

Electric Utility Safety Advisory Committee (EUSAC) Minutes
August 10th 2021
9:30 a.m.
IBEW 77 Hall
19415 International Blvd.
SeaTac, WA 98188-5308

The EUSAC is an advisory committee consisting of IBEW and employer representatives from Washington utilities and utility contractors and the Washington Department of Labor & Industries (L&I). The mission of the EUSAC is to promote the safety and health of the electrical worker and the public through communication, with consensus recommendations made to L&I.

Chair: Charles Campy, Local 77
Recording Secretary: Travis Englehart

1. Self-Introductions

Self-introductions were not conducted as the meeting was held via web and phone.

2. Old Business

a. L&I Website:

i. Travis Englehart shared there is no new information at this time.

b. WAC 296-45 Reprint:

i. Rod Julian shared that existing copies still need to be exhausted before books can be reprinted. He estimates there about 1,200 copies remaining.

c. Wildfire Smoke Rulemaking:

i. Discussed the final emergency rule that has been enacted. L&I has created a video that can be useful in employee training.

d. Crane Rulemaking:

i. Teri Neely shared that another stakeholder meeting is forthcoming. Some participants have requested changes to the meeting format, and L&I is working on that.

ii. A new notice of rulemaking was filed in July, merging several previous projects. L&I has requested an extension from OSHA, and hopes to adopt the final rule in the spring of 2022.

3. New Business

a. Items from L&I:

i. Dick Maxwell shared that Fred Naught, high voltage consultant, has retired and that Mark McDoniel has left L&I. Rod Julian shared that he is working hard to ensure that the high voltage consultant position is filled, and that there is currently a compliance position open in Tumwater.

b. Items from the IBEW:

- i. Byron Allen asked whether L&I will be providing guidance regarding the Governor's recent mask mandate for state employees and contractors. Rod Julian shared L&I is waiting for more detail on exactly how the mandate will be administered.

c. Items from Employers:

- i. None

4. Accidents / Near-Misses

- a. Jake at IBEW 125 shared information about a possible electrical contact in Eastern WA. Sounds like the employee will make a full recovery. IBEW and L&I will be investigating. Travis Englehart added that the injury has so far been diagnosed as a thermal burn with no electrical contact, and Jason Pimental added that the injured employee is going to Harborview for further evaluation.
 - i. Clint Sharp shared that Avista has specialized first aid kits employees are required to take to provider in an electrical contact.
- b. Jim Boyd shared an incident where workers experienced a flash when opening cutouts in response to a secondary fire. Good reminder on when to use loadbreak tools.

5. Other Items of Interest Relevant to EUSAC

- a. Intent is to hold an in-person meeting in November with a virtual option. Jason Pimental moved that the group vote on whether to have a hybrid November meeting. Byron Allen seconded, and the motion passed.
- b. The group reviewed and made updates to the list of voting members.
- c. Jim Boyd shared that the Governor's Conference and pole top rescue competition are moving forward as planned, barring any COVID-related changes.
- d. Steve Cant moved that the EUSAC adopt a resolution and send a letter conveying the importance of the high voltage consultant position and encouraging L&I to fill the position as quickly as possible. Jim Boyd seconded the motion, and the resolution passed. Chuck Campy and Travis Englehart will draft the letter.
- e. 2021 EUSAC meetings will be held on the following dates:
 - i. November 16 (in-person and via Microsoft Teams)