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16. Health Hazard Prevention and Security

This section describes the types of health hazards that may be present during the construction and operational phases of the project respectively and methods of preventing such hazards.

16.1 Health Hazards – Construction Phase

16.1.1 Sanitary Site Conditions

The proposed project site is expected to have a sizeable number of employees during the construction phase. The lack of provision of adequate and hygienic ablution facilities will create health hazards for the workers. It will therefore be essential for the EPC contractor and their nominated sub-contractors to ensure that during the construction phase, an adequate number of male and female ablution facilities are provided and that the effluent is managed in an environmentally sound manner. Legal Document 280 under the repealed Factories and Other Places of Work Act required that four (4) water closets be provided for up to 100 male workers and six (6) water closets for up to 100 females.

16.1.2 Cooking of Meals

It is common practice on construction sites in Kenya for hawkers to provide cheap meals for construction workers on site. The health hazards associated with provision of meals to workers is that the source of water used for cooking is generally unknown. Secondly the source of ingredients used for preparing meals is unknown. Such practices may give rise to health hazards at the project site and the EPC contractor and their nominated sub-contractors are encouraged to consider providing meals for their employees.

16.2 Health Hazards – Operational Phase

16.2.1 Hazard Communication

There are various potential health hazards associated with the improper handling of chemicals that can lead to occupational diseases. It is therefore recommended that the EPC contractor develop, rollout and implement a written hazard communication program for the project during the construction phase of the project. a similar hazard communication program should be developed by the Proponent during the operational phase of the project as there will be a number of chemicals stored and used at the proposed project. The hazard communication program will be used to promote employee, contractor and third party awareness of HSE concerns and risks represented by materials and chemicals stored, used and handled at the project site. The hazard communication program should have the following elements:

- Chemical Inventory Program;
- MSDS Program;
- Container Labeling; and
- Employee and Contractor Training.

16.2.2 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

In order to handle hydrocarbon products and chemicals safely and avoid injuries or health hazards to employees it is necessary for the Proponent to develop, rollout and implement a PPE program for the project during the operational phase. The purpose of this program is to identify the elements necessary for the shielding of employees and contractors from chemical, physical and biological hazards and potential hazards they are likely to encounter in their work environment. As a minimum the PPE program should contain the following elements:

- Written Procedures;
- Engineering and Administrative Work Practice Controls;
- Equipment Selection Criteria;
- PPE Distribution and Storage;
- Routine Maintenance Procedures for PPE;
- Medical Evaluation as required by the OSHA and its subsidiary legislation;
- Employee and Contractor Training; and
- Documenting and Reporting.