

**Miller, Diane M. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)**

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**From:** mdflesher@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 19, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)  
**Cc:** Chen, Jihong (Jane) (CDC/NIOSH/EID) (CTR)  
**Subject:** 147 - Reevaluation of the NIOSH policy on emergency escape support breathing system or buddy-breather device used with open-circuit self-contained breathing apparatus Comments

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**Comments**

Speaking for the safety of all emergency personnel NIOSH need to consider eliminating the 1984 prohibition on the buddy breathing safety system, the changes in technology have increased the efficiency and safety of using a buddy breathing devices. Exposure to IDLH is eliminated and allows for rescue options that no other system offer at this time. NIOSH approval of a buddy breathing system will initiate NFPA testing procedures, training and operational use standards. I believe everything on a self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) must meet at least minimum standards of safety because of the life threats to emergency personnel.