Climate Change at Work How Severe Weather Picture This



This image shows a group of workers continuing outdoor tasks under rapidly worsening weather conditions. Dark storm clouds are rolling in, winds are picking up, and distant lightning is visible, yet the crew remains focused on finishing the job. One worker is standing in an open, elevated area holding metal tools, while another is operating equipment on unstable, wet ground. There is no sign of a stop-work decision, no shelter in sight, and no one actively monitoring the changing weather. The urgency to complete the task has overridden basic safety awareness, even as the environment becomes increasingly dangerous.

In severe weather conditions, the danger escalates faster than most people realize. Lightning, high winds, heavy rain, and

unstable ground can turn a routine task into a life-threatening situation within minutes. What makes these incidents deadly is not just the weather—it’s the decision to continue working when conditions clearly signal to stop. Workers may underestimate the risk or feel pressure to finish the job, but severe weather does not give warnings twice. Always monitor conditions, follow stop-work protocols, and seek shelter immediately when hazards develop. The moment you hesitate can be the moment everything changes.