

## Heat Injury and Illness Prevention

IBEW Local 292

Is your work primarily \_\_\_ indoors or \_\_\_ outdoors?

1. Is heat a problem on your job?
2. Does your employer have any programs or measures in place to prevent heat illness and injury?
  - If so:
    - What are the elements of the program?
    - What measures do you think are effective?
    - What measures do you think should be added?
    - Does your employer take any steps to ensure employees are acclimated to heat?
    - Has the employer involved workers or the union in designing its heat injury and illness program?
  - If not:
    - What measures do you think your employer should implement to address heat stress?
3. Does your employer monitor and assess hazardous heat conditions in your workplace?
  - If so:
    - What metrics does your employer use?
    - Does the employer have a threshold for triggering its heat prevention program, and is the threshold effective?
    - Is the union/are employees involved in monitoring for hazardous heat conditions?
4. Have you been provided with any training on how to avoid heat injury and illness?
  - If yes:
    - Was the training provided by your employer?
      - If so, how was it provided (e.g., tool box talk?), and what were its elements?
    - Was the training provided by the union?
      - If so, how was it provided and what were its elements?
  - What do you think would be effective ways of educating workers about heat injury and illness prevention?
  - What are the challenges for this type of training?
5. Does your employer have any programs or plans in place to respond to heat-related emergencies?
  - If so, what is the program?
  - If so, are employees trained:
    - To identify emergencies?
    - How to respond to emergencies?

6. Are you aware of any heat-related injuries or illnesses occurring in your workplace?
  - If yes:
    - What do you think contributed to the incident?
    - Were the injuries or illnesses reported to the employer?
    - If not reported, what factors do you think make employees reluctant to report?
7. Which of the following factor(s) do you think contribute to heat-related injury and illness (check as many as you think apply, and explain how it/they contribute):
  - Job tasks
  - Time on the job
  - Individual employee health
  - Climate
  - Other
8. Have you seen a recent increase in heat-related incidents?
  - If so, do you think the increase is associated with changes in any of the factors you identified as contributing to heat-related injury and illness? Please explain.
9. Do you think the size of your employer influences its ability to prevent heat related injuries and illnesses?
10. Are you aware of any steps OSHA has taken to address heat related injury and illness?
  - If so, do you consider their existing efforts to be adequate or effective?
  - Have you heard of “Water.Rest.Shade”?
    - If so, has your employer implemented any of those steps?
  - What efforts or improvements should OSHA make in protecting employees from heat-related injuries and illnesses?
11. Does your state have state standards aimed at preventing heat-related illness? If so, what are the most effective aspects and what are the challenges?
12. What do you think is the single most important thing employers should do to protect their workers from heat-related injuries and illnesses?
  - What do you think is the single most important barrier to employers protecting their workers from heat-related injuries and illnesses?