APPENDIX B - Permit-Required Confined Space Decision Flow Chart

Does the workplace contain PRCS as defined by 1910.146(b)?

Yes

Will PRCS be entered?

No

Prevent employee entry as required by 1910.146(c)(3). Do task from outside of space.

Yes

Will contractors enter?

No

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)(i), (ii) and (iii) from host.

Yes

Both contractors and host employees will enter the space.

Will host employees enter to perform entry tasks?

No

Coordinate entry operations as required by 1910.146(c)(8)(iv)

Yes

Prevent unauthorized entry. Stop

Does space have known or potential hazards?

No

Not a PRCS. 1910.146 does not apply.

Yes

Can the hazards be eliminated?

No

Can the space be maintained in a condition safe to enter by continuous forced air ventilation only?

No

Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

Yes

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

No

Permit not valid until conditions meet permit specifications.

Yes

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. (May require new program).

Stop *

Space may be entered under 1910.146(c)(5).

Stop *

Employer may choose to reclassify space to a non-permit required confined space

Stop *

Does the workplace contain PRCS as defined by 1910.146(b)?

No

Consult other applicable OSHA standards.

Yes

Consult other applicable OSHA standards.

*Spaces may have to be evacuated and re-evaluated if hazards arise during entry. Additionally, permit requirements may depend on changing conditions within each permit-required confined space.