

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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November 19, 2018

Subject: Snow Avalanche Control Blasting

Dear Advisory Committee Member,

On August 7, 2018, the Advisory Committee for Snow Avalanche Control Blasting met to consider potential health and safety concerns associated with amending provisions within Title 8, Section 5357 proposed by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health.

Your participation on the advisory committee helps the Board understand safety issues related to Snow Avalanche Control Blasting.

After careful consideration of the committee recommendations and subsequent review of *Article 121, Snow Avalanche Blasting*, for consistency, the Chair identified additional potential regulatory changes for committee consideration. Subsequent to the committee meeting the Chair made the following additional post committee meeting amendments to the proposed consensus recommendation:

- Added Section 5349(a) Definitions;
- Added to Section 5349(a) the committee consensus derived definition of "deploy";
- Added to Section 5349(a) the Chair's proposed definition of "position of safety";
- Amended Section 5350(b)(5)(C) and (e)(2) to update references from Section 5357(a)(3) to Section 5357(a)(3);
- Separated into a new subsection 5357(a)(1)(A) "The procedures shall be reviewed and updated as often as necessary to ensure that they reflect current, safe operating practices";
- Re-lettered proposed subsections 5357(a)(1)(A-D) as subsections 5357 (a)(1)(B-E);
- Amended references within Section 5357(a)(1)(E) to replace "snow season" with "avalanche control season" to remain consistent with Section 5352; and
- Added "from" within Section 5357(b)(4)(B) to read "...the location from where the blaster deploys the charge."

Please review the enclosed meeting minutes and draft post advisory committee draft proposal and submit any requested corrections to the enclosed documents or comments (including cost impact data) either by email (mnelmida@dir.ca.gov) no later than December 21, 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Nelmidia", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Nelmidia
Senior Safety Engineer

Snow Avalanche Control Blasting

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Enclosures:

1. Minutes
2. Draft Proposed Language (Form 9)
3. Post Advisory Committee Roster

cc: (With Enclosures)

All Standards Board Members

Michael Manieri, Principal Safety Engineer, OSHSB

Juliann Sum, Chief, DOSH

Eric Berg, Deputy Chief of Health, DOSH

Jason Denning, Principal Safety Engineer, DOSH

Amber Rose, Area Director, Region IX, Federal OSHA

Kevin Thompson, Cal/OSHA Reporter