Appendix A. Permit - Required Confined Space Decision Flow Chart

Does the workplace contain confined spaces as defined by §1910.146(b)?

- **YES**
  - Does the workplace contain PRCS as defined by §1910.146(b)?
    - **YES**
      - Inform employees as required by §1910.146(c)(2).
    - **NO**
      - Prevent employee entry as required by §1910.146(c)(3). Do task from outside of space.
  - **NO**
    - Consult other applicable STOP

- **NO**
  - Consult other applicable STOP

Will permit space be entered?

- **YES**
  - Will contractors enter?
    - **YES**
      - Task will be done by contractors’ employees. Inform contractor as required by §1910.146(c)(8)(i), (ii) and (iii). Contractor obtains information required by §1910.146(c)(9)(i), (ii) and (iii) from host.
    - **NO**
      - Both contractors and host employees will enter the space.

- **NO**
  - Prevent unauthorized entry. STOP

Will host employees enter to perform entry tasks?

- **YES**
  - Can the hazards be eliminated?
    - **YES**
      - Employer may choose to reclassify space to non-permit required confined space using §1910.146(c)(7). STOP
    - **NO**
      - Can the space be maintained in a condition safe to enter by continuous forced air ventilation only?
        - **YES**
          - Space may be entered under §1910.146(c)(5). STOP
        - **NO**
          - Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

- **NO**
  - Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

Verify acceptable entry conditions (Test results recorded, space isolated if needed, rescuers/means to summon available, entrants properly equipped, etc.)

- **YES**
  - Permit issued by authorizing signature. Acceptable entry conditions maintained throughout entry.
    - **YES**
      - Entry tasks completed. Permit returned and canceled.
    - **NO**
      - Audit permit program and permit based on evaluation of entry by entrants, attendants, testers and preparers, etc.

- **NO**
  - Permit not valid until conditions meet permit specifications.

Does space have known or potential hazards?

- **YES**
  - Can the hazards be eliminated?
    - **YES**
      - Employer may choose to reclassify space to non-permit required confined space using §1910.146(c)(7). STOP
    - **NO**
      - Can the space be maintained in a condition safe to enter by continuous forced air ventilation only?
        - **YES**
          - Space may be entered under §1910.146(c)(5). STOP
        - **NO**
          - Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

- **NO**
  - Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

Audit permit program and permit based on evaluation of entry by entrants, attendants, testers and preparers, etc.

1 Spaces may have to be evacuated and re-evaluated if hazards arise during entry.

Emergency exists (prohibited condition). Entrants evacuated, entry is aborted. (Call rescuers if needed.) Permit is void. Reevaluate program to correct/prevent prohibited condition. Occurrence of emergency (usually) is proof of deficient program. No re-entry until program (and permit) is amended.

CONTINUE