High Energy: Controlling the Uncontrollable

Energy is the fundamental cause of injuries, with high energy leading to serious injuries and fatalities (SIFs). STKY, short for "Stuff That Kills You," refers to the high-energy hazards that are likely to lead to a SIF.



A Direct Control is essential/needed to eliminate or mitigate high-energy hazards and save lives.

When a **Direct Control** is not feasible, there must be at least 2 Alternative Controls, from at least 2 or more of the following categories: Physical Obstacle, Direct Monitoring, and Visual Reminder.

Alternative Controls are a system of complementary controls that reduce the likelihood of human error.



Example: Signage (refer to rule 8)*, temporary traffic lights, painted lines

Controls rules



Alternative Controls:

Physical Obstacle

An obstruction that blocks

the path or hinders

progress toward a high

energy hazard

Example: Cones with

toppers, danger tape,

barriers around equipment

are relevant only when they are in place during the work

Example: Monitoring alarms,

proximity detection devices

with two 2-way warnings,

spotter (refer to rule 5 and 7)*

are a placeholder as we aspire to the Direct Control of the high-energy

are primarily designed to mitigate human errors rather than solely reducing energy levels

should require supporting processes such as JSAs, Pre-job briefs or permits



A Direct Control has 3 key requirements:



Specifically targeted to the High Energy source



when installed, verified, and used properly

Effectively mitigates exposure to High Energy



Effective when someone makes a mistake