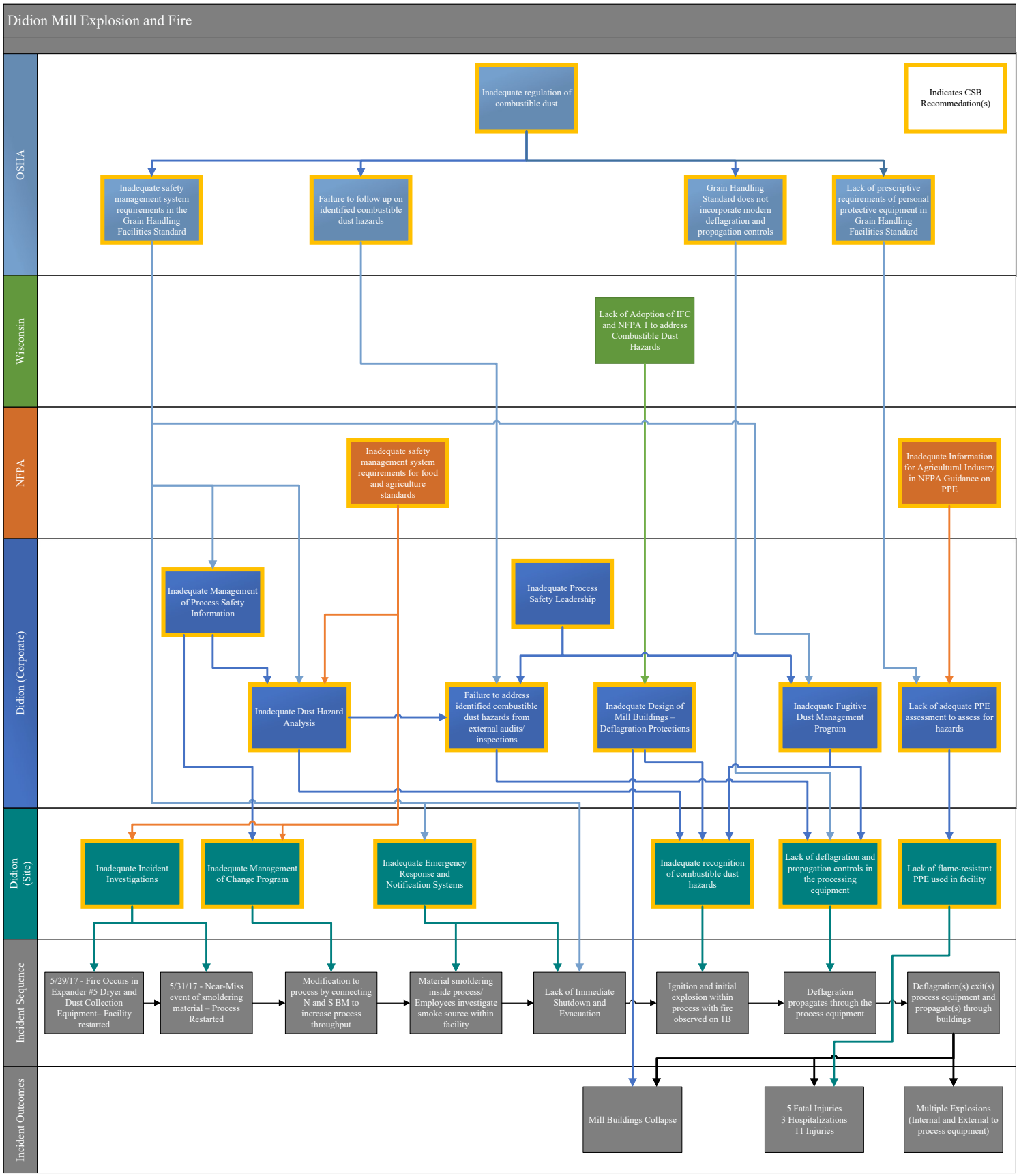
Didion Mill Explosion and Fire
OSHA
Wisconsin
NFPA
Didion (Corporate)
Didion (Site)
Incident Sequence
Incident Outcomes
Inadequate regulation of combustible dust
Indicates CSB Recommedation(s)
Inadequate safety management system requirements in the Grain Handling Facilities Standard
Failure to follow up on identified combustible dust hazards
Grain Handling Standard does not incorporate modern deflagration and propagation controls
Lack of prescriptive requirements of personal protective equipment in Grain Handling Facilities Standard
Lack of Adoption of IFC and NFPA 1 to address Combustible Dust Hazards
Inadequate safety management system requirements for food and agriculture standards
Inadequate Information for Agricultural Industry in NFPA Guidance on PPE
Inadequate Management of Process Safety Information
Inadequate Process Safety Leadership
Inadequate Dust Hazard Analysis
Failure to address identified combustible dust hazards from external audits/ inspections
Inadequate Design of Mill Buildings – Deflagration Protections
Inadequate Fugitive Dust Management Program
Lack of adequate PPE assessment to assess for hazards
Inadequate Incident Investigations
Inadequate Management of Change Program
Inadequate Emergency Response and Notification Systems
Inadequate recognition of combustible dust hazards
Lack of deflagration and propagation controls in the processing equipment
Lack of flame-resistant PPE used in facility
5/29/17 - Fire Occurs in Expander #5 Dryer and Dust Collection Equipment– Facility restarted
5/31/17 - Near-Miss event of smoldering material – Process Restarted
Modification to process by connecting N and S BM to increase process throughput
Material smoldering inside process/ Employees investigate smoke source within facility
Lack of Immediate Shutdown and Evacuation
Ignition and initial explosion within process with fire observed on 1B
Deflagration propagates through the process equipment
Deflagration(s) exit(s) process equipment and propagate(s) through buildings
Mill Buildings Collapse
5 Fatal Injuries
3 Hospitalizations
11 Injuries
Multiple Explosions (Internal and External to process equipment)