

# **FATALITY ALERT**

On Friday May 5, 2017, two employees (father and son) were spraying noxious weeds at the Crossbow 20-06H lease in Campbell County, WY. Two all-terrain vehicles mounted with a rear sprayer and a front, hose reel sprayer were being utilized. The company was contracted to spray approximately 100 well sites associated with a well lease.

On the day of the incident, the victim and his father left their shop in Douglas, WY at around 5:00 a.m. They arrived on location at approximately 6:00 a.m. and began spraying until about 10:00 a.m. The victim's father was spraying around a tank battery at a well location. The victim was spraying reclamation land nearby. When the father was done spraying, he went to check on his son to see where he was and how far along he was from completing his task. The father began to walk on the dirt road towards where his son was to be working and got to a point where he could see the son's all-terrain vehicle tipped over at the bottom of the road. The father did not see his son at first but eventually realized that the vehicle's wheels were laying on his son. The father lifted the vehicle off his son and called 911. The son died at the scene.

## **Significant Factors**

- The employee did not receive formal training on the all-terrain vehicle prior to using it.
- The employee was operating the all-terrain vehicle on an incline (side of a hill).

## **Recommendations**

- Brief all employees about the fatality.
- Train all employees on how to operate all-terrain vehicles prior to use.
- Develop and implement a training program on the use and operation of all-terrain vehicles.
- Assess the workplace to determine if personal protective equipment is required and verify that it has been conducted through a written certification.
- Establish and maintain a written hazard communication program.
- Maintain safety data sheets for all chemicals.
- Use adequate head protection when operating all-terrain vehicles.
- Provide employees with the information found in Appendix D of the respiratory protection section.