

# Lessons Learned Briefing

## Lessons Learned Briefing

**Title:** Food and Drink Restrictions in Technical Areas

### Lessons Learned Statement:

Storing or consuming food and drink in labs and other technical areas can pose the potential for harmful exposures to chemicals, biological materials, or other hazards.

### Discussion:

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) restricts the storage and consumption of food and drink in technical areas based on the type of technical area and/or the work performed in that area.

1. Food and drink are **not allowed** in the following locations:
  - Chemical laboratories/storage areas
  - Biological material areas, such as biosafety level 1 or 2 laboratories
  - Radiological areas
  - Machine, welding, sheet metal, and craft shops
2. In other technical areas, food and drink **may be allowed** in certain areas or at certain times, but must first be evaluated by the Area Safety Lead, Division Safety Coordinator, and/or EHS using information available in the ES&H Manual.
3. Refrigerators and freezers in technical areas need to be labeled to prevent storage of food and beverages. EHS can provide labels upon request or users can label the units “CAUTION – Do not store food or beverages in this refrigerator (freezer)”.

For additional information, regarding the LBNL Food and Drink Policy, refer to the Requirements and Policies Manual (link) and ES&H Manual (Chapter 19, Appendices A and C):

<https://commons.lbl.gov/display/rpm2/Food+and+Drink+Restrictions+in+Technical+Areas>

[http://www2.lbl.gov/ehs/pub3000/CH19.html#\\_Appendix\\_A\\_PPE](http://www2.lbl.gov/ehs/pub3000/CH19.html#_Appendix_A_PPE)

<http://www2.lbl.gov/ehs/pub3000/CH19.html#appc>

For additional assistance contact your Area Safety Lead and/or EHS Division Liaison or Health and Safety Rep.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fIVrpoFVke4Yfq3Wm-Ngx0q11hSMgQDgjn7\\_yrdazU/pubhtml#](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fIVrpoFVke4Yfq3Wm-Ngx0q11hSMgQDgjn7_yrdazU/pubhtml#)

Lessons Learned are part of the ISM Core Function 5, Feedback and Improvement. Applicable Lessons Learned are to be considered during work planning activities and incorporated in work processes, prior to performing work.

Please contact the following subject matter experts if you have any questions regarding this briefing.

- Kurt Ettinger ([KREttinger@lbl.gov](mailto:KREttinger@lbl.gov))
- Herb Toor ([HSToor@lbl.gov](mailto:HSToor@lbl.gov))

