

***Safety First for  
Everyone at the  
Wade Utility Plant***



**A Guide for Private Contractors  
Conducting Project Work at  
Purdue University's  
Walter Wade Utility Plant**

- **Chemicals:** Wade Utility Plant personnel routinely use chemicals in various functions on the job. Some chemicals are considered hazardous, caustic soda and sulfuric acid for example. Purdue University complies with state and federal regulations regarding Right To Know (RTK) about these materials. Contractors and their employees who have questions about these chemicals are encouraged to review the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) located in the Control Room or contact the Designated Trained Individual on RTK for the Utility Plant. Contractors may need to bring chemicals into the plant, they must provide an MSDS to the DTI for each chemical before or upon arrival.
  
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Purdue University reserves the right to require personnel who do not comply with these regulations to leave the Power Plant until compliance is made. Such action by the Power Plant will not release violators from completion dates, since contractors are clearly informed about rules of compliance at the onset of bid requests. The Wade Utility Plant will not furnish PPE in the event that non-Wade employees fail to bring PPE to the work site. It is an IOSHA requirement that all workers be trained by their employer regarding proper IOSHA rules and regulations about PPE, its selection, use and care. All persons working in the Wade Utility Plant without such training are in violation of the law, and employers violating those laws will be held liable in case of accidents. **It is the contractor's responsibility to insure their employees comply with all applicable health and safety regulations.**

#### **Standard PPE in the Wade Utility Plant**

- ◆ All persons shall wear OSHA-approved **safety glasses with permanently attached side shields**. Face masks and/or goggles shall be worn whenever appropriate.
  
- ◆ All persons shall wear OSHA-approved **hard hats** in all areas of the Plant with the exception of breakrooms, restrooms and any areas with solid ceilings (not grating) lower than 12 feet tall.

- ◆ **Hearing protection** is encouraged in all areas of the Wade Utility Plant. **Long pants** are required. **Shirts** are always required. Short sleeves are suggested, being made of fire retardant, non-synthetic fabric. Bulky, loose-fitting clothing is discouraged.
- ◆ **Footwear** shall be appropriate for the job. Steel-toed shoes with metatarsal protection are recommended. Tennis-type shoes, sandals and other “casual” shoes are **not** allowed in the Plant while performing work.
- **Lockout/Tagout:** Contractors are required by Indiana state law to train their employees in the use and proper application of lockout/tagout. Wade has a procedure for coordinating group lockouts with contractors. No locking devices shall be applied without coordinating with plant personnel. No lockout devices shall be applied without proper tagging and labeling.
- **Confined spaces entry:** The Utility Plant maintains a Confined Space Inventory with individual confined space data. The plant will make this inventory/data available to contractors. It is the contractor’s responsibility to train its personnel on proper confined spaces entry according to OSHA standards and to provide all monitoring, extraction and safety equipment. The Purdue University Fire Department will provide confined space rescue service; however, they must be contacted and give permission before any confined space entry is made.
- **Telephones:** The Wade Utility Plant encourages contractors and their employees to bring cellular telephones for business and personal calls. Cellular phones operate normally inside the plant and calls which are made from them do not interfere with the Plant’s controls equipment. You will be informed when you arrive where you can make calls from regular Utility Plant telephones. The Control Room telephones are not available for public use.

- **Asbestos:** All pipe and insulation materials in the Wade Utility Plant are to be presumed to contain asbestos. Do not disturb this material. Contact the Project Manager for proper removal if it is needed.
- **“Hot work” permits** for welding and cutting are required before any such work can be performed in the Utility Plant. The maintenance foreman is the contact for those permits. Contractors are responsible for their own fire watch personnel and proper storage/securing of compressed gas containers.
- **Alarms,** buzzers and safety valves are a part of normal operations in the Utility Plant. You will be told more about them when you arrive for your project, but for now please tell your employees that they should listen for a long, continuous buzzer. That is the plant evacuation alarm, and it is sounded only in an emergency.
- **Parking** space around the Wade Utility Plant is restricted; please contact the Project Manager before arrival for work on your contract about any specific parking space needs and permits.
- **Housekeeping:** All contractors conducting work at Wade are required to provide their own refuse roll-off containers or dumpsters for site cleanup. Contractors are prohibited from using the Utility Plant’s refuse containers and dumpsters. Contractors are required to keep work areas as clean as possible.

## CONTACTS:

### Emergency - Dial 911

Utilities (765) 494-5693  
Construction (765) 494-0580  
Wade Utility Plant Office (765) 494-2306

You may also stop by our new office located northwest of the Utility Plant.

