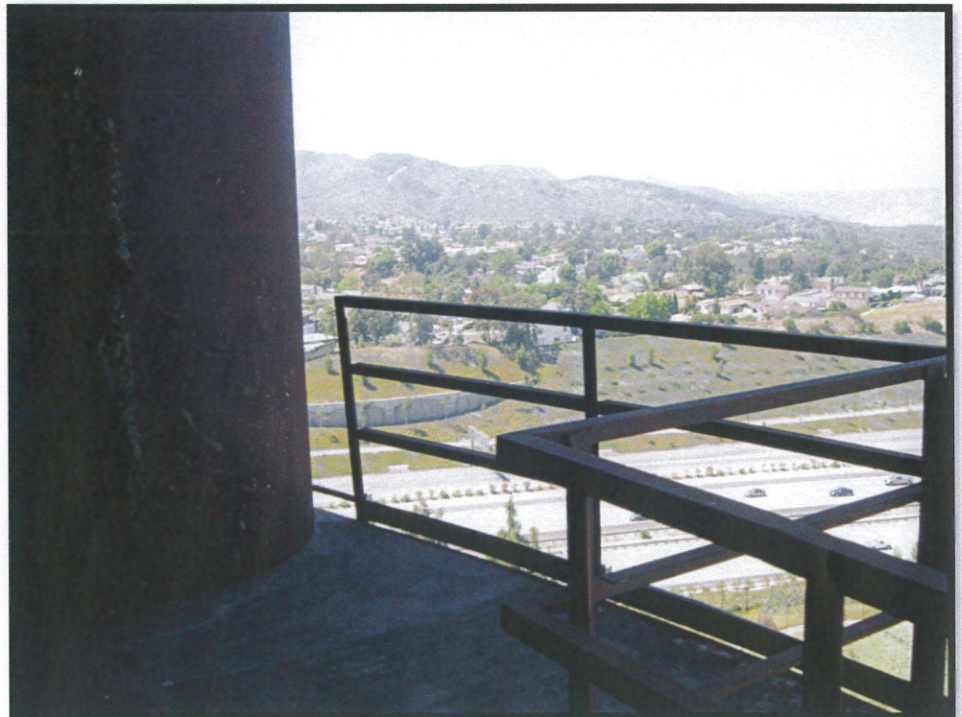
Please attach supporting documents and/or digital photos and E-mail to: tlofing@acwajpia.com

MIKE MAYNARD - HELIX WATER DISTRICT
GUARDRAIL EXTENSION/PLATFORM



Tank landing with guardrail - approx. 100 feet up

Landing with existing 42" guardrail

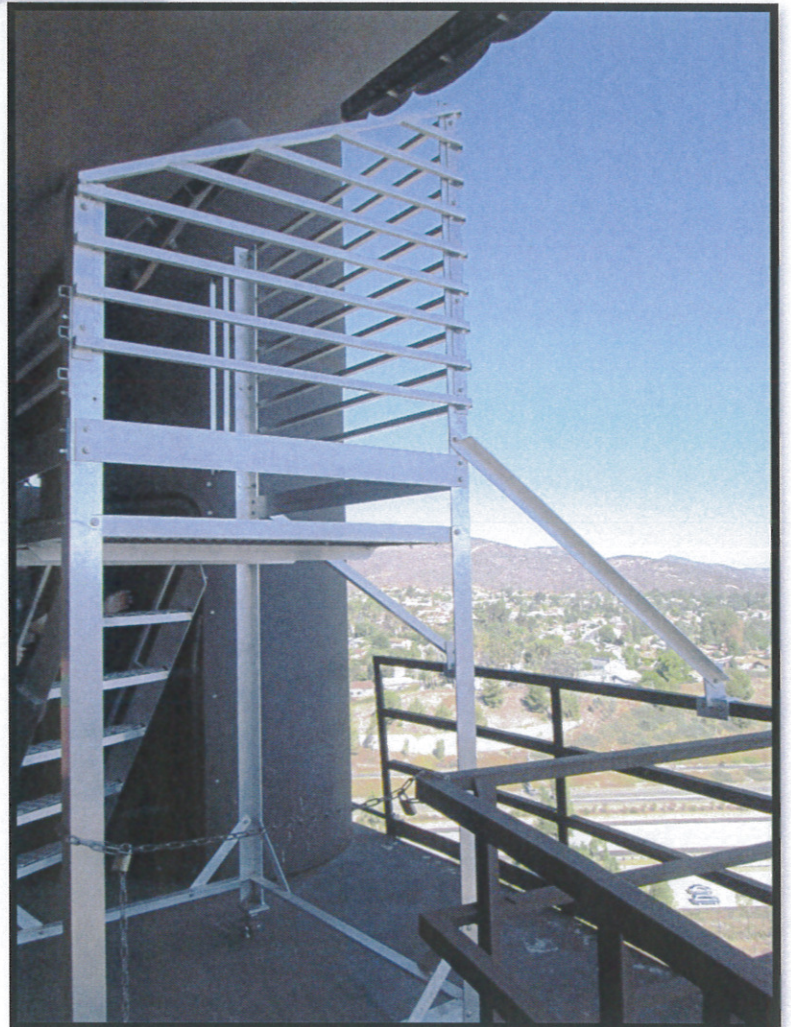


**MIKE MAYNARD - HELIX WATER DISTRICT
GUARDRAIL EXTENSION/PLATFORM**

Tank access hatch



**New guardrail system in place.
Hatch is now fully protected.**



**MIKE MAYNARD - HELIX WATER DISTRICT
GUARDRAIL EXTENSION/PLATFORM**



Rise and run of stairs meets OSHA standards. Work platform wide enough to set tools, etc.



**MIKE MAYNARD - HELIX WATER DISTRICT
GUARDRAIL EXTENSION/PLATFORM**



**Casters allow platform to be
moved and stowed out of the way**

From: [Peter Kuchinsky](#)
To: [Lee Patton](#)
Cc: [John Haaf](#); [Terry Lofing](#)
Subject: RE: HR LaBounty Safety Award - Helix WD Submission #18
Date: Monday, September 15, 2014 5:59:48 PM

They ride an elevator up to the 100 foot level. Lots of fun. Inside the column.

PK2

From: Lee Patton
Sent: Sunday, September 14, 2014 1:31 PM
To: Peter Kuchinsky
Cc: John Haaf; Terry Lofing
Subject: HR LaBounty Safety Award - Helix WD Submission #18

Peter:

The platform looks good. What about the ladder, does it have fall arrest system? They say it goes 100 feet off the ground. It does not appear that there is a safety climb system installed.

Lee S. Patton, CSP, CPDM, CEAS I
Senior Risk Management Consultant
ACWA/JPIA
(818) 414-7382