



In response to the recent rise in oil field operations fatal accidents, David Bates, Area Director for U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in partnership with the Mid-Continent Exploration & Production Safety Network (MCEPS) is requesting all Oklahoma Exploration and Production companies participate in a voluntary safety stand down. Starting **June 21st** industry companies across Oklahoma can commit to voluntarily participate in the OSHA/MCEPS Safety Stand Down. The Stand Down will continue until **July 20th**. Additional information including the OSHA Press Release, Stand Down Participation Report Forms, and training tools are available at www.uta.edu/ded/mceps.

Who: Oklahoma Exploration and Production Employers

What: MCEPS/OSHA Safety Stand Down

When: June 21st through July 20th

Why: There have been 9 workplace deaths in the oil and gas industry in Oklahoma in 2012, and one incident where 3 employees were hospitalized after a drilling rig fire. This is a significant rise in the fatal workplace accidents compared to the last few years.

How: Companies can register to participate on line through the OSHA Education Center at the University of Texas Arlington (UTA) website at www.uta.edu/ded/mceps. Here, companies can complete a commitment form and report out form, and obtain training tools to conduct jobsite inspections and employee training during their safety stand downs

Where: Companies working in the oil and gas exploration and production industry in Oklahoma can agree to conduct a stand down at their work sites

MCEPS is the Mid-Continent Exploration & Production Safety Network, which is a cooperative alliance between OSHA and the oil and gas industry. Representatives of the industry and OSHA meet the third Thursday of each month to promote safety, health and environmental improvements. MCEPS is part of the National STEPS network, a national effort in partnership with OSHA, industry and educators to make the oil and gas industry the safest of all industries.