

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD

COVID-19 PREVENTION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

In the Matter of:)
)
July 20, 2021 OSH)
COVID-19 Prevention)
Subcommittee Meeting)
_____)

TELECONFERENCE

*PLEASE NOTE: In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, and Executive Order N-33-20,
the Subcommittee Meeting will be conducted via teleconference*

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021

10:00 A.M.

Reported by:
E. Hicks

APPEARANCES

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chris Laszcz-Davis, Subcommittee Chair and Management Representative on the Board
Nola Kennedy, Public Member on the Board and Liaison for the Subcommittee to the
Division

Laura Stock, Occupational Safety Representative on the Board

BOARD STAFF PRESENT AT OSHSB OFFICE IN SACRAMENTO:

Christina Shupe, Executive Officer
Michael Manieri, Principal Safety Engineer
Autumn Gonzalez, Chief Counsel
Sarah Money, Executive Assistant
Michael Nelmidia, Sr. Safety Engineer
Jennifer Bailey, Sr. Safety Engineer

BOARD STAFF ATTENDING VIA TELECONFERENCE AND/OR WEBEX:

Lara Paskins, Staff Services Manager
Amalia Neidhardt, Sr. Safety Engineer, Spanish Interpreter

IT:

John Gotcher
John Roensch
Brian Monroe
Rey Ursery
Maya Morsi

ALSO PRESENT:

Eric Berg, Deputy Chief of Health, Cal/OSHA
Dr. Jim Seward, Cal/OSHA Medical Unit

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Helen Cleary, Phylmar Regulatory Roundtable
Bruce Wick, Housing Contractors of California
Anne Katten, California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Shelley Trost, Self
Saskia Kim, California Nurses Association
Bethany Miner, Small Business Owner
Tiffany Noia, Self

APPEARANCES (Cont.)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rob Moutrie, California Chamber of Commerce

Maggie Robbins, Worksafe

Kevin Riley, UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program

Brad Bargmeyer, Self

Pam Ragland, Association of Autistic, ADHD and Special Needs Kids

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 JULY 20, 2021

10:02 a.m.

3 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Good morning. This subcommittee
4 meeting of the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board is now
5 called to order. I am Chris Laszcz-Davis, Subcommittee Chair and
6 Management Representative on the Board, and the other Board Members
7 present today for this subcommittee are Ms. Nola Kennedy, Public
8 Member on the Board and liaison for this subcommittee to the Division
9 and Ms. Laura Stock, Occupational Safety Representative on the Board.

10 Also present from our staff for today's meeting are Mr.
11 Michael Manieri, Principal Safety Engineer; Ms. Autumn Gonzalez, Legal
12 Counsel; Ms. Sarah Money, Executive Assistant; and Mr. Michael Nelmida
13 and Ms. Jennifer Bailey, Senior Safety Engineers, who are providing
14 technical support.

15 Supporting the meeting remotely are Ms. Lara Paskins, Staff
16 Services Manager and Ms. Amalia Neidhardt, Senior Safety Engineer, who
17 is providing support to Ms. Kennedy and providing translation services
18 for our commenters who are native Spanish speakers.

19 Via teleconference we are joined today by Dr. Jim Seward,
20 Cal/OSHA Medical Unit; and Mr. Eric Berg, Deputy Chief of Health,
21 representing the Division of Occupational Safety and Health.

22 Today's agenda and other materials related to today's
23 proceedings are posted on the OSHSB website.

24 In accordance with Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20,
25 today's subcommittee meeting is being conducted via teleconference,

5

1 with an optional video component.

2 This meeting is also being live broadcast via video and audio
3 stream in both English and Spanish. Links to these non-interactive live
4 broadcasts can be accessed via the “what’s new” section at the top of the
5 main page of the OSHSB website.

6 We have limited capability for managing participation during
7 the public comment period, so we’re asking everyone who is not speaking
8 to place their phones on mute and wait to unmute until they are called to
9 speak. Those who are unable to do so will be removed from the meeting
10 to avoid disrupting the proceedings.

11 As reflected on the agenda today’s meeting consists of two
12 parts. First, we will hold a business meeting for the subcommittee to
13 conduct its business. During the business meeting there will be an
14 opportunity funding subcommittee to receive public comments. These
15 comments are to be confined to revised COVID-19 Emergency Temporary
16 Standard, or ETS, recently adopted by the Board.

17 Please be aware that the committee is capping the public
18 comment period to 30 minutes. And each speaker during the public
19 comment period will be given two minutes to address the committee.

20 You are also invited to submit your comments in writing to
21 the committee at oshsb@dir.ca.gov. Please be sure to specify that your
22 written comments are for the COVID-19 Prevention ETS Subcommittee so
23 that they are directed accordingly by the Board staff.

24 During the public comment period please listen for your name
25 and an invitation to speak before addressing the committee. And please

6

1 remember to mute your phone or computer after commenting.

2 OSHSB staff can be contacted by email at oshsb@dir.ca.gov or
3 via phone at 916-274-5721 to be placed in the comment queue. If you
4 experience a busy signal or are routed to voicemail please hang up and try
5 again.

6 After the business meeting has concluded we will conduct the
7 second part of our meeting, which consists of subcommittee consideration
8 and deliberation as needed.

9 For our commenters who are native Spanish speakers, we are
10 working with Ms. Amalia Neidhardt to provide translation of their
11 statements into English for the committee. At this time Ms. Neidhardt will
12 provide instructions to the Spanish-speaking commenters so they are aware
13 of the public comment process for today's meeting. Amalia?

14 MS. NEIDHARDT: [READS THE FOLLOWING IN SPANISH] Public
15 Comment Instructions.

16 " Good morning, and thank you for participating in today's
17 Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board COVID-19 Prevention
18 Subcommittee Meeting. Board Members present are Ms. Chris Laszcz-
19 Davis, Subcommittee Chair and Management Representative on the
20 Board, Ms. Nola Kennedy, Public Member on the Board and liaison to the
21 Division for this subcommittee; and Ms. Laura Stock, Occupational Safety
22 Representative on the Board.

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4 it is your turn to address the committee, please be sure to unmute
5 yourself if you're using WebEx or dial *6 on your phone to unmute
6 yourself if you're using the teleconference line. Please be sure to speak
7 slowly and clearly when addressing the committee and please remember
8 to mute your phone or computer after commenting. If you have not
9 provided a written statement, please allow natural breaks after every
10 two sentences, so that we may follow each statement with an English
11 translation."

12 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Thank you.

13 Well, that now brings us to the business portion of the
14 meeting. Let's start with Ms. Kennedy, who will provide the
15 subcommittee with the Subcommittee Liaison Briefing. Nola.

16 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Good morning. It's been a week
17 since our last subcommittee meeting, so not too much has happened.
18 And in the intervening week we had a full Board meeting also during that
19 time.

20 But I did meet with the Division once since then, and
21 basically we just decided we would continue to focus for this meeting on
22 the discussion of metrics, and that's really it. And saying that, I'd
23 actually like to ask Amalia Neidhardt at this point to share what she has
24 discovered over the last week.

25 MS. NEIDHARDT: Thanks, Nola.

1 Yes esteemed members of the COVID-19 Prevention
2 Subcommittee at the July 13th COVID Prevention Subcommittee meeting
3 members of the subcommittee expressed interest in learning about
4 COVID-19 related metrics and/or indicators the states might be using to
5 respond to COVID-19. We are fortunate to have received feedback from
6 a handful of states, but I first want to thank Amber Rose, Fed OSHA
7 representative and Cora Gherga, Cal/OSHA Assistant Chief for their
8 assistance with this project.

9 Several OSHA state plans were contacted. However, due to
10 the limited time available to conduct this study only a handful of states
11 were able to reply to our urgent query. This briefing will highlight the
12 preliminary findings on this ongoing analysis. And I'm going to be a little
13 bit detailed, because every state gave me a lot of information, so I
14 probably won't do justice to them.

15 So first one, Oregon OSHA. Oregon OSHA has a permanent
16 standard, but because of the Governor's Executive Order face coverings
17 and physical distancing requirements have been lifted. The decision was
18 based on either reaching a 70 percent vaccination rate or simply the date
19 June 30th.

20 In alignment with their executive order, Oregon OSHA
21 adopted a temporary amendment set to expire on December 20th, 2021,
22 that will ensure that those particular provisions not be enforced. The
23 rest of the rule is still in effect.

24 The next step will be to initiate permanent rulemaking, so
25 that those amendments become permanent. There is presently a

1 mechanism in place to ensure that the notification process still takes
2 place. That is that workers be notified of a COVID-positive case in their
3 workplace.

4 Oregon OSHA is working jointly with the Oregon Health
5 Authority and the Governor on a permanent regulation to make the
6 amendments permanent, but also to keep in place the mechanism for
7 ensuring that workers are notified of a COVID-positive case in their
8 workplace.

9 Oregon is holding monthly meetings with stakeholders to
10 determine which provisions to stop enforcing next.

11 North Carolina OSHA: North Carolina OSHA has been using
12 metrics from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human
13 Services throughout the pandemic. North Carolina is operating under
14 executive orders issued by their Governor. The current COVID
15 restrictions are under Executive Order 220 and Executive Order 215. The
16 metrics for decision-making are included in those orders and can be
17 somewhat fluid depending upon the vaccination rate.

18 They note the following, and I quote, "Whereas if the state's
19 COVID-19 case rate increases, if the state's vaccination rates slows, or if
20 a new evidence arises regarding the risk of COVID-19 and its variants it
21 may be necessary to re-evaluate whether additional restrictions are
22 necessary to reduce the risk of death and serious illness from COVID-19."

23 North Carolina OSHA has adopted the federal ETS for
24 healthcare verbatim and it starts to go into effect on July 21st, 2021.
25 They have not adopted any emergency standards to date other than this

1 one. And they have been using current standards and their general duty
2 clause in conjunction with CDC guidelines during the COVID period.

3 Next, Washington DOSH, the State of Washington's health
4 emergency has not been removed. However, some restrictions were
5 lifted on June 30th. The decision was based on either reaching a 70
6 percent vaccination rate or simply the date, June 30th.

7 Washington DOSH is in the process of initiating rulemaking in
8 response to state legislative mandates and the Fed OSHA's ETS.

