

FATAL ALERT

On October 31, 2018, an employee on an injection well site entered a structure, housing a knockout pot that was adjoined to the side of the heater treater unit. Upon entering, there was an explosion and a subsequent fire. Two other employees were on site with the employee and had previously spoken to him before the explosion took place. They were not injured. His body was recovered from the scene near the original explosion location.

Significant Factors

- Hazardous or abnormal levels of any gas were not indicated prior to this incident.
- It is undetermined what the ignition source that caused the explosion was.

Recommendations

- Develop and implement a thorough and comprehensive training program for all employees.
- Work with outside entities and Oil & Gas partners to help develop new policy and procedure.
- Complete a review of policy and procedures of this site and look at new technologies for detecting hazardous vapors and ignition sources and ensure employees follow these policies and procedures.