

NTPC Health & Safety Alert

Regular Snow Removal



Background

This past winter an NTPC worker experienced sudden illness while attempting to shovel snow in the yard of a power plant. An investigation found that the worker needed to go to the plant in the early morning in response to a low fuel level alarm. Regular snow removal had not been performed and the employee overexerted himself and needed to report to the medical centre for assessment.

Practical Guidance

The investigation found there were two factors that may have contributed to the overexertion injury: the panic to respond to the low level fuel alarm and the fact that regular snow removal had not been performed in the plant yard.

Regular plant checks need to be performed to ensure that fuel levels do not drop so low as to cause an alarm. Following procedures could have prevented the fuel alarm from occurring.

Regular snow removal must be performed for good housekeeping and to ensure access to critical plant components such as fuel valves. The snow removal may be performed using equipment or by hand.

Review *Safe Work Practice 2.08: Manual Snow Removal* before starting manual snow removal work.

For more information contact your Health and Safety representative.