9 Regarding their state's legislative mandates, Senate Bill 5115 is a special
10 piece of legislation. Washington DOSH will be working on an emergency
11 rule that will implement epidemiological thresholds following CDC
12 mitigation strategies for moderate to significant transmission levels, like
13 mandating that any employer with more than 50 employees within 24
14 hours of confirming that 10 or more of their employees have tested
15 positive report the positive tests to the Department.

16 Illinois OSHA. Illinois OSHA has continuously reviewed
17 metrics provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health throughout
18 the pandemic. The Illinois Department of Public Health has a
19 comprehensive COVID-19 site and Illinois is currently in Phase 5 of the
20 Restore Illinois Plan.

21 Illinois OSHA has observed trends in COVID-19 related to
22 employee complaints and employer-reported hospitalizations and
23 fatalities. Illinois OSHA is a state and local government only state plan,
24 with jurisdiction limited to public sector employers. However, they do
25 maintain a close relationship with their federal OSHA partner.

1 Michigan OSHA. Michigan's original COVID rules covered all
2 centers, but the Governor and the State Department of Health Services
3 has since lifted restrictions. The new Emergency Temporary COVID
4 Standard applies only to certain healthcare settings in alignment with
5 federal regulations. MIOSHA can cite non-healthcare employers under
6 the general duty clause and existing MIOSHA standards.

7 Nevada OSHA, no indicators or metrics at this time. Nevada
8 is currently following the ETS identical to the language from Fed OSHA
9 and their governor's directives and declarations, such as
10 recommendations studying indoor public spaces, fully vaccinated people
11 should continue to wear a mask.

12 Virginia OSHA, Virginia has been in the middle of several
13 rulemaking efforts including proposed amendments to its final
14 permanent standard on COVID-19 in a new rulemaking on heat illness
15 prevention.

16 Regarding a specific metrics related to COVID-19, the
17 briefing package on the ETS submitted by their department to the Board
18 contain a section on their findings that the virus presented a grave
19 danger to employees. The briefing package on this final permanent
20 standard was drafted when Virginia and the country had just barely
21 passed the worst of the pandemic and vaccines were still not widely
22 available in case hospitalizations and death rates were at or near the
23 highest point. The briefing package on the current proposed
24 amendments to their final permanent standard explains that the
25 Department is recommending changing their focus from the very high,

1 high, medium, and lower risk at (indiscernible) level approach, to one
2 that focuses on mitigation strategies. Directed at protecting employees
3 who are unvaccinated, not fully vaccinated, or otherwise at risk from the
4 grave danger presented by SARS-CoV-2 virus and its variants, in the
5 COVID-19 disease.

6 The most recent proposed amendments rely on the following
7 metrics: vaccine availability, vaccination rates for adults, including the
8 fact that there remains a certain substantial percentage of the
9 population that has indicated an intention to not get vaccinated, lack of
10 vaccines for children, increasing prevalence of the more contagious Delta
11 variant of the virus in the U.S. and Virginia.

12 The general consensus in the scientific community is that if
13 the Delta variant becomes the dominant strain, pockets of potentially
14 severe outbreaks in the unvaccinated populations are likely to continue
15 throughout the summer and particularly this fall as children and young
16 adults go back to school, college and the temperatures decline, resulting
17 in people being indoors more.

18 At this point the Virginia OSHA program considers COVID-19
19 to be a hazard that will remain serious and life threatening to
20 unvaccinated workers for the remainder of 2021. And possibly into 2022
21 or even beyond, depending on vaccination rates and the potential for
22 additional variants to develop.

23 Because there remains a substantial percentage of the world
24 population that aren't vaccinated, which can serve as virus pools for
25 more serious variants to develop. And because this virus particularly has

1 no respect for borders it seems reasonable to conclude that COVID-19
2 will be something we will continue to have to deal with on a regular
3 basis.

4 New Jersey OSHA. New Jersey announced that the lifting of
5 their restrictions was due to having achieved across the state their
6 COVID-19 benchmark. Including achieving a vaccination rate of 70
7 percent of their adult population as of June 18th, and significant
8 decreases in new COVID cases, decreases in number of hospitalizations,
9 hot spot positivity rates, and rates of transmission. However social
10 distancing, masking and other safety measures are still required in high-
11 risk areas such as healthcare settings, public transportation, shopping
12 centers, and correctional facilities, and homeless shelters.

13 John, if you could please share with all of them the
14 spreadsheet that I have, the data?

15 So the information referenced in this briefing can be
16 requested via email at oshsb@dir.ca.gov. And again due to the -- yes
17 please send an email, because due to the fast pace that we used to
18 gather this data the spreadsheet had to be prepared at the last minute.

19 And that's it for me, sorry.

20 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Yeah. Thank you for that, Amalia.

21 At this point what I'd like to do -- Eric and any other report
22 from the Division before we move on.

23 MR. BERG: Okay, thank you. The Cal/OSHA Medical Unit will
24 speak. The Cal/OSHA Medical Unit is staffed with medical doctors with
25 expertise in occupational medicine and expertise in occupational health.

15

1 And Dr. Seward will now discuss certain metrics related to the
2 transmission of COVID-19 in California workplaces that may be useful in
3 discussions about the COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard. Thank
4 you.

5 Dr. Seward, would you like to speak now?

6 DR. SEWARD: Thanks, Eric, yes. Good morning everybody.

7 I'd like to acknowledge at the outset of these comments that
8 my colleague Dr. Paul Papanek researched these issues and prepared
9 these thoughts for you. But he's unfortunately unable to be here today,
10 so I'm standing in for him and had a chance to review his thoughts and
11 add some of my own.

12 So what I'd like to do is briefly discuss with you six different
13 metrics for which the data is currently being collected by the State of
14 California, or in one case by one private entity. And I'd like to go over
15 the pros and cons of the use of each of those metrics. And they are just
16 to give you a quick overview: the daily rate of verified new COVID-19
17 cases; the percentage of the working-age population that is vaccinated;
18 the number of reported workplace outbreaks; the R Effective Value,
19 which I'll explain in more detail; and then finally Workers' Compensation
20 data, so those are the six.

21 So as you are all probably aware from looking from time to
22 time on the state dashboard there is a daily rate of verified new COVID-
23 19 cases that is published. This is relatively current data, so that's one
24 of the strong points of it is that it really reflects the almost real-time
25 rate of cases that are confirmed by PCR or physician-confirmed. And so

16

1 indirectly this may be a reasonable surrogate for workplace transmission
2 assuming that workplaces reflects the community as a whole.

3 The cons in this is that these cases may not, the captured
4 cases may not reflect asymptomatic spread in those cases that don't
5 come to public health attention.

6 The current rate in California is about 7 verified new cases
7 per 100,000 population per day. And that has approximately doubled in
8 the last 2 weeks. And the reason for that is probably the spreading of
9 the Delta variant, possibly coupled with the relaxation of masking
10 requirements and other projections, which had been in place beforehand.

11 So a second potential metric is the percentage of the
12 working-age population that has been vaccinated. The pros of this is that
13 very high numbers should correlate with reduced risk of transmission.
14 The cons are that the community vaccination rates may not reflect what's
15 happening in any given workforce. And so there could well be pockets in
16 which there's a higher level of risk.

17 We also, especially given the Delta variant really don't have
18 a good sense for what herd immunity, what level the vaccination results
19 in herd immunity. Currently about 66 percent of Californians in the age
20 bracket 18 to 49 are immunized. And it's a lot higher, about 80 percent,
21 for those in the age 50 to 64 who've had at least one dose.

22 A third possible metric is the number of reported workplace
23 outbreaks as compiled under AB 685. As I'm sure most people on the call
24 recognize that employers are required to present -- to report to the local
25 health authorities outbreaks of three cases or more in a two-week period

17

1 in the workplace among people who are not household co-members.

2 And so the pro of this particular metric would be that it is at
3 least occupationally based and that high numbers would certainly
4 indicate ongoing occupational risks. The cons are that it's questionable
5 to what degree this reporting is actually happening. The reporting
6 happens or is close to local -- I mean, county health departments and
7 then is subsequently filtered up to the state, so there is a significant lag
8 time. And so it's likely that many of these outbreaks do not reach the
9 state's data coffer, as it were.

10 Most current data from the California Department of Public
11 Health indicates that there was in April about 477 outbreaks and in May
12 about 219 outbreaks. I don't believe the June data is out yet in
13 reflecting the delay in this data.

14 So a fourth potential metric would be the rate of positive
15 COVID-19 tests, preferably those done by a Polymerase Chain Reaction,
16 the PCR tests. And again, this would be a relatively quickly collected
17 measure, so relatively real time. That's a positive.

18 And the cons are that these tests are oftentimes not done
19 for symptoms, but rather because people need a negative test for
20 administrative reasons and so there's a sort of a dilution factor. And
21 trends in why people decide to get tested may well affect the sensitivity
22 and specificity of this metric for your purposes.

23 At current time about 4.1 percent have tested positive and
24 this rate has increased from 2.3 percent about 8 or 9 days ago, so there's
25 been a significant uptick recently.

1 Okay onto the next, the fifth metric I wanted to discuss with
2 you, and that is the R-value, the effective R-rate. So this is a calculated
3 value that reflects the degree to which are the number of transmissions
4 that any given case has on average. So an R of 1 means each new case of
5 COVID-19 generates 1 new COVID case. So an R less than 1 means that
6 the pandemic is receding. And R greater than 1 means that it is probably
7 increasing. And as a calculated rate there's a fair amount of uncertainty
8 in the precise number, which is a limitation.

9 And the current rate is about 1.29, which is an upward trend
10 over the last few weeks. Again, because most likely of the Delta variant.

11 Then the final metric I wanted to lay out for you was the use
12 of data from the California Workers' Compensation Institute. And this is
13 Workers' Compensation claims that are compiled by the CWCI. A pro of
14 this, is that this source of data is probably the most comprehensive
15 standard of Workers' Compensation data in California, but it's still only a
16 partial collection of all of the cases.

17 The cons are that there is significant delay in this. Some
18 cases are not reported immediately, some are put on delay
19 (indiscernible) and therefore are not submitted. And probably the major
20 issue is that many Workers' Comp cases are not reported by the ill
21 individual, so there can be a very severe problem with underreporting
22 with this particular metric. But it might be helpful for trending.

23 So that's all. Let me just add, what those data are for three
24 recent months. In April there were 1,239 claims, May 741, June 612.

25 So with that I'd be happy to answer any questions that the

1 group may have.

