American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) National Capital Chapter (NCC) –September meeting

*High Voltage Awareness Training and Demonstration*

Presented by 2019 SPY Award Winner and Pepco Senior Safety Specialist Chris Hughes and the Pepco Team.

Most everyone met in the lobby before 11:00 am to be processed through the security screening.

Chris began promptly at 11:00 am, with an introduction and brief outline to high voltage and what the agenda of training and demonstration would entail.

Some important Safety items to make note of included such things as electrical burns are considered 4th degree burns, as you are cooked from inside to out. The training to work on high voltage is 7 (seven) years and electricity travels at 187 thousand miles per hour (MPH).

Chris also pointed out there are two draw backs to Miss Utility. One of them being she does not go on personal property.

 

Furthermore, the importance of staying 18 inches on either side of the marking and staying 20 feet away from overhead power sources.

We then proceeded outside for the hands-on demonstration. Which was very electrifying and a great reminder of what can happen if you are not paying attention to you surrounds.

Chris also provided 2 separate handouts. The first was a copy of the *High Voltage Line Safety Operating Area Response Form 1,* which sites 29 CFR 1926 Subpart V – Electric Power Transmission and Distribution and Subpart CC – Cranes and Derricks in Construction. He explained if you receive one of these you will cease and desist. If not, he WILL come back with a warrant and law enforcement.

The second consisted of four separate items: (1) *Overhead Power Lines* Toolbox Talk complements of CPRW; (2) *Working Safely Near Overhead Power Lines* an OSHA Alert complements of osha.gov/powerlines: (3) *Weathering the Storm* a PEPCO “Severe weather – Before A Storm - Get Prepared an During A Storm – Stay Safe” complements of pepco.com/storm; and the last item (4) was a *Safety Reminder* about Hydrate Early and Often complements of BGE\_Safety\_First mailbox.

The program/training was well worth the time and travel, as is anything Safety related.

Respectfully summited, K Coulter – new ASSP NCC member.