Work force fatalities

Scope: All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors

Ref: NRX19-06

Date: 04/07/2019

Location: Port Talbot, Wales

Contact: David Burgess, Principle Workforce Safety Specialist

Overview

Along side the important work of the RAIB and agencies like BTP Network Rail has appointed an investigator who has started to gather the facts of this terrible tragedy. The investigation will be extremely thorough in order to learn from the accident and prevent it happening again. Industry partners including Trade Unions will be included in the investigation team.

Nothing is more important than Everyone Home Safe Everyday and we must help each other to make this a reality.

The investigation is at a very early stage and at this point in time it would be entirely wrong to speculate on the causes of this terrible accident. So until more is understood about the accident the most important thing we can do is to carefully consider the work we are doing, ensuring that we challenge where there is any concern or doubt about the safe system of work we are adopting.

Please make sure, especially before going lineside, that your work is well planned considering the risks involved with the work and that you work to the plan. Our rulebook and our standards are designed to keep us safe. If in doubt, stop work and ask the question! Everyone has the right to invoke the Worksafe procedure.

Our thoughts are with those involved and their families and their colleagues. We would encourage you to discuss the impact it has had on you and your teams and remember the tragic event will affect people in different ways. Please remember Validium (0800 358 4858), the employee support service, is available 24 hours a day. Local support will also be provided where required.

Questions to ask

- Has your work been well planned?
- Have the risks been assessed and acted upon?
- Have you confirmed everyone understands the plan?
- How do you protect yourself, your team and those around you?
- How do your actions make sure Everyone goes Home Safe Every Day?