

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY  
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

TITLE 8: Section 5155  
of the General Industry Safety Orders

**Airborne Contaminants - Wood Dust and Western Red Cedar**

On April 21, 2016, the Standards Board held a Public Hearing to consider revisions to Title 8, Section 5155 of the General Industry Safety Orders. The Standards Board received oral and written comments on the proposed revisions.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.8(c), the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (Standards Board) gives notice of the opportunity to submit written comments on the above-named standard in which further modifications are being considered as a result of public comments and/or Board staff consideration.

The proposal is being modified as follows:

A modification is proposed to increase the PEL for wood dust from the proposed 1 mg/M<sup>3</sup> to 2 mg/M<sup>3</sup>. The modification is necessary to address concerns expressed in oral and written comments that a proposed PEL of 1 mg/M<sup>3</sup> is not feasible for the wood industry. However, a proposed PEL of 2 mg/M<sup>3</sup> is considered feasible and will be more protective of worker health than the existing PEL of 5 mg/M<sup>3</sup>.

A copy of the full text of the standards as originally proposed, with the modifications clearly indicated, is attached for your information.

Any written comments on these modifications or documents relied upon must be received by 5:00 p.m. on February 9, 2017, at the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board, 2520 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 350, Sacramento, California 95833 or e-mailed to [oshsb@dir.ca.gov](mailto:oshsb@dir.ca.gov). This proposal will be scheduled for adoption at a future business meeting of the Standards Board.

The Standards Board's rulemaking files on the proposed action are open to public inspection Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Standards Board's office at 2520 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 350, Sacramento, California 95833.

Inquiries concerning the proposed changes may be directed to Marley Hart, Executive Officer at (916) 274-5721.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH  
STANDARDS BOARD

*Original signed by*

Date: January 25, 2017

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Marley Hart, Executive Officer

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**  
**(Regulatory language to be deleted is shown in bold strike-out and new language is shown in bold underline.)**

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION  
TO  
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 5155 to read:

§5155. Airborne Contaminants.

(a) Scope and Application.

(1) This section establishes requirements for controlling employee exposure to airborne contaminants and skin contact with those substances which are readily absorbed through the skin and are designated by the "S" notation in Table AC-1 at all places of employment in the state.

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Table AC-1  
PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMITS FOR CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS

| Chemical<br>Abstracts<br>Registry<br>Number <sup>(a)</sup> Skin <sup>(b)</sup> Name <sup>(c)</sup> | PEL <sup>(d)</sup> |                      | Ceiling <sup>(g)</sup> | STEL <sup>(o)</sup> |                      |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|  | ppm <sup>(e)</sup> | mg/M <sup>3(f)</sup> |                        | ppm <sup>(e)</sup>  | mg/M <sup>3(f)</sup> |
| Wood dust  |                    |                      |                        |                     |                      |
| All soft and hard woods, except Western red cedar  | --                 | 5 <u>1.2</u>         |                        | --                  | 10 <u>5</u>          |
| Wood dust, Western red cedar   | --                 | 2.5 <u>0.5</u>       |                        |                     |                      |

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.