



H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

Nomination Deadlines:

Spring Awards: February 1, 2023

Fall Awards: September 1, 2023

Agency: OCWD

Project/Initiative Title: Green Acres

Implementation Date: 5/26/2023

Cost to Implement: \$100

Staff Time Required: 1 hour

Number of Employees/Facilities Impacted: 4

Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:

Name(s): James Haydock

Job Title/Department: Senior Distribution Technician / Barrier operations

Nomination Summary

Write a brief summary of your project/initiative. Clearly state the problem/hazard recognized by the nominee and the specific reasons that they initiated corrective action.

Yearly staff exercise the Green Acres valve. When operating a Blowoff valve to clear the debris a near miss occurred. The setup is assembled with a snorkel to direct the water flow away from traffic and pedestrians. It is made of two-inch pipe and fire hose fittings so that vegetation can be protected from the flow of water with a length of fire hose. The valve is opened to allow flow through the snorkel to clear debris from the pipeline. The incident occurred because water did not flow as it normally does. This was due to a clog in the outlet piping. When the employee opened the valve further, the clog suddenly broke free causing the snorkel to break off the top of the riser and shoot approximately 50 feet into the air and 25 feet away from the riser landing only 6 feet away from the technician. The snorkel weighs approximately 20 pounds!

Describe the specific actions taken to resolve the problem(s) or challenge(s). Share the best practices that made this initiative successful for the agency and its impact.

The recommendations from the near miss is two folds: First the SOP will include to only open the valve one or two turns. Second, to add a whip check restraint on the snorkel. The restraint will be used to stop the snorkel from flying off in the event of a failure of the fittings. If the snorkel breaks it will move opposite of the water discharge and away from the operator.

State whether the hazard was reduced with engineering controls, introduced a new administrative or work procedure, or relied on personal protective equipment to solve the problem.

The hazard was reduced as a result of implementing engineering controls and administrative controls.

Describe any extraordinary circumstances that made this nominee's safety accomplishments significant. Describe whether the nominee influenced safety in the workplace, encouraged employee participation in safety efforts, obtained organizational "buy in" to implement the solution.

James took the time to report the near miss and he always stops to correct any unsafe conditions. He is very safety conscious and communicates the hazard and provides recommendations to prevent others from getting hurt. He also takes the time to pass on the information to his supervisor and co-workers.

Describe whether the project/initiative addressed a hazard or exposure included in the JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program.

- Office/Field Ergonomics
- Vehicle Operations
- Slip/trip/falls – falls from heights
- Emergency Readiness/Wildfire Prevention
- Other: Pressurized water pipelines

List and attach any supporting materials that you feel are important for the reviewers to gain a complete picture of the nomination. Digital photos, supporting documentation, sample forms, etc.

See picture below

Nominated by: Paula Bouyounes

Date: 7/331/2023

General Manager:

Date: 6/27/23

Please email this form with supporting documents and digital photos (jpg) to tlofinq@acwaipia.com.



photo of the new restraining system in operation