



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

REGULATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Health Care Facilities Licensure & Certification
Health Protection
Communicable Disease Prevention & Control

January 28, 1994

Ms. Diane Manning
NIOSH
4676 Columbia Parkway
Mail Stop C-15
Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998

RE: Workers' Family Protection Act (29 USC 671a)

Dear Ms Manning:

I am writing to you in response to a letter received by the South Dakota Department of Health requesting information be sent to NIOSH regarding contamination of workers' homes from the workplace.

The South Dakota Department of Health has been conducting residential indoor air quality investigations since 1990. Since 1990, staff have responded to growing public demand for indoor air quality investigations by doubling the number of complaint investigations conducted in 1992. In addition, the department has initiated simple data collection to monitor investigations and begin to identify specific problem areas and trends. The eventual aim is active surveillance of environmental health hazards in the home.

Too date, indoor air quality investigations conducted by our office have not positively identified any illness or poisonings of family due to contamination of the home by hazardous chemicals or substances transported to the home from the workplace. However, many of our investigations are in response to rural farm families with multiple health problems. Investigations of this nature are often hard to distinguish between the work and home environment.

I am sorry our office could not be of more help with this matter.

Should you have any further questions or would like additional information, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,


Kevin L. Forsch, Director
OFFICE OF HEALTH PROTECTION

FEB 3 1994