

Two Large Nonurgent Safety Meetings Postponed

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Last week, FirstEnergy leadership postponed the Tripartite Safety Forum and the Transmission & Distribution Field Leadership Safety Forum on March 11 and 12 in light of the precautions related to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Employees and external contractors who planned on attending the events were notified by email.

"Although these are extremely valuable meetings to share best practices and align together on safety, they are not time sensitive," said **Sam Belcher**, SVP and president, FirstEnergy Utilities. "With our core value of Safety in mind, we wanted to be mindful of limiting unnecessary exposure. It was determined to be more prudent to reschedule these large-scale meetings that involved more than two-thirds of the attendees coming in from across the country."

FirstEnergy's Corporate Health and Safety group is continuing to monitor the situation, through information provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the World Health Organization (WHO). It is important to note that according to these organizations, the threat of the virus to the American public is extremely low.

Also note that at this time FirstEnergy has not instituted a ban on employees traveling or attending conferences. Employees should continue to perform their work activities as usual.

However, anyone who has traveled to or traveled through China, South Korea, Iran, Italy, Japan or Hong Kong in the past 14 days – or who has a member of their household who has recently visited these regions – should contact the Corporate Health and Safety group at corporatehealthandsafety@firstenergycorp.com.

Employees who have questions are encouraged to talk with their supervisors or contact the Corporate Health and Safety group at corporatehealthandsafety@firstenergycorp.com. More information about the coronavirus can be found at the [CDC's website](#)* or [WHO's website](#).*

FirstEnergy has a business continuity plan to deal with potential threats to operations, such as influenza pandemics, and we are prepared to implement the plan in the event that any company measures are necessary to respond to the coronavirus.

Staying Safe and Healthy

The best way to prevent spread of infection from any respiratory borne virus, including the flu, is to avoid exposure and follow everyday preventive behaviors, such as covering coughs and sneezes, frequently washing hands with soap and water and cleaning frequently-touched surfaces.

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