2 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Yeah, thank you very much for that,
3 Dr. Seward.

4 Open for questions, Laura?

5 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, thank you so much. That was
6 really, really helpful. I appreciate all of that information.

7 So I have a question about the work place outbreak data, and
8 this has come up before, but it seems clear that what is really needed
9 and what is going to be most useful for targeting prevention efforts is
10 specific worksite data. In other words, I know that employers report to
11 local health departments, but all that we're seeing on the websites of
12 CDPH is industry data.

13 So I think it would be really useful for this committee to be
14 able to have access to worksite data reports. And I don't whether you
15 can answer this, not being at CDPH, but I wonder whether you could
16 comment on that, what you know about that. And then I'm just also
17 thinking that it would be good to specifically request from CDPH that a
18 report on worksite specific data be provided. So do you have any
19 comments on that Dr. Seward?

20 DR. SEWARD: Well first, thanks, Laura. I appreciate your
21 comment and your question.

22 I believe under AB 685 that that information is available, at
23 least to the County Health Department. Whether it is rolled up at the
24 state level I'm not sure and so I really can't answer that part of the
25 question. But at least it already exists, which is a major step forward. It

20

1 would not require a -- all of these measures I'm talking about are really
2 passive surveillance, which means that the systems are set up and the
3 data goes to some degree automatically to the recipient. And
4 presumably an extension of that by collecting worksites, rolling up
5 worksite specific data would be possible with not a huge, additional
6 investment.

7 But again I have to put the caution out there that I haven't
8 directly been involved in the collection of this data, so I'm not sure what
9 the CDPH folks would say about that.

10 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Thank you. Also I'm wondering
11 whether we could specifically request CDPH to provide that data to the
12 committee, perhaps at our next meeting. Does anybody have any
13 comments on that?

14 MS. SHUPE: Laura, can I ask -- because generally worksite
15 specific data is used for enforcement action, so what -- can you help
16 clarify how that worksite specific data will be used for the regulation?

17 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: It gives us more specific
18 information about what kinds of facilities are experiencing outbreaks.
19 And industry information is very, very broad and it doesn't really allow us
20 to target. You know, it is true that it's really important for enforcement
21 information as you mentioned. But I think given that our purpose is to
22 really get the closest possible picture of what's happening in the
23 workplace, I think getting that more specific data would be really, really
24 helpful. And it does sound as if it's available and could be provided.

25 MS. SHUPE: And so I just want to make sure that when that

1 request is forwarded we're really clear about what it is we're hoping to
2 achieve here. So what I'm hearing from you is that the kinds of facilities,
3 that's what you are interested in, because that again is not necessarily
4 workspace worksite-specific?

5 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, what I think I am interested
6 in is worksite-specific data to the extent that that can be made available.
7 I know that there's been examples. I've seen L.A. County, for example,
8 has collected that and made that available on the website, at least in the
9 past. I haven't looked recently, but I know that some people that we've
10 worked with have captured and used that where it was really reported in
11 terms of the specific worksites. So I think that's an example of where it
12 was deemed useful for the public to be able to know that, and for people
13 who are trying to monitor trends and be able to know where
14 enforcement again would be needed, and where problems are occurring.

15 So it just feels like since we're talking about metrics here
16 we're trying to get the most complete picture that can help us know how
17 to proceed. And since I know that -- and since according to what Dr.
18 Seward has reported that data is available. It feels like a very important
19 piece of the picture.

20 MS. SHUPE: Okay great, thank you.

21 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Thank you.

22 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: And Laura, do bring that up as we
23 move into committee deliberations later on as a request, okay. Any
24 other comments, questions? Nola?

25 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Yeah, as we continue this

1 discussion I do want to say that it will be important, Laura, for us to
2 figure out exactly how we might use the data you're asking for, for
3 rulemaking. And not just necessarily for interest in seeing where things
4 are happening. We have sort of limited bandwidth. And so if it's useful
5 for using as deciding when we're going to tighten up restrictions or
6 loosen restrictions then I would like to have that clarified as to what
7 you're thinking.

8 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, I mean we can think more
9 about this. And then I think as we hear from the public we'll be
10 interested to have them weigh in as well. But as I said I think we've
11 decided as a committee to delve, dig deep into metrics to truly, to really
12 be able to get the biggest and most complete picture that we possibly
13 can of what's going on in workplaces.

14 So in general I believe that that information is very useful for
15 that effort in both understanding where problems are occurring and how
16 we might characterize it once we get more detailed information about
17 the kinds of places where outbreaks are occurring. And I think that's
18 going to be useful information, as well as all of the metrics that we just
19 heard about in terms of being able to get the most complete picture of
20 what's happening in the workplace.

21 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: You know, all I'm going to suggest is at
22 this point let's just explore the possibility of securing that kind of data.
23 We're not really sure what's available and what the landscape looks like,
24 so it's an initial request for exploration as to what's available and our
25 access to it. So if we can leave it at that for the moment I think we're

23

1 good.

2 Any other comments on Dr. Seward's presentation, Eric's and
3 Dr. Seward's presentation? Because we'll have another opportunity to
4 talk about this later as well.

5 Well thank you very much Dr. Seward, that really was very
6 informative. It certainly set some, if you will, benchmarks for us that I
7 think will be useful as we move forward.

8 DR. SEWARD: Thank you.

9 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: And with that what I'd like to do now
10 is open this up to the public comment period.

11 MS. SHUPE: Chris?

12 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Yes?

13 MS. SHUPE: I'm so sorry and I hate to interrupt, but we had
14 a technical issue earlier with Amalia's spreadsheet that she wanted to
15 share. And I believe John has that up and ready to put on the screen for
16 now.

17 And I just want to reiterate for all of our stakeholders who
18 are participating, a lot of this data is coming in very fast and on very
19 short notice prior to the meetings. And we have a choice, we can either
20 release it ahead of the meeting and not discuss it for three weeks. Or
21 we can present it to you today when the data comes in late at night the
22 night before. And we have made the decision to go ahead and get you
23 this information as quickly as possible. And then to make it available to
24 you by request you can email oshsb@dir.ca.gov and we will go ahead and
25 get that spreadsheet out to you.

24

1 And then keep in mind that the subcommittee meetings are
2 separate from the Board meetings. And so often in Board meetings we
3 bring an item up, we resolve it and we move on. The subcommittee
4 process is an ongoing discussion. So this data that's coming up, you'll
5 see it today, you'll have an opportunity to look at it, and then it will also
6 be available for discussion at the next subcommittee meeting. Thank
7 you.

8 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Thank you very much for that,
9 Christina.

10 And so with that let's move on to the public comment
11 period. We will now proceed with the public comment period. Anyone
12 who wishes to address the committee regarding the revised COVID-19
13 Emergency Temporary Standard, or ETS recently adopted by the Board is
14 invited to comment. Once again please listen for your name and an
15 invitation to speak before addressing the committee. When it is your
16 turn to address the committee please be sure to unmute yourself if
17 you're using WebEx or dial *6 on your phone to unmute yourself if you're
18 using the teleconference line. Please be sure to speak slowly and clearly
19 when addressing the committee. And -please remember to mute your
20 phone or computer after commenting.

21 Mr. Gotcher, do we have any commenters in the queue?

22 MR. GOTCHER: Our first commenters are Helen Cleary, Bruce
23 Wick and Anne Katten, with first Helen Cleary from the Phylmar
24 Regulatory Roundtable.

25 MS. CLEARY: Good morning, thank you. I'm Helen Cleary, I'm

25

1 the Director of PRR, a member-led occupational safety and health
2 forum. I thank you for holding another meeting and for the updates that
3 are offered today.

4 The insight and perspective shared by Dr. Seward was very
5 helpful, so thank you for that. It's clear that each data set has pros and
6 cons, but we should definitely continue to analyze and consider each
7 data set because I think it will tell a larger story. We'd like to take a
8 closer look at it as we review the data that's currently available through
9 the CHHS Open Data program, which (indiscernible) will be doing.

10 On that note I just want to point out that unlike other data
11 sets, for example the cases' deaths and tests or the hospitalization data
12 sets. The outbreak data is the only data that's not broken down by date
13 that's available on the site. It's currently cumulative and it's industry-
14 specific, but it doesn't include any time frames. We think that knowing
15 the industries associated with the outbreaks is very beneficial, but
16 without some sort of date we are unable to see the trends. Reviewing
17 the total numbers doesn't give a full perspective or indication of what is
18 taking place.

19 We've been communicating with the CHHS Open Data team
20 and requested this information. They actually responded this morning
21 and said they're unable to provide it because there are other requests in
22 the queue and they have limited resources, which we understand. But
23 we do encourage the subcommittee to request this information, so we
24 can see that entire story.

25 Eric Berg shared information from a data set on outbreaks

1 for the dates of June 28 through July 6 at the last subcommittee
2 meeting, which was great. So it is possible to clear the data by date or
3 some sort of time window.

4 Also, regarding outbreaks it's important to remember that a
5 workplace outbreak is not a direct indication of failure of the employer's
6 COVID-19 prevention plan. The definition of an outbreak is three or
7 more cases and it does not consider the total number of exposed
8 employees. When PRR voiced concerns about this definition prior and
9 after the ETS became effective, I believe it was at the advisory
10 committee meetings in December. And I think it was Chief Parker who
11 explained that the reason for the low trigger of three was to prevent
12 spread, and we understood that. It was not to find fault or reason to
13 target and blame the employer.

14 Knowing the industry trends are helpful in determining
15 similarities across work environments. And it also gives insight on the
16 types of facilities as Ms. Stock discussed a few moments ago. Those
17 similarities are why following industry-specific guidance was so effective
18 last year. So that's one way to utilize the information on outbreaks and
19 having the dates will help that analysis, so we encourage kind of diving
20 into those time windows with that information.

21 Finally, regarding the benchmarking --

22 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

23 MS. CLEARY: -- information that Amalia Neidhardt shared,
24 well done. Personally I know this information is very difficult to track
25 and I understand it keeps coming and changing, so we look forward to

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1 following that progress. Thank you for doing that work.

2 I wanted to add that because of limitations of the temporary
3 rulemaking process Oregon OSHA's ETS, their temporary standard
4 expired. I think that it was in May that it expired. And that was the
5 reason that it became permanent. In meetings that I have attended in
6 the past Oregon OSHA has stated to stakeholders that they intend to
7 repeal that permanent standard when they can.

