

## Dragon, Karen E. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

---

**From:** lpierce@salemcountynj.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 30, 2011 2:33 PM  
**To:** NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)  
**Cc:** Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)  
**Subject:** 221 - NIOSH Regulatory Agenda for updating 42 CFR Part 84 Comments

### Name

Leroy Pierce, III Academy Director

### Organization

Salem County (NJ) Fire Academy

### Email

[lpierce@salemcountynj.gov](mailto:lpierce@salemcountynj.gov)

### Address

135 Cemetery Road  
Woodstown, NJ 08098  
USA

### Comments

Respirator manufacturers are issued NIOSH approvals for cylinders they don't manufacture; NIOSH provides approvals for "entire SCBA ensembles only" limiting competition for replacement cylinders; Current approval system unnecessarily drives up the price end users pay for replacement cylinders NIOSH approval process is redundant; cylinders are already federally regulated by the USDOT & Transport Canada; NIOSH approval process provides NO additional liability protection to users but its stance on the entire ensemble" is unfair to the competitive market(s). NIOSH should approve all appropriate cylinders that meet or exceed its standard(s).

Fire Departments and fire academies pay excessively high prices for spare & replacement SCBA cylinders from respirator manufacturers in the current system which dramatically and negatively impacts Fire Departments & End User budgets in these difficult financial times.