Memorandum of Understanding
Among
the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the United States Coast Guard and the United States Environmental Protection Agency

Guidance for Workers Protection During Hazardous Waste Site Investigations and Clean up and Hazardous Substance Emergencies

1. Purpose:
The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), is to provide guidance for the protection of workers who investigate and clean up hazardous waste sites and respond to hazardous substance emergencies.

2. Authority:
The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) are entering into this understanding pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, sections 20 (a) and 7 (c) (1) (29 USC 651, et. seq.) respectively, including Executive Order #12196; the United States Coast Guard (USCG) is entering into this understanding pursuant to the authority of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1251 et. seq.) the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is entering into this understanding pursuant to the authority of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1251 et. seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Amendments of 1980 (42 USC 7001). In addition, NIOSH, OSHA, USCG, and the USEPA are entering into this understanding in order to carry out their joint responsibilities under the "comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and liability Act of 1980" (P.L. 96-510).

3. Interagency Coordination:
The following representatives will be responsible for the coordination and implementation of activities for their respective agencies:
- The director of the Division of Criteria Documentation and Standards Development (NIOSH);
- the Director of the Directorate of Technical Support (OSHA);
- the Chief, Environmental Response Division (USCG Headquarters);
- the Director of the Office of Occupational Health and Safety (USEPA). NIOSH is assigned the lead agency role.
4. **Objectives:**
   The interagency objectives are: a) to develop and write a comprehensive guidance manual that will establish procedures to protect workers involved in hazardous waste site investigations and clean up and during response to emergencies involving hazardous substances; b) to identify and establish mechanisms for transmitting occupational health and safety information to workers and those responsible for their protection; c) to identify and establish mechanisms for transmitting relevant field experience concerning occupational health and safety practices to Federal agencies. NIOSH will accomplish the objectives of this effort with the support, cooperation, and assistance of OSHA, USCG and USEPA under a procedure to be incorporated in the work plan.

5. **Implementation:**
   This understanding establishes an Interagency Work Group consisting of at least one representative from each office identified in section 3. The Work Group will develop a work plan to implement the objectives listed above; individual tasks and any necessary resource requirements will be described in sub-agreements under this MOU. The final product(s) of designated tasks will be subject to the review of NIOSH, OSHA, USCG, and USEPA.

6. **Period of Agreement:**
   This memorandum shall continue in effect until the completion of the stated objectives, unless modified or amended by the assent of all parties or terminated by any party upon a 30-day advance written notice to the other parties.
Nothing in this agreement is intended to diminish or otherwise affect the statutory authority of the agencies involved. This Memorandum will become effective on the date of the last signature below.

DEC 18 1980

/s/ Anthony Robins M.D.                          Date
    Director
    National Institute for Occupational Safety Health

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/s/ Eula Bingham                        Date
    Assistant Secretary of Labor
    Occupational Safety and Health Administration

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/s/ W.E. Calwell                        Date
    Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard
    Chief, Office of Marine Environmental and Systems
    acting

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/s/ Douglas M. Costle                    Date
    Administrator
    United States Environmental Protection Agency