8 MR. GOTCHER: Three minutes.

9 MS. CLEARY: So thank you for your time today and we look
10 forward to more discussions. And work closely to follow all the trends
11 that are happening in California. Thank you.

12 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenter is Bruce Wick from the
13 Housing Contractors of California.

14 MR. WICK: Thank you, thanks for the time. I appreciate all
15 the info. I have two comments about the outbreak data, which is
16 important and very valuable data and I think being underutilized.

17 First is in the outbreak data it is broken down by 250
18 different segments of industry. It wouldn't take someone that long to
19 sort that out and tell us not only what's happening, but the trending
20 could be available, because it is evidently reported month by month. But
21 it does show like healthcare is 44 percent of all outbreaks, 52 percent of
22 all cases. So healthcare is a big part of it, but there is 15 different
23 subsets in the healthcare industry. So that information could be mined
24 and presented on a monthly basis and trended and I think would really
25 help us.

1 But I will also inform as of Friday there was a published
2 appellate decision from San Diego, Case Number D-as-in-David 078415,
3 the Voice of San Diego, wanting specific site information. And the
4 appellate court denied that information agreeing with the County of San
5 Diego whose Public Health Officer said, "A problem that you have with it
6 is disclosing," this is the county's --

7 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

8 MR. WICK: -- Dr. Wooten -- " -- disclosing the exact name
9 and address of an outbreak location would have a chilling effect on the
10 public's willingness to cooperate with contact tracing efforts." So I think
11 we're going to have a real hard time trying to access any specific
12 information. But there's hugely more information to mine and to trend
13 out of the outbreak data that is proposed that is already posted.

14 So I hope we do that for our next meeting, and someone
15 would keep that up. I think that would be very helpful information.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenters are Anne Katten,
18 Shelley Trost and Saskia Kim, with next Anne Katten from the CRLA
19 Foundation.

20 MS. KATTEN: Hi, good morning. This is Anne Katten. Can
21 you hear me?

22 MR. GOTCHER: Yes. We can.

23 MS. KATTEN: Oh great. Okay, didn't see the light.

24 Thank you very much for all your continued work and I
25 appreciate the updated information on our metrics and outbreaks. And

29

1 just wanted to remind you that we really, really also need to get any
2 outbreak data from employer-provided housing and transportation, this
3 is really critical.

4 I also think having the data supplied as specifically as
5 possible is really important. If you can't provide it by worksite yet, at
6 least by county level and industry would be really helpful, but I think
7 worksite would be very important.

8 Given the resurgence in infection levels we feel it is time to
9 eliminate the self-attestation of vaccination as an option, because it is
10 not ensuring that unvaccinated workers are masking. We also think that
11 it is really time to retighten the ETS to require masking indoors for both
12 vaccinated and the unvaccinated as was initially proposed.

13 And for the worker, for employer-provided housing to
14 reinstitute the physical distancing in bedrooms, because you can't wear a
15 mask 24/7, obviously, in housing. And just that will reduce the density in
16 housing of potential infection.

17 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

18 MS. KATTEN: And this is also important in transport. And in
19 housing and transportation even when workers are all vaccinated we
20 think this is really needed now. Thank you.

21 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenter is Shelley Trost.

22 MS. TROST: Hi, I'm here today on my behalf and on behalf of
23 thousands of people in California to ask that you stop the forced control
24 mask-wearing of employees that have chosen not to get the COVID shots.
25 As well as the K through 12 school-aged children from forced mask

1 wearing.

2 Over the last six months the way people feel in the
3 workplace that have chosen not to get the shot is passive-aggressive.
4 And people that are not infected with COVID-19 should not be caused to
5 wear mask barriers, it's discrimination.

6 The new decision of your organization on June 15th has
7 caused increased division in our state and in the workplace. Much like
8 the tuberculosis test if you would like to ask people to be tested for
9 COVID then request it at the employer's discretion and the employer's
10 expense. If the test is negative, case closed.

11 The shot is not a legal vaccine. It was not tested and tried
12 through the proper vaccine channels. It is like the flu shot and the
13 pneumonia shot, the COVID shot is a choice. Those that choose not to
14 get the shot should be left alone. Asking people if they have been given
15 a shot is in violation of the HIPAA law and human rights are being
16 violated on so many levels with this.

17 The whole point of others getting the vaccine is that it's
18 considered safe now, correct?

19 And children, they are not the population that got the
20 disease over the past 18 months. Recovering for them --

21 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

22 MS. TROST: -- is as the flu. They should not be forced to
23 wear the unhealthy confining masks at school all day, not to mention the
24 shot is killing children as well as adults.

25 Masks should be banned in society effective immediately

1 and shots should continue to be a choice. HIPAA and human rights
2 should stop being violated. Thank you for your time and thank you for
3 hearing me.

4 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenters are Saskia Kim,
5 Bethany Miner and Tiffany Noia, with next Saskia Kim from the California
6 Nurses Association.

7 MS. KIM: Thank you, good morning. This is Saskia Kim of the
8 California Nurses Association. I just wanted to briefly comment on the
9 use of Workers' Compensation data, which has been discussed both today
10 and in previous meetings. Our nurses have had experience with the
11 Workers' Compensation system and so I just wanted to pass along a few
12 thoughts.

13 I want to first say at the outset that my comments are
14 related to more general issues with Workers' Comp, they aren't COVID-
15 specific. But our members do report significant issues with access to
16 Workers' Compensation issues, both with the system itself getting
17 coverage, and even problems with their employers directly. We've had
18 instances when employers have told nurses that their injury was not
19 sufficiently work-related. And as a result the nurse does not file a
20 Workers' Compensation claim. So we have significant concerns about any
21 reliance on data being -- potentially an underreporting of injuries.

22 Also, employers have told nurses to use their own paid sick
23 leave and other time instead of using Workers' Compensation. And in
24 fact we had a bill last year where the hospitals admitted they're doing
25 this. Actually, during a Senate Labor Committee hearing we had a letter

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1 from one of our hospitals that told our employees to use their available
2 sick time or PTO rather than Workers' Compensation.

3 And so data from Workers' Compensation carriers, or DWC
4 doesn't accurately capture the many instances where nurses do not file
5 reports or claims, because the system is either so burdensome to
6 navigate, or there is a fear of retaliation, or they're not even just aware
7 that they can file as well.

8 So I wanted to pass along long those kind of real-world
9 experiences from our nurses for your consideration. Thank you.

10 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenter is Bethany Miner.

11 MS. MINER: Good morning. I wanted to thank all of you for
12 everything that you've been doing through this incredible pandemic. I
13 did want to encourage you guys to have more of a roundtable discussion.
14 I know that there was talk of doing more of a roundtable discussion at
15 some point and I hope that you consider that in the future.

16 And also I wanted to talk about the Work Comp data. I am a
17 small business owner. We've got over 400 employees. And while we did
18 have employees test positive there was nobody who tested positive who
19 actually got COVID-19 in the workplace. So I do have concern over the
20 data that you're looking at and how it's interpreted.

21 So hopefully you guys have access to the SB 1159 data. So
22 that required employers to report to the Work Comp company any
23 positive case, but it did not actually have anything to do whether it was
24 considered a Work Comp case. So it was strictly a positive test, but that
25 could have been an employee who had exposure from their home or from

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1 some other place other than work. It was just simply a positive test.

2 Also with the outbreak, again that's three or more
3 employees. That has nothing to do whether or not they got COVID in the
4 workplace. So I do have a little bit of concern over the information that
5 you're getting and what the assumptions are about that information. I
6 wish that there was a better way --

7 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

8 MS. MINER: -- for you guys to understand whether
9 somebody actually got COVID in the workplace or whether it was a
10 community situation or home or someone's taking a vacation and getting
11 COVID. So I'd be happy to discuss that further. And thank you for your
12 time

13 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenters are Tiffany Noia,
14 Robert Moutrie and Maggie Robbins, with next Tiffany Noia.

15 MS. NOIA: Hello, I'm going to be discussing a case that was
16 filed on July 19th, 2021, in the United States District Court for the
17 Northern District of Alabama, America's Frontline Doctors, et al. are the
18 plaintiffs versus Xavier Becerra, Secretary of the U.S. Department of
19 Health and Human Services.

20 And the plaintiffs' motions were a preliminary injunction.
21 The plaintiffs move under Rule 65 for a preliminary injunction against
22 defendants enjoining themselves from continuing to authorize the
23 emergency use of the so-called Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine,
24 Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, and the Johnson and Johnson COVID-19
25 vaccine pursuant to their respective EUAS. And granting full Food and

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1 Drug Administration FDA approval of the vaccines for the under-18 age
2 category for those regardless of age who have been infected with SARS-
3 CoV-2 prior to vaccination.

4 And until such time as the defendants have complied with
5 their obligation to create and maintain the requisite conditions of
6 authorization under Section 546 of the Food, Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 21
7 U.S.C. § 360bbb voluntary informed consent. A summary of --

8 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

9 MS. NOIA: -- of facts the unlawful vaccine emergency use
10 authorizations, there is no emergency and there is also -- number two,
11 there is no fact, serious or life-threatening disease or conditions. The
12 vaccines do not diagnose, treat --

13 MR. GOTCHER: Three minutes.

14 MS. NOIA: -- or prevent SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19. And thank
15 you for your time.

16 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenter is Robert Moutrie from
17 the California Chamber of Commerce.

18 MR. MOUTRIE: Good morning everybody, hopefully you can
19 hear me okay. Thank you for the data today. First of course it was really
20 helpful. I've made notes on it, but in two minutes I'm going to skip
21 them. My comments are to looking forward to the subcommittee and
22 what I think is coming.

23 Three points there, first I do think that I would ask that we,
24 looking forward, set a date sometime next month perhaps to really allow
25 time for input on different next steps, right? And this goes to a comment

35

1 I think Laura asked about, "How will the ETS wind down? Or
2 procedurally what does that look like?" I think was asked last meeting.
3 Maybe not you, Laura, apologies if not.

4 But I think that if we are looking at readoption potentially in
5 a couple of months and then a time period for drafting and work and
6 then the potential expiration and if there is a next step, kind of what will
7 that be in 2022? And I think we need a discussion weighing those pros
8 and cons. Obviously some options would include IIPP changes, ATD
9 standard changes, a permanent reg with neither COVID or novel
10 pathogens. I think a weighing of those with pros and cons, with some
11 time to allow stakeholders to gather input beforehand would be
12 appreciated as a meeting.

