

August 1, 2007

Address

Dear Mr. :

Thank you for agreeing to review the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) draft document "*Comprehensive Resource Guide for Managing Occupational Exposures of Skin to Hazardous Chemicals.*" For your reference, the following background information and description of the document may be helpful:

- This Dermal Resource Guide is intended to serve as a "road-map" to information about dermal exposure for those who work in at-risk occupations, those who are in a position to investigate or control workers' exposures, and those who research or set policy on dermal exposure. The Guide provides lists and descriptions of resources by topic area for people looking for specific information on the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of dermal exposures to hazardous substances and conditions. This Guide was not designed to be a comprehensive resource on dermal exposure literature, but rather to provide a representative list of dermal exposure resources as available. The resources in the Guide include review articles published in peer reviewed journal, books, magazines, websites, regulatory guidelines, databases, brochures, and other resources.
- The Dermal Resource Guide is designed to provide descriptions of resources for two different audiences - general and professional. The general audience is those who have limited technical background or formal training in occupational skin exposure, whereas the professional audience is those who typically utilize technical information for anticipating, recognizing, evaluating, and controlling harmful skin exposures.
- The Dermal Resource Guide lists resources that address a number of broad topic areas. The concept of addressing information needs in these areas was first discussed and proposed at the *International Conference on Occupational and Environmental Exposures of Skin to Chemicals 2002—Science and Policy*. The topic areas differ somewhat between general and professional audiences, but typically address the following areas: 1) overview of dermal exposure; 2) surveillance and clinical aspects of

dermal exposures; 3) dermal exposure characterization; 4) dermal hazard identification; 5) dermal exposure risk assessment; and 6) dermal exposure risk management.

The Dermal Resource Guide is divided into six chapters and two appendices. The chapters provide an introduction to the Guide's background, format, strategy in literature searching, and resources selected. The majority of the appendices consists of the full resource citations and summaries.

The following is a list of questions for you to consider as you review the document:

- 1) Is this Dermal Resource Guide appropriate as a tool to direct the general audience (including workers and employers) and the professional audience (including industrial hygienists, researchers, and policy makers) to the information resources for occupational skin exposures?
- 2) Does this Dermal Resource Guide provide sufficiently transparent descriptions about:
  - background, purposes, intended use, topic areas (Chapter 1)
  - criteria for selection of resources and format (Chapter 2)
  - overall information availability?Please provide specific suggestions when a deficiency is identified.
- 3) Are there any critical documents or resources which have been overlooked? Similarly, are there any documents which are inappropriate or inadequate for inclusion in the document? Please help to identify specific documents or resources which should either be added or deleted.
- 4) The Dermal Resource Guide contains information published through late 2005 to early 2006. If you are aware of a critical study that has been published in 2006 or 2007 that should be included in the Dermal Resource Guide, please include the reference within your comments and review.

Within this packet, the Dermal Resource Guide has been provided in a paper copy (Enclosure A) and electronic Microsoft Word (MS) formats (Enclosure B). Your comments and suggestions will be reviewed and addressed as appropriate to revise and improve the document. As this independent review aims to provide an overall technical quality check, other issues related to editing and formatting issues will be addressed as the document is subjected to extensive editorial review by the NIOSH Scientific Writing and Visual Communications Team. Please note that your comments should be submitted in writing, and will become part of the public record to be maintained in the NIOSH Docket Office.

To comply with the new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/NIOSH data quality requirements for the review of NIOSH publications, please read, sign, and return the enclosed *Conflict of Interest* form (Enclosure C). Also, please be aware that your name, credentials, and expertise may be posted on the NIOSH website. In addition, your peer

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review report will be posted with those of other peer reviewers, but without individual attribution.

**Time Frame for Review**

In order to facilitate prompt revision of the draft, submission of review comments is requested by Monday, August 27, 2007. Please send your written comments with reference to docket number NIOSH-043 to Diane Miller at [DMMiller@cdc.gov](mailto:DMMiller@cdc.gov) , or NIOSH Docket Office, 4676 Columbia Parkway, MS C-32, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226.

Your role is considered an essential part of the NIOSH review process and is greatly appreciated.

Paul A. Schulte, Ph.D.  
Director  
Education and Information Division

Enclosures:

- A Paper copy of the Dermal Resource Guide
- B CD containing the Dermal Resource Guide in MS Document Format
- C Conflict of Interest Form

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