



TO: Business Board

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AGENDA ITEM: 7

ITEM IDENTIFICATION: Health and Safety Requirements – Quarterly Report on Compliance

Professor Hildyard has undertaken to provide the Business Board with quarterly statements with respect to the University's compliance with legal requirements in the area of Health and Safety. This is the third quarterly statement for 2009.

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Business Board is responsible for monitoring health and safety compliance. This report is an information update since our last report.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

Outlined above.

STATEMENT:

1. Ontario Ministry of Labour (MOL) Orders

The Ministry of Labour made one visit (since the last report) in response to a critical injury to a contractor who was collecting recycled material. The University did not receive any orders from the Ministry of Labour at that time.

This incident prompted follow up actions from the Office of Environmental Health and Safety to strengthen program elements which impact contractors, including a dock safety program, and a supervisor due diligence on-line training program which may now be viewed by all University employees. The contractor safety program has been revised, and EHS will be providing training to the Capital Projects and Property Management groups in Facilities and Services in early January.

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2. Regulatory Audits

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) has done one audit since the last report. The focus of this audit was on the security of irradiators in the Comparative Medicine and Chemical Engineering departments. I am pleased to report that the University will not require expensive retrofits to fulfill the upgraded CNSC requirements. The minor recommendations made by the CNSC will be adopted.

3. Federal Regulatory Activity - Biosafety

Regulations written under Bill C-11, a Federal bill concerning the safety and security of human pathogens and toxins, are expected in early 2010. The Public Health Agency of Canada will require the University to report specific activities involving biological substances.

Environment Canada (under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act) published a notice in the Canadian Gazette in October warning individuals working with biological materials that Environment Canada will expect information on the use of biological materials in 2010.

Summary

In summary, based on the reports I have received through the operation of our occupational health and safety policy, and except with reference to the items described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, to the best of my knowledge the University is in compliance with its health and safety obligations.