13 The only other point I'll briefly add is our metrics. I think we
14 should keep in mind their use. We spend a long time discussing what
15 would be helpful. I think we should also keep in mind that the metrics
16 use, in my mind and depending on drafting, is not going to be putting a
17 percent trigger into some text. It's pieces of background data for the
18 Board to look at when considering readoption decisions in a couple of
19 months or next text. So I don't think that we need to come to a perfect
20 sense of this is the ideal metric. But I think more --

21 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

22 MR. MOUTRIE: -- kind of what range of variables we think
23 would give us certain feelings of safety or feelings of comparative ease.
24 And I just want to shape the discussion with that thought because I think
25 it hasn't been mentioned recently.

1 MR. MOUTRIE: Was that my time call? I couldn't hear
2 someone in the background.

3 MR. GOTCHER: Oh yeah, that was 30 seconds. You still have
4 probably 10, 15 seconds.

5 MR. MOUTRIE: Okay. On the last point I would say as for
6 industry data and worksite specific data I question a little bit, and I think
7 this discussion was raised by Christina, but how that would fit into
8 drafting. Unless the Board is considering it zip code by zip code text I
9 have some -- or a business-specific regulation, which I think has legal
10 concerns, I have some question about how that would be used.

11 And that's my time, thank you for listening.

12 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenters are Maggie Robbins,
13 Kevin Riley and Brad Bargmeyer, with next Maggie Robbins from
14 Worksafe.

15 MS. ROBBINS: Hi guys, thank you for taking my comments. I
16 just want to talk about one point and that is this discussion of getting
17 the worksite outbreak data. I am in 100 percent support that it is not
18 intended to shame employers, that is not the goal in getting it. It is to
19 help us understand the state of the pandemic at this moment.

20 In the same way the test positivity data has weaknesses and
21 the same way that we know, for example, that many people don't even
22 have symptoms who have COVID, so therefore a symptoms check isn't
23 totally reliable either. There's all sorts of data points out there that are
24 useful, so it's useful to know who's got symptoms, it's useful to know the
25 test positivity rate. And this, to me, outbreak data is a useful data point.

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1 I do understand that there's a need to probably control
2 messaging about it in order to say this is not about the employer caused
3 this, this is about COVID cases showing up in a worksite, which could
4 have been spread. That's the point of having it because we've had a
5 number of worksites that have reported dozens and hundreds of cases,
6 right? So we do know worksite spread occurs.

7 But yes, it doesn't mean that every outbreak was due
8 primarily to worksite spread. It's messy data in that way, but it's a useful
9 indicator of where we are in terms of the pandemic.

10 I wonder if everybody here has actually even looked at the
11 spreadsheets of what CDPH currently provides. They break it out by
12 industry down and using any ICS codes, down into the sub-industries.
13 And I happen to be looking at this moment at their June 28th data, it's
14 current through June 28th. And just in the last 30 days they're reporting
15 5,436 new cases in outbreaks in a total of 381 outbreaks; that's just in
16 the last 30 days.

17 So this is just to illustrate the state has a lot of data they are
18 getting from the counties, which at a minimum they could report at the
19 county level.

20 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

21 MS. ROBBINS: So we can understand, for example, is the
22 situation in meatpacking better now in Fresno County than it was a few
23 months ago? Is the situation in the warehouses in the Inland Empire or
24 in L.A. County or in Sacramento better than it was, or is it getting worse?
25 It's just another data point to tell us where the pandemic is going. And

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1 having it more geographically located is really important to understand
2 that.

3 MR. GOTCHER: Two minutes, thirty seconds.

4 MS. ROBBINS: The statewide aggregate data is sort of useful.
5 But if we could have it more down to more exact locations, at a minimum
6 county level but really more exact locations, it's to help us understand
7 where the pandemic is headed and where the focus to prevent new
8 spread needs to happen. Thank you very much.

9 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenter is Kevin Riley from the
10 UCLA Labor Occupational Health and Safety Program.

11 MR. RILEY: Hi, good morning everyone. Thank you for
12 having this forum and for giving an opportunity to speak. I want to build
13 on this discussion about the value of worksite outbreak data. And
14 specifically I thought I could share a little bit about what we've been
15 doing here in Los Angeles, given that our L.A. County Department of
16 Public Health has been making this information available.

17 Our Department has been putting out on a website, they've
18 been putting out worksites in L.A. County where there are cases of
19 employees who've been confirmed, tested positive with COVID. And
20 they're keeping this data -- I think the data goes back to at least July, I
21 think it might go back to even earlier months in the pandemic -- and it's
22 maintained in real time. So on any given day you can go in and see
23 where the county is listing what they consider to be active outbreaks
24 where they are investigating cases.

25 Our program at UCLA has been kind of taking captures of

1 that data over the last year, in part because we've been really
2 interested in this question about where there have been case clusters
3 and what different industries and sectors. So I have been working with
4 some graduate students, we've been kind of doing some rough coding of
5 this data based on industry and sector. And we've actually been able to
6 create sort of some time series over the last year, really looking at as
7 cases have gone up what sectors do we see the largest: the largest
8 number of worksites with outbreaks and the largest number of
9 employees who have been impacted.

10 And I'd be happy to share some of this. We have been kind
11 of keeping some documentation on our website for folks who might be
12 interested to see our own analysis of this data. But in addition to things
13 like seeing massive clusters of impacts and things in healthcare or
14 corrections --

15 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

16 MR. RILEY: -- we've been able to track the outbreaks here in
17 manufacturing and warehouse and wholesale. And even now with the
18 numbers are really low we're just starting to see some increases and the
19 county reporting some additional worksites with outbreaks in sectors like
20 restaurants and bars, so some of these public-facing sectors. So it does
21 bring some real value in being able to kind of track where cases are
22 happening.

23 The health department has used that data to shape targeted
24 education and outreach to different medical areas--

25 MR. GOTCHER: Three minutes.

1 MR. RILEY: -- different sectors, to shape enforcement
2 activities, and sort of inspection activities as well.

3 So I think that L.A. County data does serve as a really
4 valuable model. And I think having that data more widely available
5 across the state to look at variations in sort of sectors and time series, I
6 think all of that would be really helpful at the state level as well as OSHA
7 continues to do your work in terms of enforcement. So thanks.

8 MR. GOTCHER: Our next commenter is Brad Bargmeyer who
9 has no affiliation. And if you dialed into the WebEx you will need to
10 press *6 to unmute yourself.

11 MR. BARGMEYER: Okay, oh I didn't know. Can you hear me
12 now?

13 MR. GOTCHER: We can hear you.

14 MS. SHUPE: Yes, we can hear you.

15 MR. BARGMEYER: So my name is Brad Bargmeyer. I'm a
16 certified safety professional, but I'm not here on behalf of an
17 organization today. What I am is a participant in the Novavax Phase 3
18 trial. And I wanted to raise a comment about the section 3205 (b)(9),
19 which has the definition of who is fully vaccinated for purposes of
20 workplace rules.

21 One, the way the regulation is written right now is it leaves
22 those of us in Phase 3 trials kind of in limbo. The Phase 3 Novavax
23 published its "New England Journal of Medicine" on June 30th and the
24 results were good enough that the CDC has issued us official cards now
25 that we are fully vaccinated. However, the workplace rules say that we

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1 are not. And so we're kind of in this place where some employers we're
2 going to be under pressure to get a different vaccine even though we
3 have one that scientifically works just fine. And this is happening in the
4 UK also where they are wrestling with making sure that people who are
5 participants in the Phase 3 trial are not disadvantaged.

6 And I knew that in December when we started the Phase 3
7 trials we didn't think about this, we didn't have rules for the workplace
8 for vaccinated versus not, the situation has changed. But what I would
9 ask is that you add a little bullet point so that Phase 3 trial participants
10 can be considered fully vaccinated so that we can stay in the study.
11 Because if we go get a different vaccine, first of all we're not sure how
12 safe it is right now, but it means that we have to drop out of the study if
13 we get something else.

14 And so the CDC, it looks like they are satisfied that it's safe
15 and works just as well as one of the other ones, so we would ask that --

16 MR. GOTCHER: Thirty seconds.

17 MR. BARGMEYER: -- ask that you update the regulation, so
18 that we can stay in the studies and continue on.

19 I do think that some of these other vaccines will help with
20 that vaccine hesitancy, because they are not mRNA vaccines, but we need
21 to stay in the study and finish out the two years of the study to be sure.
22 So thank you very much for the opportunity.

23 MR. GOTCHER: And there are no further commenters in our
24 queue at this time.

25 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Thank you very much for all of your

1 comments.

2 What I'd like to do at this point is move this over to
3 something I'll call "Subcommittee Considerations." Do any of the
4 members of our subcommittee have further items that they would like to
5 discuss or discuss any of the presentations today? Laura?

6 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, a couple of things. So I just
7 want to make one comment on the issue of community spread and
8 wanting to be sure that we tease that information out, that's been
9 discussed a couple of times.

10 And I just want to share my view on this is that what the ETS
11 is doing is addressing risk in the workplace. If somebody comes into a
12 workplace with COVID, a worker or the public who has COVID and got it
13 in the community the minute that person comes into the workplace
14 people in that workplace are exposed. So a lot of the provisions in the
15 ETS are relating to minimize the opportunity for people who are exposed
16 to a case.

17 It's less critical where that case came from. And recognizing,
18 in fact, that high community spread means that more people are going to
19 be coming into a workplace with COVID, but that's not the critical issue.
20 The critical issue is that when there is a COVID case in the workplace no
21 matter where it has originated, it then becomes a potential risk for other
22 workers in that workplace. I just wanted to make that comment.

23 But I did want to mention a couple of other issues that I'm
24 hoping we can talk about. One is, and this is a question I have for Eric,
25 and we can pull that -- I know, Nola, you had some comments too so

1 maybe you can answer my question now or after Nola speaks. I'd like to
2 hear more about the impact on the ETS now that we are seeing
3 communities step forward to recommend in many cases or mandate
4 indoor masking, such as happened in L.A. County. So we are seeing now
5 where that mask rule was rolled back. There's a lot of people who're
6 thinking that it needs to be reinstated.

7 So I'd like to get some clarification on when a county or a
8 local public health department or county public health department
9 mandates requirements that are now going beyond what is required in
10 the ETS, the implication of that both in enforcement and monitoring of
11 that. So I have that question.

