

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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Date: March 27, 2014

Dear: Advisory Committee Members

Subject: May 6, 2014 Advisory Committee meeting to discuss proposals that affect agricultural operations that take place between sunset to sunrise

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 staff. The advisory committee will consider proposed amendments to Section 3441, which were recommended by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Division). The committee will also consider a proposed new Section 3449 for general illumination for night time agricultural operations. In addition, we will discuss recommendations from the California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) to supplement Section 3441. I have attached the proposed regulatory text for the 2 separate sections and the CRLA letter for your review.

The proposed amendments to Section 3441 would affect outdoor agricultural operations that take place between sunset and sunrise. The proposal would:

1. Require trucks to utilize their headlights at night.
2. Require and prescribe work area lighting where workers may be exposed to the hazard of moving vehicles, tractors, self-propelled implements, towed equipment, or other equipment.
3. Require high visibility clothing for employees working near moving agricultural equipment.

Proposed Section 3449 will contain provision for general illumination of agriculture field operations between sunset and sunrise. It would prescribe illumination levels to work areas or tasks. Other provisions relating to illumination are Sections 1523 and 3317.

Please come prepared to discuss the following:

1. Visibility issues pertaining to night time agricultural work;
2. How to provide illumination (levels, distances, types of equipment);
3. Appropriateness of the proposed illumination levels;
4. The operating speed of the agricultural equipment used at night;
5. The cost of complying with the proposal.

The advisory committee will be held on:

Date: May 6, 2014
Time: 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Location: Division of Occupational Safety and Health
2424 Arden Way
Multipurpose Room, Suite 450
Sacramento, CA 95825

The committee will discuss the necessity, feasibility, cost, and regulatory language of the proposal.

If you cannot attend the meeting, please send an alternate, if possible or submit your written comments by April 22, 2014 so that the committee can consider them.

Your attendance is appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you at the advisory committee meeting. Please RSVP via e-mail by April 22, 2014. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss any items prior to the meeting, please contact me at (916) 274-5723; or at mchan@dir.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Maryrose Chan
Safety Engineer

Attachments:

Agenda
Advisory Committee Roster
Accident Summaries
Division Request for Amendment (Form 9)
Proposed Regulatory Text for Section 3441 and 3449
Section 1523 and Section 3317
CRLA's Recommendations

cc: All Standards Board Members
Marley Hart, Executive Officer, OSHSB
Michael Manieri, Principal Engineer, OSHSB
Juliann Sum, Acting Chief, DOSH
Deborah Gold, Deputy Chief, DOSH
David Shiraishi, Area Director, Region IX, Federal OSHA
Kevin Thompson, Cal/OSHA Reporter