MANUFACTURING
SAFETY ALERTAsk Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Worker Fatally Injured After Bulldozer Rolled Down Hog Fuel Pile

Notice of WSBC incident number: 2016154960006

A worker was operating a bulldozer on the top of a pile of hog fuel in severe weather with heavy wind and rain. The bulldozer tipped over the edge of the pile, slid down the face and then overturned, partially ejecting the driver from the cab. The worker sustained fatal injuries.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

From the investigation:

Cause

• The worker was operating a bulldozer too close to the outer and unstable edge of the top of the hog pile, which caused the machine to tip over the edge, slide down the pile face, partially ejecting the operator when it overturned.

Contributing factors

- The worker was operating a piece of mobile equipment without wearing a seatbelt.
- The worker was operating too close to the unstable outer edge at the top of a pile of hog fuel.
- The worker was operating in severe weather with heavy wind and rain which may have reduced the worker's visibility, not allowing the operator to observe and stay clear of the outer edge of the pile.



Important Take Away

Ensure all operators know and understand their responsibility to always wear their seatbelt when operating mobile equipment.

Supervisors should monitor all mobile equipment operators to ensure they wear their seatbelts.





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