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June 19, 1996

Dr. Linda Rosenstock
National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health
200 Independence Ave., S.W.
Room 715H
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Dr. Rosenstock:

I am planning an article on Dr. Nelson Leidel's memorandum, Comments on NIOSH's Second Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Respiratory Protective Devices - 42 CFR Part 84. In fairness to you and NIOSH, I would like to learn your response to this document. Specifically, what steps has NIOSH taken or will NIOSH take to address the problems described by Dr. Leidel? Is there any validity to Dr. Leidel's claim regarding ex parte communications between your agency and the Industrial Safety Equipment Association, Inc. and/or the Jefferson Group, which represents the 3M Company of St. Paul, Minnesota? Do you plan to revoke the approvals on all filter-facepiece, commonly called "disposable", respirators?

I would also appreciate any general comments you may wish to make.

May I have your response in the next 2 to 3 weeks?

Sincerely,

