

ASHCRAFT, JAMES C.
December 31, 1929-September 28, 1978

NEWS ITEM Record-Times:

State officials were expected to complete a safety inspection this week at the Laramie River Power Station that followed the second accidental death at the plant site in three weeks.

Donald Owsley, director of the State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), met with Missouri Basin Power Project officials, contractors and sub-contractors at the plant site Friday.

At that time, Owsley had given an order to all contractors to eliminate "all safety hazards within three days".

The investigation followed the death Sept. 28 of James Ashcraft, 48, who died of injuries sustained in a 71-foot fall at about 11:45 a.m. that day.

Officials said that Ashcraft, who was employed as a carpenter for Babcock and Wilcox Construction of Copley, Ohio, fell through a boiler cavity in Unit No. 1.

Circumstances surrounding the accident are under investigation by both company officials and state OSHA inspectors.

Ashcraft had been a resident of Wheatland for about a year, and had been employed at the Laramie River Station by various contractors since June of last year.

His death was the third accidental death at the plant site since construction began slightly more than two years ago.
