

Standby Requirements for Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) Conditions

Chapter 296-842 WAC

Rule

WAC 296-842-19005

Provide standby assistance in immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) conditions

Important:

WISHA currently uses the IDLH values in the 1990 NIOSH *Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards* to determine the existence of IDLH conditions. You may use more recent editions of this guide. Visit www.cdc.gov/niosh for more information.

(1) Provide at least 2 standby employees outside the IDLH area.



Note:

You need only one standby employee **if** the IDLH condition is well characterized, will remain stable **and** you can show one employee can adequately do **all** of the following:

- Monitor employees in the IDLH area
- Implement communication
- Initiate rescue duties.

- (2) Train and equip standby employees to provide effective emergency rescue. Equip them with:
- (a) A pressure-demand SCBA or a pressure-demand air-line respirator with an auxiliary SCBA, for each standby employee
 - (b) Appropriate retrieval equipment, when it would help with the effective rescue of the entrant, or an equivalent means of rescue
- (3) Make sure standby employees maintain visual, voice, or signal line communication with employees in the IDLH area
- (4) Make sure that in the event of an emergency:
- (a) Standby employees notify you or your designee before they enter the IDLH area to provide emergency rescue
 - (b) You provide necessary assistance when notified



Notes
