January 10, 1994

Dear Sir/Madam:

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has recently published a Federal Register (FR) Notice (see enclosed) requesting information relevant to implementation of the Workers' Family Protection Act (29 USC 671a).

The Act charges NIOSH with conducting a study of hazardous chemicals and substances, including infectious agents, that are carried home by the worker. The FR Notice describes the NIOSH responsibilities under the Act, including the development of a report that will describe the extent of the home contamination problem, the efficacy of actions taken to prevent home contamination, and the role of government agencies in responding to incidences of home contamination.

A task force mandated by the Act will review the report prepared by NIOSH and determine if additional research data are needed to fully address the problem of home contamination. If additional data are needed, the task force will develop a strategy to obtain this information.

Since your organization may have access to information on take-home toxins, we would greatly appreciate your assistance in obtaining information for the NIOSH report. The types of information needed are described in the enclosure and include clinical and legal case reports, laws or regulations, and any other relevant data. We would also appreciate your sharing this request with other interested agencies and groups. Information should be sent by February 14, 1994 to Ms. Diane Manning (NIOSH Mail Stop C-34). If you have any questions, please call Mr. John Whalen, at 513/533-8306.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Niemeier, Ph.D.
Director
Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer

Enclosure
cc: D. Manning
J. Whalen
bc: D. Ordin
K. Dragon
C. Maloney
LREQD: rth:1/10/94:THT_LTR.LER
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Scientific Review of Draft Current Intelligence Bulletin on the Carcinogenic Potential of Occupational Exposure to Asphalt Products; Meeting

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the following meeting.


Time and Date: 9 a.m.—5:30 p.m., December 1, 1993; 8 a.m.—12 noon, December 2, 1993.

Place: Robert A. Taft Laboratories, Auditorium, NIOSH, CDC, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226.

Status: Open to the public, limited only by the space available.

Purpose: The purpose is to review and discuss the draft of Current Intelligence Bulletin, "Carcinogenic Potential of Occupational Exposure to Asphalt Products," with a panel of invited participants selected by NIOSH for their expertise and background in this area. The scientific review will provide NIOSH with individual input and opinion from experts outside the Institute prior to finalizing the Current Intelligence Bulletin for publication and transmission to the Department of Labor. The review will focus on the health effects related to occupational exposures to asphalt products and on data from carcinogenicity studies in animals. Viewpoints and suggestions from industry, labor, academia, other government agencies, and the public are invited.

Contact Person for Additional Information: Gary S. Earnest, NIOSH, CDC, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Mailstop R-5, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, telephone 513/841-4370.

Dated: November 15, 1993.

Elvin Hilyer, Associate Director for Policy Coordination, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

BILLING CODE 4160-10-M

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Request for Existing Information Relevant to Implementing the Workers' Family Protection Act

AGENCY: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Public Health Service (PHS), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

ACTION: Notice of request for existing information.

SUMMARY: NIOSH is requesting existing information on the contamination of workers' homes by hazardous chemicals and substances transported from the workplace on equipment, clothing, or the worker's person. This information would include existing reports of incidents resulting in familial poisonings or illnesses, methods of preventing and remediating such incidents, relevant statutes and regulations to prevent such incidents, and past investigations, enforcement actions, and the role of governmental agencies in preventing and responding to such incidents.

DATES: Information in response to this notice should be submitted by February 14, 1994.

ADDRESSES: Please submit two copies of any information to Diane Manning, Docket Office Manager, Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer, NIOSH, 4676 Columbia Parkway, C-34, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Steven Galson, Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer, NIOSH, 4676 Columbia Parkway, C-14, Cincinnati, Ohio 45226, telephone 513/533-8302.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Workers' Family Protection Act (29 U.S.C. 671a), hereafter referred to as "the Act," was enacted on October 26, 1992, as section 209 of Public Law 102-522, the "Fire Administration Authorization Act of 1992." The purpose of the Act is to protect the health of workers and their families from hazardous chemicals and substances, including infectious agents, transported from the workplace to the homes of the workers and their families.
home, equipment, clothing, or the worker’s person. The specific objectives of the Act are the following:

1. To increase understanding and awareness of the extent and impact on health of hazardous chemicals and substances transported from the workplace to the home;
2. To prevent or mitigate future incidents of home contamination that could adversely affect the health and safety of workers and their families;
3. To clarify regulatory authority for preventing and responding to incidents of home contamination; and
4. To assist workers in redressing and responding to incidents.

Under the Act, NIOSH is mandated to conduct a study to evaluate the problem of contamination of workers’ homes by hazardous chemicals and substances transported from the workplace. The study is to include review of past incidents of home contamination, actions taken by governmental agencies in response to such incidents, the roles and practices of governmental agencies and NIOSH study, and an analysis of relevant statutes, regulations, and voluntary measures. In addition to requesting existing information on these matters, NIOSH is also requesting existing information on incidents of home contamination and family illness or poisoning in situations where the workplace and home located together, such as farms and certain small businesses. NIOSH is requesting both published reports, including studies, case histories, voluntary guidance, statutes, and regulations, and unpublished reports including accounts from physicians, poison control centers, industry, management, labor unions, and other parties. Existing information is specifically requested on the following:

1. Measurements of home contamination or incidents of familial poisoning or illness due to contamination of the home by hazardous chemicals or substances transported to the home from the workplace on the equipment (including vehicles), clothing, or a worker’s person.
2. Any measurements of home contamination or incidents of familial poisoning or illness resulting from hazardous chemicals or substances due to the proximity of the workplace and the home, such as farms or other businesses with attached living quarters.
3. Reports of Federal, state or local government actions to either enforce statutes or regulations or provide assistance in incidents of familial poisoning or illness due to hazardous chemicals or substances transported home from the workplace, or due to the proximate nature of the home and workplace.
4. Measures used by employers to prevent or remedy home contamination, including statutory, regulatory, or voluntary industrial hygiene measures. (Please specify the approximate number of workers employed by the business establishment.)
5. Effectiveness of industrial hygiene practices in the workplace, such as housekeeping practices and the use of personal protective equipment, in preventing home contamination.
6. Effectiveness of normal house cleaning and laundry procedures in removing hazardous materials and agents from workers’ homes, personal clothing and equipment (including vehicles).
7. Information on indoor air quality research that pertains to the fate of chemicals transported from a workplace into the home environment.
8. Information on any of the above items that pertains specifically to firefighters.

NIOSH presently has copies of the references listed at the end of this request for existing information.

Information received in response to this notice (except that designated trade secret and protected under Section 15 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 [29 U.S.C. 664], or that exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) or the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) will be available for public examination and copying at the above address.

Dated: November 5, 1993.

Diane D. Porter,
Acting Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

References


[FR Doc. 93-27947 Filed 11-12-93; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4130-17-P

Health Care Financing Administration
Public Information Collection
Requirements Submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Clearance

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration, HHS.

The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), Department of Health and Human Services, has submitted to OMB the following proposals for the collection of information in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (Pub. L. 94-381).

1. Type of Request: Extension: Title of Information Collection: Establishing Procedures for Transmitting Information Between Medicare Carriers and Medicare Supplemental Insurers; Form No.: HCFA-R-140; Use: These procedures provide for the transfer of claims information from a Medicare carrier to a Medicare supplemental (Medigap) insurer when a beneficiary has assigned his/her right of payment under the Medigap policy to a participating physician or supplier in order to speed payment of Medigap benefits to participating physicians and suppliers. Medigap insurers are required to issue, to beneficiaries, insurance enrollment cards and notification of claims payment determinations. They are also required to report to the Secretary a single mailing address to