12 And then two other points, I think it's really urgent that we
13 take a look at vaccine verification considering what Anne Katten said
14 about the issue of self-attestation. Because I think many of the reasons
15 that people are trying to recommend universal masking is precisely,
16 because people can't tell for sure who is vaccinated and who isn't, which
17 really raises the importance of having vaccine verification.

18 And another issue that I'd like to put on an agenda is the
19 impact of the Delta variant on a lot of the issues that we've discussed.
20 For example, at least there's anecdotal -- I've been reading that there is
21 now more evidence that there can be breakthrough infections among
22 vaccinated people. As well as we've seen examples of where vaccinated
23 people who are infected then have been able to infect other vaccinated
24 people. So it is an issue that is relevant to the revision that was recently
25 passed by the Board that no longer requires quarantining for vaccinated

1 people. And I'd like to look at that as well.

2 So those are sort of three points I have, and one particular
3 question about public health mandates that go beyond the ETS. So I
4 don't know whether we want to get Eric's response or hear from Nola.

5 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: You know what I'd like to do -- forgive
6 me if I'm jumping in here, forgive me Eric, forgive me Laura -- what I'd
7 like to do at this point is to focus on the presentations that we've had so
8 far on metrics. And we'll get to those points, Laura and Eric, as we talk
9 about future subcommittee agenda items. So we kind of jumped the gun
10 here, so bear with me here on this one.

11 I'd like to just start off by saying that well Nola if you have a
12 comment to make about the metrics why don't you go ahead and do that.
13 And then I've got a couple of thoughts I'd like to say, just so that we stay
14 focused on metrics.

15 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Yeah, I just wanted to mention
16 that in a meeting that I had with DOSH, and representatives from CDPH
17 were there, basically we were speaking to a woman who was dealing with
18 how the state benchmarked their decisions to release the restrictions or
19 remove restrictions. And sort of the comment she made was, "Keep it
20 simple. If you're choosing to look at metrics you can go down a rabbit
21 hole really quickly." And she didn't say that she necessarily felt that -- I
22 guess she felt that you were never going to get all the information you
23 wanted. And if you had to come up with something it was best to keep it
24 simple.

25 And then outside of that another comment I wanted to make

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1 was I am appreciative of this exploration of metrics. And I think we
2 need to explore them as much as possible, mostly so that we feel
3 comfortable with the amount of information that is available and what is
4 available. But I think taking the advice to avoid going down a rabbit hole
5 is probably good advice.

6 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Yes, thank you for that, Nola.

7 I wonder if I could just share a thought or two. By the way I
8 do want to thank the Division and the Standards Board staff for the
9 incredible work. I mean, everybody pivoting on a dime, so thank you
10 very much for the presentations today.

11 I want to address just a real quick comment by one of the
12 people during the public comment period about desire for a round table.
13 If you recall I think we shared that in fact, it would be the Division would
14 be holding an advisory committee exercise and process. That is not
15 within the purview of the subcommittee, but what we will try to do is at
16 least open this up to comments for each of the metrics. And I think we
17 can do that and I think we need to stay with that.

18 In terms of the metrics I think we need to provide, have an
19 opportunity even now, to have the people who participated in this all to
20 provide us the pros and cons of metrics. And the pros and cons we've
21 heard from Dr. Seward, and we've heard from Amalia, we've heard from
22 others. Are there any others who feel they need to provide some input
23 to the strengths, the pros, the cons of the metrics that we've discussed
24 today before we begin to summarize what we've had today?

25 MS. SHUPE: Chris, with your leave before we open this up I'd

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1 like to just address some practical process matters for the stakeholders
2 who wish to respond to your request. The subcommittee consideration
3 portion of today's meeting is really an opportunity for members to
4 engage in open and robust discussion. And I'm saying this not just for
5 the subcommittee's edification, but also for our participants who are
6 watching today.

7 So stakeholders who at this time have substantive
8 information to contribute to Chris's request can use the raise-your-hand
9 function in WebEx to request to speak. If you are participating via
10 teleconference you can press *3 to raise your hand.

11 I just want to note for everybody that this is not a public
12 comment session. We are still in subcommittee consideration. And so
13 staff or committee members will call on stakeholders who are then
14 invited to participate. If you're not called on to address the committee
15 at this time please remain muted.

16 And know that if you have additional information to share
17 with the committee and you haven't been able to do that during today's
18 public comment session or you're not called on you can still share that
19 information by emailing it to oshsb@dir.ca.gov. Or you can provide your
20 comments during the public comment portion of any of our future
21 meetings.

22 And again, I'll just remind everybody that it's an ongoing
23 discussion so if you feel unprepared today please remember what Chris
24 said at our last meeting, we're building this plane as we fly it. So know
25 that this is an ongoing process, but she does want to go ahead and open

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1 this up. So if you have something you'd like to share with the
2 subcommittee on the metrics specifically go ahead and use the raise-
3 your-hand function.

4 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: And I wonder if I might just say one
5 more thing -- and thank you for the clarification, Christina. Again, we
6 struggled with how we could engage with participants on this all short of
7 an advisory committee process. And we're going to try this today and
8 see how it works.

9 We seek your input, substantive comments on any of the
10 metrics discussed or others that we may have not discussed. But what I
11 don't think would bring great value are comments like, "I support this or
12 I don't support that." So give us the benefit of your knowledge on what
13 you've heard today. So thank you.

14 MS. SHUPE: And so the first person that we have with
15 additional information will be Bethany Miner. Bethany, if you could
16 unmute. Okay. I'm not seeing Bethany unmute. Oh, there she is.

17 MS. MINER: Okay, sorry about that. I just wanted to
18 comment on something that Laura just said about the workplace
19 outbreaks and how it really doesn't matter whether it was in the
20 workplace or not, because if they were in the workplace then they have
21 the potential to spread.

22 I do want to clarify that when employers were following all
23 of the ETS standards there was a lot of times where that employee was
24 not in the workplace. So we were keeping up on making sure that
25 anybody who was sick did not come into the workplace and then they

1 weren't actually in the workplace.

2 So I still think that that Work Comp data lends to some
3 concerns, because the assumption is that the employee was in the
4 workplace and potentially spreading the virus, but they may not have
5 been. So they could have been out for a week. They were sick, then they
6 called. They never came into the workplace, so they didn't spread it. So
7 I just wanted to share that that I do think there is some concerns about
8 the data. And it truly wasn't accurate on who was spreading the virus in
9 the workplace.

10 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Thank you for that. Next.

11 MS. SHUPE: So we also have a raised hand from Rob Moutrie
12 with Cal Chamber.

13 MR. MOUTRIE: Thank you for the opportunity. I won't
14 reiterate all of the comments.

15 Two points that were raised, I think, I know something the
16 Governor looked to in opening, and it was not discussed, was the
17 capacity of the healthcare infrastructure. And obviously that's somewhat
18 of a lagging indicator, but I think as we're looking at that move that's
19 something we should consider.

20 The second thing that was left out in today's discussion for
21 each of these pieces of data is verbally we tend to say, "This week or this
22 month this happened." But from what I remember of statistics we really
23 need to look at over-time data, charts, graphs that show the changes in
24 the last couple of weeks or changes upward. And it's obviously hard to
25 do in a verbal format, but I think it's something that we should keep in

1 mind as we progress.

2 The last piece is I think we should pick a time window when
3 these are the most relevant. I mean we can talk about them now, but in
4 my mind again I think they are, "These are the most relevant in October,"
5 when we're looking at readoption or those kind of choices, right? And
6 knowing when we're going to look at them is I think, and what we will be
7 then is I think another part of the discussion that hasn't been made.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Thanks, Rob.

10 Next speaker.

11 MS. SHUPE: So we have a raised hand from call-in user No.
12 22, who is participating via teleconference. At this time I'm not sure who
13 that speaker is. So call-in user 22 you've raised your hand. You can
14 press *6 to unmute.

15 MS. RAGLAND: This is Pam. I'm not sure if I'm No. 22 or not.
16 Can you hear me?

17 MS. SHUPE: Is this Anne Katten?

18 MS. RAGLAND: No, no. Actually, this is Pam Ragland. I have
19 an association for autistic and special needs kids. I just wanted to make
20 a comment about the metrics. And as you guys go through this metrics
21 assess, I implemented metrics for Fortune 100 companies.

22 I think what's really important is looking at the leading and
23 the lagging indicators, but really asking the question is this truly a
24 leading or lagging indicator? For example, a lot of the metrics that I am
25 hearing you guys talk about are based on the assumption that there is

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1 asymptomatic spread. But that (indiscernible). Can you hear me?

2 MS. SHUPE: Pam we've lost you.

3 MS. RAGLAND: Oh, I'm sorry. Can you hear me?

4 MS. SHUPE: We can hear you now.

5 MS. RAGLAND: Okay, it just gave me some weird message
6 about my raised-hand status, sorry about that.

7 So what I was saying is that there is no proof of
8 asymptomatic spread. There's actually been studies on this. So I think
9 we're making some assumptions with the metrics and then the
10 assumption rolls up into something else is that's measured, etcetera,
11 etcetera. So I'll send kind of a detailed email about this with some links
12 so that you guys can consider some of these points.

13 But I just wanted to point out I think it's important with each
14 of the metrics to really ask what are the variables in that metric and
15 what are the assumptions that are being made about it. Because
16 sometimes then if the assumption is incorrect it's going to give us
17 information that's not actually useful.

18 MS. SHUPE: And, Pam, can you please -- I'm sorry, can you
19 please repeat your full name and affiliation for us?

20 MS. RAGLAND: Yes, this is Pam Ragland, it's R-a-g-l-a-n-d.
21 And I have the Association of Autistic, ADHD and Special Needs Kids. But
22 I just also happen to have this experience of implementing metrics in
23 Fortune 100 companies, so I thought I'd share it.

24 MS. SHUPE: Thank you.

25 MS. RAGLAND: Uh-huh, yeah. Thanks guys.

1 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Any other speakers in the queue?

2 MS. SHUPE: So we don't have any other raised hands at this
3 time.

4 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: I don't know whether to say whether
5 that was a successful round table or not.

6 MS. SHUPE: Oh, Ms. Ragland, can you please mute your
7 phone? Thank you.

8 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: All right. Thank you very much for
9 that Christina. All the technological challenges we have in moving
10 through this.

