Labor Management Cooperation Committee
Project Drinking Water Position Statement

"Potable water" is defined in Section 1910.141(a)(2) as: water which meets the quality standards prescribed in the U.S. Public Health Service Drinking Water Standards, published in 42 CFR Part 72, or water which is approved for drinking purposes by the State or local authority having jurisdiction.

The Labor Management Cooperation Committee ("LMCC") after being made aware of complaints concerning project drinking water during the warm seasons publishes the following recommended guidelines to all Contractors.

General Requirements:

➢ An adequate supply of potable water shall be provided in all places\(^1\) of employment. 1926.51(a)(1)

➢ Portable drinking water containers shall be capable of being tightly closed and equipped with a tap. 1926.51(a)(2)

➢ Using a common drinking cup is prohibited. 1926.51(a)(4)

➢ Where single service cups (to be used but once) are supplied, both a sanitary container for unused cups and a receptacle for used cups shall be provided. 1926.51(a)(5)

Employee Education:

➢ Employee education is vital so that workers are aware of the need to replace fluids and salt lost through sweat and can recognize dehydration, exhaustion, fainting, heat cramps, salt deficiency, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke as heat disorders.

Temperature:

➢ When temperatures conditions dictate, ice water should be furnished.

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\(^1\) If work is carried out in occupied premises, e.g. offices, factories, etc, it may be possible to make arrangements with the client to use the permanent facilities at the premises.