

Public health strategies to prevent work-related injuries and illnesses in oil and gas extraction

**A Western States Occupational Network (WestON) Symposium
June 26, 2015
Cheyenne, WY**

Sponsored by:

- Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
- CDC/NIOSH Western States Division
- Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center



Bob warms up the crowd

Wyoming DWS
• Meredith Towle



Wyoming

Thank you planners!

CSTE	NIOSH WSD
• Amy Patel	• Yvonne Boudreau
California DPH	• Kyla Retzer
• Bob Harrison	• Liz Dalsey
MAP-ERC	• Sophie Ridl
• Jana Gurkin	Nebraska DPH
	• Tracy Miller

LITTLE AMERICA

Background

- Had “carry-over” funds from previous WestON meetings
- Worked with NIOSH OEP to identify and agree on OGE as an important western issue



A full day: 8am-5pm

Public health strategies to prevent work-related injuries and illnesses in oil and gas extraction (OGE)

Western States Occupational Network (WestON) Symposium
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE)
CDC/NIOSH Western States Division
Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center

June 26, 2015
Little America Hotel, Cheyenne, WY

7:30 am Registration

8:00 am Welcome/meeting objectives
Robert Harrison, California Department of Public Health/CSTE
Lee Newman, Director, Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center

8:15 am Introductions – All Attendees
Moderator – Meredith Towle, Wyoming Department of Workforce Services

8:45 am The big picture: People, places and processes in OGE
Moderator – Tracy Miller, North Dakota Department of Health

The ABCs of energy extraction
JD Danni, Oil and Gas Specialist, Federal OSHA Region 8

Demographics and data: What do we know?
Kyla Retzer, CDC-NIOSH Western States Division

10:00 am Break

10:15 am Health hazards and outcomes: Is there a problem?
Moderator – Yvonne Boudreau, CDC-NIOSH Western States Division

What we can (and can't) see can hurt us: Silica, VOCs and benzene
Eric Esswein, CDC-NIOSH Western States Division

Medical surveillance and health outcomes
Michael Kosnett, University of Colorado

11:30 am Lunch (on your own)

1:00 pm Collaborations: The carrot, the stick, and more
Moderator – Liz Dalsey, CDC-NIOSH Western States Division

State oil and gas partnerships that can work
Nathan Nordin, Wyoming Oil and Gas Industry Safety Alliance

OSHA Enforcement and Cooperative Programs
Herb Gibson – Area Director, Denver Area Office, Federal OSHA

An examination of workers' compensation claims data for the Colorado oil and gas industry
Maggie Cook-Shimanek – Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center

~40 Attendees

CA, CO, NC, ND, NM,
SD, WY

State, NIOSH, OSHA,
Academic

Industry, Coroner, Public
Radio, Legislature

Meeting in tandem



Wyoming Workforce Safety & Development Summit

June 24-25, 2015

~300 participants

Prominent oil & gas industry
participation

Challenges identified

- **High risk jobs** with high fatality rates
- **Responsible party:** multi-employer worksites, subcontractors, small employers, independent contractors
- **Dynamic workforce** – tough to reach/track/influence; transient

Challenges continued

- **Completeness of data collection**
- **Employment peaks and valleys**
- **Latency periods for cancer, lung diseases**



J.D schools us on the ABC's



Lee pays attention

Successes in recent years

- **Decline in fatality rates** over 10yrs
- Creation of multiple **partnerships**
- Improved **tracking** systems & efforts
- More **topic specific** reporting
- Development of **engineering controls**

Successes continued

- **Characterizing** silica, benzene and VOC exposures
- **Targeted** consultation & compliance
- **Industry models** of safety protection and promotion



Eric reminds us of the BIG “S” and little “h”

Research gaps and next steps

- **Theme # 1 - Data & Reporting**

- Improve data collection and tracking
- Promote existing prevention opportunities
- Identify methods for health and chronic disease studies
- Enhance field research: exposure assessment and intervention evaluation



Kyla FOG'ing our minds with fatality data

Research gaps and next steps

- **Theme # 2 - Intervention**
 - Develop, distribute and evaluate worker and employer training materials
 - Disseminate best practices and engineering controls to reduce exposures
 - Improve coroner and medical examiner protocols and health care provider recognition of work-relatedness

Follow-up

- **Presentations Posted: CSTE Webinar Library**
 - www.cste.org/?page=WebinarLibrary
- **Evaluation summary...coming soon**
- **CSTE Oil & Gas Workgroup...coming soon**
 - Env. & Occ. Collaboration
 - 21 people signed-up
- **New connections abound!**



The screenshot shows the CSTE (Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists) website. The header includes the CSTE logo and the text "COUNCIL OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL EPIDEMIOLOGISTS" with the tagline "Using the power of epidemiology to improve the public's health". Below the header, there are navigation links for "MEMBERS ONLY", "WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT", and "FELLOWSHIPS". The main content area is titled "WEBINAR LIBRARY" and features a search bar with the text "occupational health" and buttons for "Filter" and "Clear Filter". Below the search bar is a table listing webinars.

Program Areas	Title	Date
Occupational Health	Public Health Strategies to Prevent Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Oil and Gas Extraction (OGE) – WestON Symposium	06/26/2015
Occupational Health	BLS Resources for Epidemiologists: Helping You with Your Detective Work	05/27/2015
Occupational Health	American Community Survey 101: Overview and Application in Occupational Health Surveillance	04/23/2015
Occupational Health	Assessing and Responding to the Health and Safety Needs of Workers in the Temporary Services Industry	02/27/2015