



The Essential Source

February 9, 1994

Ms. Diane Manning, Manager
Docket Office
Division of Standards Development & Technology Transfer
NIOSH
4676 Columbia Parkway, C-14
Cincinnati, OH 45226

Dear Ms. Manning:

I am writing on behalf of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) to express support of the efforts by NIOSH to evaluate the problem of contamination of workers' homes by hazardous chemical and biological agents as mandated in the Workers' Family Protection Act (WFPA) (29 U.S.C. 671a).

The AIHA remains most interested in NIOSH's work on this matter. The AIHA Protective Clothing and Equipment (PC&E) Committee, of which I am the current chair, has been involved in a wide range of educational and outreach activities related to protective clothing for many years. The PC&E Committee comprises about 20 AIHA members who have direct responsibilities for testing, developing, and/or overseeing the use of protective equipment for workers (including firefighters). Most of the members are also active in other organizations, such as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM), which are concerned with setting consensus standards related to protective clothing and equipment.

Those members of the PC&E Committee whose employers maintain protective clothing programs have been working on an individual basis to ensure submission of any relevant company information on home contamination to your office as per the Federal Register notice of November 15, 1993.

In addition, it is my understanding that the past chair of the PC&E Committee, Dr. James Johnson of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories, has been nominated to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee to be formed for the purpose of assisting NIOSH in efforts to implement the Act. Dr. Johnson has been actively involved in the area of protective clothing

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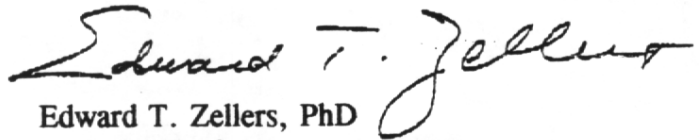
American Industrial Hygiene Association
2700 Prosperity Ave., Suite 250, Fairfax, VA 22031
(703) 849-8888 (703) 207-3561 fax ☎

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for many years and is eminently qualified to serve on such a committee. As an alternate for Dr. Johnson, Dr. Zack Mansdorf of S. Z. Mansdorf and Associates, also an acknowledged expert and a long-standing member of our Committee, has indicated his willingness to serve.

If you should have need for more information about what further role the AIHA might play as this issue unfolds, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at the University of Michigan (313) 936-0766, FAX (313) 763-8095. Alternatively, you can contact Mr. Aaron Trippler, Director of AIHA Government Affairs, at AIHA headquarters in Fairfax, VA.

Sincerely,



Edward T. Zellers, PhD
Assistant Professor
Chair, AIHA Protective Clothing
& Equipment Committee

cc: Board of Directors
O. Gordon Banks, Exec. Director
Aaron Trippler, Director, Govt. Affairs
John Meagher, Manager, Technical Support