11 Well that brings us now to since -- and we'll have to think a
12 bit more about how we can have these discussions so that in fact it
13 brings more value to the informed substantive end of whatever topic
14 we're discussing during this meeting. So that was our first try, so bear
15 with us.

16 You know, as I think about it I wonder if I might just share a
17 couple of thoughts. We certainly had some excellent presentations on
18 metrics. I'm mindful of Nola's comments that we can't make it too
19 complicated. I'm mindful of the fact that metrics in all cases do inform a
20 process, moving forward.

21 So at this point and time we're exploring what's available
22 and the strengths and the vulnerabilities associated with each. It's not
23 to suggest that the whole repertoire of metrics that we've discussed will
24 in fact begin to inform us as to steps forward or processes we embrace in
25 the future.

1 We talked about, and correct me if I'm wrong you guys, but
2 we did talk about the fact that there was some value in mining and
3 presenting on a monthly basis outbreak data by industry, trending by
4 industry, (indiscernible) the data.

5 Dr. Seward presented six different metrics. That would be
6 value-added to have those reported out on a monthly basis. In terms of
7 trending are we going up, down, remaining the same?

8 We had Helen Cleary bring up the issue of another metric
9 that ought to be considered, hospitalizations and deaths perhaps tied by
10 industry.

11 Amalia presented a very nice rundown on state
12 benchmarking data. And granted this was very preliminary, but hopefully
13 we can have a more robust view of data as she makes further contact and
14 has discussions with them.

15 Anne Katten suggested that we not lose sight of the housing
16 and transportation as we move forward.

17 And I know (indiscernible) at the last meeting we did talk
18 about the value of Cal/OSHA complaints, compliance and enforcement
19 data.

20 And Rob Moutrie did suggest, and I think rightfully, that we
21 need to look at this over a period of time, not month by month but over
22 some finite period of time so we have some sense of trending.

23 So at the end of the day we have had a number of metrics
24 presented. Both Laura and Nola, you tell me does it seem that we need
25 to have our meeting bear down on metrics again? We're not done today,

1 summarizing. What do you think?

2 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: I'll start. I think we should
3 continue the conversation about metrics, especially as we learn more and
4 sort of see if there is any refinement to the metrics that are available.

5 But I also think we should decide another direction to move
6 forward on, looking back at our original five topics and either adjusting
7 that list or picking another one to maybe focus on so that we can keep a
8 conversation moving forward.

9 We'd like to have, I think, a good conversation on all of
10 these topics by the time we get to fall and we're considering readoption.
11 So with that said, I don't know which one to focus on.

12 Back to metrics, I did write down in my notes. I think it
13 would be helpful if we could, in our moving forward on metrics try to
14 identify which of these imperfect metrics -- and they all seem to have
15 advantages and disadvantages and don't really tell us exactly what's
16 going on in the workplace -- but which of them tracks mostly with what
17 we see as risk in the workplace. And maybe by the time we come to a
18 readoption we can look at what's happening with that metric and help
19 make decisions.

20 As far as the other topics, the ones we've considered before
21 that have been brought up have been vaccine verification, what does the
22 end game look like, and all of these have come up again today. Some
23 people have phrased it as what are the next steps?

24 We have a few weeks until our next meeting, so I think it
25 might be nice to have someone present on the process just to remind

1 everybody -- or maybe to remind everybody when the next readoption
2 will occur. And the difference between -- I don't think whether it could
3 be certified. Or for (indiscernible) permanent rulemaking standard or
4 certification completion. Is that what it's called, Christina? What is it
5 called?

6 MS. SHUPE: It's compliance.

7 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Compliance, yes.

8 MS. SHUPE: And that would occur after your second
9 readoption.

10 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Yeah, so I think --

11 MS. SHUPE: I need to clarify, that's only if the standard is
12 going to become permanent.

13 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Right. I've heard people ask
14 about the process, so maybe just a quick overview of that process might
15 be helpful. We can do it now if you want to or we can do it at the next
16 meeting, I don't think it matters.

17 Anybody else have anything to say? I feel like I'm rambling.

18 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: And you know what? As I hear you
19 though, Nola, what I'm hearing you saying -- and correct me if I'm wrong
20 -- is that yes we need another robust discussion on metrics. That we
21 certainly need to begin with consider another topic that we identified as
22 a priority topic. And we can certainly do that for the next meeting. I
23 know we can't take it all in one meeting or even the next meeting.

24 The one thing that I would ask you guys to consider is the
25 fact that we're talking about metrics, because metrics will inform us as to

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1 the next steps. It will inform us as to the requirements within the ETS,
2 whether or not we need to hold to them or loosen them or restrict them.
3 So the metrics discussion does have value. It will lead into the process,
4 it will lead us into the process discussion very nicely.

5 But I think we need as a handle on what's available, what's
6 useful, and what we we'll hang our hats on quite frankly. So I think
7 we've got another round on this. And I would ask all those who
8 presented today to provide some trending data for the next meeting.

9 I know, Nola, you've asked for a review of the process,
10 because I know people are curious as to where we go from here. And,
11 Christina, if you can do that now or you can do it at the next meeting.

12 MS. SHUPE: So I can actually address I think quite a few of
13 those questions right now, because a lot of this information is posted on
14 our website. So for those that are interested you can go to our website
15 and click on the link for emergencies. And you'll see our two emergency
16 regulations, one which was the wildfire ETS which is now a permanent
17 standard. And you'll also see a link for our COVID-19 prevention. That
18 specific page will show you our adoption dates, our expiration dates.

19 So you'll see that the current version of the ETS is set for
20 expiration on January 14th. That is prior to the Board's regularly
21 scheduled January meeting. So that means that the Board in order to
22 consider this at a regular meeting would need to readopt at their
23 December meeting at the latest. Otherwise we would need a special
24 meeting again and we would have to be able to justify the reason for
25 that.

1 I'd also like to point out that along with that list of
2 emergency regulations we have a link to our emergency rulemaking
3 process flow chart. And this is a handy little Visio flow chart that we
4 pulled together a couple of years ago that explains the rulemaking
5 process. It outlines that we have the original adoption, the first
6 readoption, the second readoption and then a certificate of compliance
7 which would make the rulemaking permanent.

8 We've talked in the past about what would it take to repeal
9 the current ETS. And I'll reiterate that we've discussed that with OAL.
10 And the cleanest way to do that is using the Board's readoption. That
11 however takes away those 90 days of that readoption, for the ETS.

12 We heard a commenter today say that Oregon is looking at --
13 they've adopted a permanent standard, but they're looking at repealing
14 that. I have to say that I think that would be a bit more complicated for
15 us than it is for Oregon. And that's something that we'll go ahead and
16 have our counsel look into, but keep in mind that California has the
17 Administrative Procedures Act. We need to work within that legal
18 structure. And so while it's useful to benchmark with other states, we
19 have a structure that's very different from theirs.

20 Are there any questions about process at this time that I can
21 answer? Laura, yeah?

22 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, thank you, Christina. So a
23 couple things, so if I'm understanding correctly if we -- so I understand
24 about that adoption, that next adoption is our opportunity at that point
25 as you say either to repeal or to readopt. Is that correct?

1 MS. SHUPE: Correct.

2 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: And so I have two questions, but let
3 me ask the first one and then go to the second one. If we were to
4 readopt it at that point what happens then? Is that akin to making it
5 permanent? Or it's just then we have another period of time with
6 another readoption? Does it start the clock ticking again?

7 MS. SHUPE: So your second readoption, so let's assume that
8 we let this ETS run until the December meeting. And then at the
9 December meeting the Board uses your second readoption to make
10 modifications. That would then start a new clock, it would start a 90-day
11 clock.

12 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: And what would happen? And then
13 after that 90 days then what happens?

14 MS. SHUPE: So after that 90 days if the Board has a
15 certificate of -- I'm sorry, compliance?

16 MR. MANIERI: Compliance, yes.

17 MS. SHUPE: -- compliance. If we have our Certificate of
18 Compliance -- I always want to say certificate of completion -- if we have
19 our Certificate of Compliance adopted, that is a permanent rulemaking.

20 So you'll recall we did this with the firefighter ETS. We went
21 ahead and we adopted our original. We had our first readoption, we had
22 our second readoption, and then the Board adopted a Certificate of
23 Compliance, which is now the permanent standard.

24 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: So in other words if in December or
25 some point in the fall we readopt it with some changes that would be our

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1 opportunity to make some changes?

2 MS. SHUPE: Uh-huh.

3 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: And then basically that's essentially
4 a new -- it becomes almost a permanent regulation, so I guess the
5 question that I'm having --

6 MS. SHUPE: No, no. And I'm sorry, Laura, let me be clear.
7 The second readoption it is not a permanent regulation. The second
8 readoption is still an emergency regulation, so it has a 90-day clock on it.

9 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Okay. So let's say that we made
10 some changes, strengthening or loosening some aspects of it in
11 December. So then we have 90 days. At the end of 90 days we would
12 have to either -- it would expire or have to be made permanent. Those
13 are the two choices available to us.

14 MS. SHUPE: That's correct.

15 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: And if it were going to be made
16 permanent it would have to be made permanent in the form that we
17 passed it in December. It's not like we would have an opportunity to say,
18 "Well now new things have happened. We want it to be permanent, but
19 look like this." Whatever we pass in December that would be the version
20 that in 90 days would become permanent if we chose for it to.

21 MS. SHUPE: No, no.

22 So I want to keep everybody in mind of the workload that's
23 involved here, because it is significant.

24 So we really say "no changes" between this version and that
25 version, because of the workload required. When we submit a Certificate

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1 of Compliance, when we submit a standard that is permanent, we have
2 to provide all of the documentation that we would for any other
3 rulemaking. And so significant changes during that time technically
4 possible, feasible. We're all familiar with the difference between
5 possible and feasible, yeah.

6 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, so -- Yeah, go ahead, Chris.

7 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Can I suggest something? You know
8 what it is, Christina, is very adept at understanding the process. The rest
9 of us are trying to learn and get refreshed each time. Why don't we come
10 up with a very simple, clear -- for us at any rate, Christina -- explanation
11 as to the process. You have all the terminology. The rest of us are trying
12 to understand some of this. So maybe if we just have a very simple
13 graphic -- red light, green light. And these are the options we have --
14 that will incorporate some of the discussions about permanent standard
15 versus extension of the ETS.

