

For Immediate Release

OSHA Complaint Filed Against MAC Construction & Excavating

Allegations of Safety Violations Now Under Investigation by State Agency

Jeffersonville, March 6, 2014: A complaint has been filed with the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA) alleging construction site serious safety violations by MAC Construction & Excavating at a MAC job site in New Albany. The complaint is currently under investigation by that agency.

The complaint, filed on February 26 by the Laborers Union, alleges that MAC had workers performing work in a trench that was 10' – 12' deep without trench collapse protection. OSHA safety standards generally require some sort of trench-shoring or trench-collapse protection in trenches greater than 5' deep to prevent workers from getting trapped by cave-ins. Trench collapse and cave-ins are a leading cause of worker fatalities on construction sites.

According to the federal OSHA web site, this is not the only OSHA safety issue currently pending for MAC. According to that site, MAC has an open OSHA case stemming from a job site inspection in Kentucky. OSHA issued citations and fines for serious violations during the inspection. You may view the OSHA inspection data here:

https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=316917517

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention web site lists, in part, these statistics for trench collapse fatalities: "U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data show that 271 workers died in trenching or excavation cave-ins from 2000 through 2006.... Hazards associated with trench work and excavation are recognized and preventable, yet injuries and fatalities associated with these hazards continue to occur."

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