

June 7, 2010

TO: Locals - DOE
National Executive
National and Regional E.O. Representatives

RE: **DOE NJOHSPC Meeting of May 25, 2010**

The DOE National Joint Occupational Health and Safety Policy Committee met on May 25, 2010. Brother Todd Panas Regional Vice-President, Prairie and Northern Region, and Sister Manon Desormeaux, Service Officer, attended. Below is a summary of the discussions that took place during this meeting.

ROHSC Referrals

The authority to use the installed Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) as well as acquiring approval for new AEDs was an issue referred to the National Joint Health and Safety Policy Committee from the Region.

The Department provided an overview of the AED issues dating back to 2003 to emphasize the current procedures; i.e., *Once the previous steps have been completed and the plan has been approved by the Branch ADM, the manager who wishes to acquire an AED will need to ensure the participation of the National Joint OHS Policy Committee.*

The regions will be reminded by the National Joint Health and Safety Policy Committee to follow the Policy. Should difficulties in acquiring approval both to use and to purchase an AED continue, the Policy may have to be revisited.

Bottled Water at DOE:

The Department provided an overview of the *Draft Bottled Water Policy* that is currently being circulated for comments. The Department advised that the comments received so far relate to the taste issue which is a personal preference vs Health and safety issues. The Department advised that there will be annual testing done, the results of which will be provided to employees.

The Department will be communicating with its employees advising of the testing and steps they can take to ensure their safety as it relates to the Policy; e.g., let water run for a minute before drinking and not drinking water from a washroom. Posters re water safety will also be developed.

Next meeting: Tentatively scheduled for September 2, 2010.

Should you have any questions or concerns relating to the above, please do not hesitate to communicate with the national office.

Yours fraternally,

William Pynn,
National President,
Union of Environment Workers.