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Subject: TCNA Comments on "Crystalline Stone Activities Strictly Prohibited 9-16-26 Discussion Draft"
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 7:01:49 AM

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30 September 2026

Dear California Division of Occupational Safety and Health,

Please find our timely submitted comments concerning the "Draft Standard for Comments - Prohibition of Fabrication and Manufacture of Artificial Stone with more than 1.0% Crystalline Silica."

Comment 1: TCNA seeks clarity concerning Section 5204 subsection (b)(2) in the "Crystalline Stone Activities Strictly Prohibited 9-16-26 Discussion Draft" document. The subsection contains a definition for "Artificial Stone Action Level" whereas the currently published version of Section 5204 subsection (b)(2) contains a definition for "Artificial Stone." Is the intent that the proposed definition for "Artificial Stone Action Level" in the discussion draft replaces the existing 5204 definition for "Artificial Stone"? If so, rather than removing the definition of "Artificial Stone" and outsourcing it to Section 5204.1, our suggestion is to maintain the "Artificial Stone" definition within Section 5204 subsection (b)(2) and create a new subsection for the proposed definition of "Artificial Stone Action Level," while also keeping the definition of "Artificial Stone" as it is proposed in Section 5204.1.

Comment 2: While the majority of the language in the newly proposed Section 5204.1 appears to apply directly to "artificial stone" products as covered by the definition of "artificial stone," the proposed scope of 5204.1 does not clearly indicate this and rather broadly suggests it applies to all "products made from slabs or panels containing crystalline silica in any place of employment." As proposed, this scope could cause significant confusion. We suggest substituting the words "crystalline silica" with "artificial stone" to provide added specificity and clarity on what types of products are intended to be covered.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments and for your continued efforts to regulate occupational exposures to respirable crystalline silica.

Sincerely,

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