

August 2, 2022

Mr. Rick Pfander Jr.  
Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity  
MIOSHA  
General Industry Safety and Health Division  
530 W. Allegan  
P.O. Box 30644  
Lansing, MI 48909-8144

Dear Mr. Pfander:

In response to the MIOSHA letter dated July 19, 2022, UPA # 1920917, regarding the occupational injury in the FMW room at Walton Hall, Eastern Michigan University (EMU) has the following to report:

1. Upon being made aware of the injury, personnel from Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) entered the FMW room at Walton Hall, observed the missing guard on the table saw and then removed the extension cord being used to plug in the table saw.
2. In addition, the table saw was tagged out of service by danger tagging the cord, see photo.
3. EHS also covered the saw blade and placed signage on the cover not to remove the cover, see photo.
4. The supervisor reported the injury occurred when the employee was removing wood from the saw using his hand rather than a push tool with the saw still operating. A few days later, EHS learned the switch for the saw was not operating properly.
5. The manager for the FMWs was notified the table saw is not to be used until repaired or replaced.
6. The injured employee and his supervisor discussed the incident. From this discussion, Facilities Maintenance Workers have been reminded to report any unsafe and/or damaged equipment to their supervisor or EHS and to discontinue use of the equipment immediately and until it is repaired or replaced.
7. EHS will be providing refresher training to the Facility Maintenance Workers and their supervisors on machine shop and power tool safety by August 15.

A copy of the MIOSHA letter was placed by the time clocks used by the FMW, trades and custodial employees, in the Walton FMW room as well as on the EHS website. A copy of this response will also be placed in these locations.

If you have any questions regarding the EMU's response to this injury and the MIOSHA report, do not hesitate to contact me at 734.487.0794.

Sincerely,

Kathryn E. Wilhoff  
Director, Environmental Health and Safety

Enclosures



