



# Safety Alert

## PECO GREEN – LL/OE COMMUNICATION

February 4, 2008

PE-SA-568

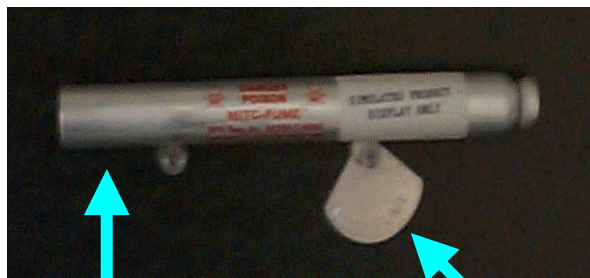
Effective Date: ASAP

### Alert Type: Safety Alert MITC Treated Poles

**Affected Department(s):** Please share this information with all C&M employees

#### Summary:

Since 1999 the Osmose Corporation has been treating PECO poles with a product called MITC Fume as a wood preservative pesticide to control wood rot and decay-causing fungi. MITC-Fume has a pungent odor similar to horseradish. MITC is applied in a solid/crystallized form in aluminum vials and are placed into bored holes at the base of the pole one foot below ground line to three feet above ground line. The vials are full of solid crystals that turn to gas (activated by heat) and completely dissipate over a period of approximately four years. When the vials are sealed and contained within wood poles, they are not a hazard to the environment, the public, or anyone working around the pole. When vials are compromised or exposed, they pose a potential health risk and special handling is required. After four years, the highly concentrated chemical is depleted from the vial and the chemical is then no more hazardous than other compounds present in utility poles.



MITC-Fume vial

OSMOSE Tag applied to MITC treated poles

#### Required Actions:

Avoid breathing the fumes from a tube. If skin contact occurs, flush skin with large amounts of water and report the event to your supervisor

#### Removing or handling a MITC-Fume treated pole:

If the pole is intact and the MITC-Fume vials are still contained within the pole, remove pole and handle as per standard operating procedures.

If the MITC-Fume vial ever becomes dislodged from pole (e.g. due to pole hit), TAKE special precautions when retrieving the vial.

- Obtain a MITC-Fume Recovery Kit from the storeroom. (Code # 19980610)
- Pick up the vial wearing the chemical protective gloves and place in the metal container.
- Remove the chemical protective gloves and place them in the metal container with the vial
- Affix the lid and apply the label
- Place the strip of warning tape across top of can
- Place can in rear of truck (**not in cab**)
- Transport can and place in specially designed Waste Storage Area
- Contact Regional Environmental Coordinator for removal

If an exposed MITC-fume vial is split open and the crystals are no longer contained, the following special precautions will be required:

- Cordon off the area and protect the public by keeping them away
- Notify supervisor
- Notify your Regional Environmental Coordinator who will neutralize and safely remove the product.

**Cutting or Drilling a pole containing MITC-Fume Vials:**

- Cut or drill no less than one foot above the highest dowel sealing in the MITC-Fume vial in the pole.
- Cut or drill no less than two feet below the lowest dowel sealing in the MITC-Fume vial in the pole.

**Communication Expectation:**

Supervisors review this alert with your teams along with procedure CM-ED-503002 and offer the MSDS to any employee requesting it.

**Owner: Safety and IH**

**Questions or concerns:** Contact Safety Professional

**Link to Safety and IH Website:** [Homehttp://exelonweb.exeloncorp.com/sites/esih/sih/default.aspx](http://exelonweb.exeloncorp.com/sites/esih/sih/default.aspx) - [EED Safety and IH](#)

**Public Folders path:** Public Folders/All Public Folders/Commercial Division/Energy Delivery/Safety Alerts