Does the workplace contain Confined Spaces as defined by §1910.146 (b)?

NO

Consult other applicable OSHA standards

STOP

YES

Does the workplace contain Permit-required Confined Spaces as defined by §1910.146(b)?

NO

Inform employees as required by §1910.146 (c)(2).

Will permit spaces be entered? NO

NO

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

YES

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

Will contractors enter? YES

NO

Both contractors and host employees will enter the space? NO

YES

Coordinate entry operations as required by §1910.146 (c)(8)(iv) and (d)(11). Prevent unauthorized entry.

Will host employees enter to perform entry tasks? YES

NO

Prevent unauthorized entry. STOP

Does space have known or potential hazards? NO

YES

Not a permit-required confined space. 1910.146 does not apply. Consult other OSHA standards.

Can the hazards be eliminated? YES

NO

Employer may choose to reclassify space to non-permit required confined space using §1910.146 (c)(7). STOP

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

NO

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

Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

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

Permit issued by authorizing signature.

Acceptable entry conditions maintained throughout entry. YES

NO

Entry tasks completed. Permit returned and canceled.

Audit permit program and permit based on evaluation of entry by entrants, attendants, testers and preparers, etc.

Emergency exists (prohibited condition). Entrants evacuated entry aborts. (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.) CONTINUE

1 Spaces may have to be evacuated and re-evaluated if hazards arise during entry.