

**U. S. Department of Labor**

Mine Safety and Health Administration  
4015 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22203-1984



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Robert W. Mason, Ph.D.  
Document Development Branch  
and Technology Transfer  
Department of Health and  
Human Services  
Robert A. Taft Laboratories  
4676 Columbia Parkway  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45226-1998

Dear Dr. Mason:

I have received the draft report on workers' home contamination prepared by NIOSH. I have only one change as indicated on the enclosed sheet. Since Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health would enforce protection for the worker under 30 CFR, Part 56/57. 15006, it is not necessary to indicate "may". I believe the paragraph without that sentence would be appropriate.

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

*Margie Zalesak*  
Margie Zalesak

Enclosure

has additional authority to develop and establish recommended occupational safety and health standards. In three of its recommended standards; asbestos, beryllium and mercury, NIOSH had information on home contamination its recommendations did not consider family protection. In a later recommended standard for manufacture and formulation of pesticides, it was stated "Protective clothing should not be worn or taken home to be laundered. Cleaning should be done at work or by a professional laundry. This prevents workers from carrying residual chemicals home on their clothing and thereby possibly exposing their families."

#### **Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977**

There is probably more authority in the MSHAct to prevent home contamination than in OSHAct. The definition of a miner includes an owner-operator and if that person is engaged in mining for commercial purposes, ~~MSHA may have authority to enforce its regulations on that person.~~ NIOSH also has authority to conduct health hazard evaluations in connection with mining, and to conduct research into the health effects of persons who work with products of mines.

#### **Toxic Substances Control Act**

Except for pesticides, tobacco and tobacco products, materials subject to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and foods, drugs and cosmetics, EPA has extensive regulatory authority for chemicals and mixtures. Among the relevant sections are §2605(a)(7) to require manufacturers or processors to give notice of unreasonable risk of injury, §2607(c) requiring