

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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Sacramento, CA 95833

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Website address www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb

Date: April 1, 2010

Dear: Advisory Committee Member

Subject: Broadband Sound Alarm Technology for Backing Vehicles/Equipment

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to participate in an advisory committee to be convened by the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (Board) staff. The committee is being convened to address the recommendations in Petition File No. 500 submitted by Mr. Henry Morgan, Brigade Electronics, Inc. The Petitioner recommends amendments for various Title 8 standards such as the Construction Safety Orders (CSO) Section 1592, the Mining and Tunneling Safety Orders, Section 8483(a)(3) and other safety orders that require backup alarms be audible from a distance of 200 feet.

The Petitioner recommends the use of Broadband Sound technology for backup alarms. The Petition letter states concerns that only typical tonal backup alarms (traditional beeping alarms) can meet the 200 foot audible requirement. Should you wish to review the entire 19 page petition letter to the Board dated January 11, 2008, it can be reviewed on line at the following link: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/petition500.html>. Also, see the attached Board's Petition No. 500 Decision, dated April 17, 2008 for important information regarding the Petition recommendations. Broadband Sound technology is sometimes referred to as "white sound" reversing alarms and additional information about these alarms can be viewed on the Petitioner's website at this link: <http://www.reverseinsafety.co.uk/product-focus/alarms>.

As noted in the committee agenda items, the committee will review the Petitioner's recommendations, federal OSHA standards and other relevant information as necessary and strive for a consensus as to whether amendments are necessary for Title 8 backup alarm standards that require alarms to be audible for 200 feet.

The advisory committee will be held:

Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.;
and if necessary, Thursday, April 22, 2010, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (or until adjournment)

**Division of Occupational Safety and Health
Training Room
2211 Park Towne Circle**

Sacramento, CA 95825

Enclosed are the advisory committee roster, agenda, draft text for Section 1592 incorporating some of the Petitioner's concepts and a list of Title 8 standards that require an audible warning from a distance of 200 feet.

Please be prepared to discuss the necessity for the recommended amendments and any costs or economic impact to employers or affected industries that may result from any revisions or amendments to existing standards. If you cannot attend the meeting, please send an alternate, if possible, or submit written comments by April 15, 2010 so that the committee can consider them.

Your assistance is appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you at the advisory committee meeting. Please contact me if you need any assistance locating website information listed above.

Also, if you have any questions or would like to discuss any items prior to the meeting, please contact me at (916) 274-5724, or at: ghauptman@dir.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

George Hauptman, Senior Engineer-Standards

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Advisory Committee Roster
- CSO Section 1592, draft proposal with Board staff comments
- List of Title 8 standards that require an audible warning from a distance of 200 feet
- The Board's Petition No. 500 Decision, dated April 17, 2008
- Appeals Board Decision After Reconsideration – See page 3, Section 1592(a) re: "Zone of Danger"
- Maps of the meeting location

cc: All Standards Board Members

Marley Hart, Executive Officer, OSHSB

Michael Manieri, Principal Engineer, OSHSB

Len Welsh, Chief, DOSH

Joel Foss, Acting Principal Engineer, DOSH Research & Standards Unit

Ken Nishiyama Atha, Regional Administrator, Region IX, Federal OSHA

Tina Kulinovich, Industrial Hygienist, Region IX, Federal OSHA

Kevin Thompson, Cal/OSHA Reporter

Mr. Nick Sikich, Atlas Disposal, 3000 Power Inn Rd. Sacramento, CA 95826