16 If that sounds reasonable to you, Christina, I think it might
17 be helpful for all of us so we're not asking you to repeat those six times
18 over. Does that sound acceptable?

19 MS. SHUPE: Sure. What we can do actually is Sarah Money
20 can go ahead and send all of the committee members the link to the flow
21 chart. That's posted on our website that we provided when we went
22 through this for the firefighter ETS, or for the Wildfire Smoke ETS.

23 And for those that are listening who are not committee
24 members this Visio document is available on our website and it's located
25 on the Emergencies page and it's just right below the two emergency

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1 regulations. (Indiscernible) right now.

2 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Okay, thank you. And I want to just
3 ask my other question. So it sounds like we'll get more details and
4 visuals to help us understand our opportunities going forward.

5 So it seems like another thing we might be considering as
6 we're having conversations in the next couple of months, because it
7 seems like making changes is it triggers all sorts of deadlines. So when
8 we think about some issues, vaccine verification for example that we're
9 going to be discussing hopefully in the near future, we might also be
10 considering with guidance from the Division about what kinds of issues
11 that are being raised can be addressed through modification or
12 clarifications within the FAQs. So there may be some opportunities to
13 address issues that come up without having to formally change or adopt
14 new provisions.

15 So I'm just thinking that that may be something that will be
16 helpful as we go forward to discuss specific issues that are coming up, to
17 think about it in that context. Because it does feel like even if we all
18 said, "Oh we need to change this or that," we now understand that to
19 change the regulation is using our final opportunity to do that. And so
20 we need to be very judicious and thoughtful about when we do that.

21 So I just want to make that comment that as we go through
22 issues -- and I know after we talk about the process I do want to come
23 back to your question, Christina, about our next agenda items. But
24 relative to the process just to be able to think about the ways to address
25 issues that come up that might be outside of the regulatory arena,

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1 specifically through the FAQ or our policies and procedures.

2 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: That will be real helpful, Laura, if
3 Christina could help walk us through that.

4 Okay, Nola?

5 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: I was just going to also remind
6 everybody that that process is separate than the department of a
7 permanent standard, which we've been talking about as well. So it's just
8 that's a long process, we've been through it before. But we do have
9 another opportunity for a permanent infectious disease standard
10 separate from the ETS.

11 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Right. Right.

12 I know Rob Moutrie has had his hand up a couple of times.
13 Rob, are you just dying to share something in this conversation that
14 would help us here? (No audible response.) I can't hear you.

15 MR. MOUTRIE: Just a clarification. I believe that the
16 emergency regulation, previously when readopted extended for 210 days.
17 I think that might be the case the second time. I'm glad to go back and
18 research it and get in touch with you, Christina, if we are past that and
19 now it's only 90. That was the only point. Thank you.

20 MS. SHUPE: Yeah, our understanding is that it's at 90 days.
21 However, Rob, if you have find information to the contrary I'd be more
22 than pleased to receive it.

23 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Thank you, Rob.

24 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: So, Chris, would now be the time to
25 just go back to your original question that Nola commented on in terms

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1 of future, where we want to go from here?

2 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Yeah, this is what I have on the agenda
3 for the next subcommittee meeting on August 13th. We'll continue the
4 discussion on metrics trending, we'll get some clarity on the process. I
5 think it would be helpful to not only those of us on the subcommittee but
6 to participants as well.

7 And then I think we need to identify at least one more topic
8 we could begin to explore, so what should that be?

9 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: So yeah, a couple of things I just
10 wanted to suggest. One, on the metrics end, I just want to raise again
11 that there are several new metrics that I am hoping that we can get. One
12 as I mentioned earlier, was more specific worksite information.

13 And the second is I think you were reminding us that one of
14 the metrics that we talked about was Cal/OSHA complaints and
15 enforcement. And I may be forgetting, but I think we haven't had that
16 presentation about how that may have changed over the last couple of
17 months.

18 So I guess I wanted to flag that those were two metrics that
19 we could get more information. I don't know if Eric you wanted to weigh
20 in on that, on the metrics

21 MR. BERG: Yeah, I can make a request for that data for the
22 future meeting.

23 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Thank you. Because that was one
24 of the items that was noted, that you noted again, Chris.

25 So on I guess a couple of suggestions for other topics. One is

1 the vaccine verification issue, to kind of get more information on how --
2 I don't know to the extent this information is available, but we can ask
3 people to comment on it in terms of how that is working and what are
4 some concerns.

5 And I guess related to that is the information that I would
6 like to see -- I don't know who the best source of this information is.
7 And maybe one of the medical professionals that we've already called
8 upon and would help with this, is getting a better understanding of the
9 impact of the Delta variant on what we know about vaccine
10 breakthroughs and the ability of vaccinated people to infect other
11 vaccinated people, which we've been hearing about anecdotally.

12 Which it does raise important questions for us to consider
13 about the approach our ETS currently takes relative to universal masking
14 as well as quarantining. So I'd like to see if we could get some more
15 information about the Delta variant impact on the decisions that were
16 made, because I think that is some new information or changes.

17 And then the last thing -- and this may be a quick report that
18 maybe either could be done now or we could ask the Division to report --
19 I just want to bring again that issue I mentioned earlier. That it would be
20 really helpful to understand more about the impact of stronger public
21 health, county or local public health ordinances such as the one in L.A.
22 County, that are now requiring indoor masking. Which goes beyond, for
23 everyone regardless of vaccination status, which is now going beyond the
24 ETS requirements.

25 And so maybe that's just a quick Division report that either

1 maybe you can answer that now, Eric, or in the future to give you a little
2 bit more of a heads-up of like what the implication of that is for the
3 enforcement of the ETS and who is monitoring that.

4 MR. BERG: I can answer about the local health departments
5 and their face-covering requirements that are more stringent than the
6 Cal/OSHA regulation or the title 8 regulation.

7 So 3205 has its specific face-covering requirements, which
8 also incorporates any face covering orders from CDPH. So there are
9 several industries that CDPH mandates that face coverings be used
10 everywhere indoors in specific industries.

11 But as far as like the Los Angeles or other local health
12 departments we do not enforce those, 3205 does not incorporate those.
13 Employers are still required to follow those under the county, but title 8,
14 3205 does not incorporate those.

15 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: So those would be enforced by the
16 local or county public health officers or departments?

17 MR. BERG: Yeah, yeah however the county enforces those
18 would be the mechanism.

19 MS. SHUPE: Chris, you're muted.

20 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Maybe I should stay muted. But, Laura,
21 I was just going to ask does that respond to your question?

22 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, yeah thank you. That does
23 and I think it'll be something that we're seeing now. I know I live in
24 Alameda County and sort of daily there is new information about
25 counties who are considering or already recommending and may go

1 beyond recommendations to reinstate mask mandates regardless of
2 vaccination status indoors. So I think that's something that we would
3 need -- it will be interesting -- that we need to consider as we discuss
4 potential changes to the ETS and the impact on that.

5 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: I think it's important just to remind
6 everybody that we are not the final arbiters on the standard ETS or
7 permanent. And in fact, what information we gather and summarize is
8 really in hopes of bringing value and additional information to the
9 Standards Board and the Division. So I think we just need to remind
10 ourselves that that is our role.

11 As I hear what we've discussed today, and I thank everybody
12 for their patience with the process, that we've learned quite a bit today
13 that we didn't moving into this meeting.

14 We've talked about metrics and that was a good discussion.
15 We had a request for the next meeting to consider metrics that really
16 deal with the worksites specifically, Cal/OSHA complaints and
17 enforcements.

18 We did ask for further clarification on the process, so we
19 knew what we could do, what we couldn't do and what decisions were
20 appropriate at which point of the continuum.

21 And then Laura did ask that, as additional topics came up,
22 that if we have the time at the next meeting to have somebody deal with
23 the issue of vaccine verification, and even more specifically the impact of
24 the Delta variant.

25 Did I capture what transpired today and what we're going to

1 do at the next meeting?

2 MS. SHUPE: Chris, if you don't mind I'd like to just remind
3 again the subcommittee -- and Laura thank you for tying some of your
4 previous comments to actions related to the regulations -- I really want
5 to help everybody focus in on the limited resources available to you and
6 the limited time available to you.

7 And so when you're requesting additional information tie it
8 to a regulation. Tie it to the regulation, tie it to something specific, what
9 is the outcome? What do you hope to see from this? And so that way
10 the work that is being done by the Division on your behalf, which they
11 have not received additional funding for, the work that is being done by
12 staff on your behalf is really focused and useful.

13 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: And thank you for that clarification,
14 Christina. No, thank you for the reminder and I'm sure it won't be the
15 last time you give us that reminder either, so thank you.

16 With that then what I'd like to do is bring this meeting to a
17 close. The next --

18 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Nola's got her hand up. Chris,
19 Nola's got her hand up.

20 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Nola? Nola, I didn't mean to forget
21 you in this process. Go ahead.

22 BOARD MEMBER KENNEDY: Yeah, I was just going to follow
23 on to what Christina just said. I think what we've talked about today is a
24 pretty full slate of a big wish list, so I will work with the people at the
25 Division. I think probably we will end up identifying, which of these is

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1 going to be most approachable over the next few weeks and focus on
2 that. I don't think we will come back to the August 13th meeting
3 answering all the questions.

4 BOARD MEMBER STOCK: Yeah, and I just want to jump in to
5 appreciate what you said, Christina. And I very much understand the
6 workload. And thank you, Nola, for that comment. I think that's kind of
7 understood that at these meetings we're kind of laying out, as you asked
8 Chris, what are the issues that we want to look at.

9 And then we appreciate your help, Nola, working with the
10 Division to turn that into a reasonable workload, what actually can be
11 provided within what kind of timeframe, so I just want to second the
12 appreciation of workload and being sure that we are being considerate of
13 that.

14 CHAIR LASZCZ-DAVIS: Sounds good. Any other thoughts or
15 comments before we begin to close? Imagine, we're moving into the
16 close here now folks.

17 The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for August the
18 13th, 2021, via teleconference and video conference. Please visit our
19 website and join our mailing list to receive the latest updates.

20 We thank you for your attendance today. There being no
21 further business to attend to this meeting is adjourned. And thank you
22 for joining us.

23 (The Subcommittee Meeting adjourned at 11:57 p.m.)

24 --oOo--

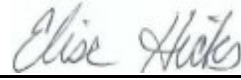
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