

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY  
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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Website address: [www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb](http://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb)



Date: March 13, 2014

Dear: Advisory Committee Member

Subject: Proposed Amendments for Title 8, California Code of Regulations, General Industry Safety Orders (GISO) Sections 5184 and 5185, Valve Regulated Lead-Acid (VRLA) Batteries and Storage Battery Systems.

You are invited 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 Sections 5184 and 5185 of the Title 8 General Industry Safety Orders entitled Storage Battery Systems (new section title) and Changing and Charging Storage Batteries, respectively. Cal/OSHA storage battery regulations have not been updated since the 1980s and do not adequately address current battery technology best practices.

The committee will discuss the need for, and feasibility of, standards governing the safe handling, maintenance, and use of storage batteries and battery systems. Industry best practices and stakeholder input will be gathered to update the current regulation.

The advisory committee will be held at the following time and location (please park in the back lot):

Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (or until adjournment)  
Division of Occupational Safety and Health  
2424 Arden Way  
Multipurpose Room, Suite 450  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Enclosed are the agenda, advisory committee roster, and draft text proposal. The draft text will be used as a starting point for the discussion and is primarily based upon the 2010 California Fire Code ([http://publicecodes.cyberregs.com/st/ca/st/b300v10/st\\_ca\\_st\\_b300v10\\_6\\_sec008.htm](http://publicecodes.cyberregs.com/st/ca/st/b300v10/st_ca_st_b300v10_6_sec008.htm)). The committee will focus on those items related to the proposed amendments.

Also, please be prepared to discuss the necessity of the recommended amendments and any costs or economic impact to employers or affected industries that may result from the proposed standard. If you cannot attend the meeting, please send an alternate, if possible, or submit your written comments by April 11, 2014 so that the committee can consider them.

Your assistance is appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you at the advisory committee meeting. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any items prior to the meeting, please contact me at (916) 274-5730, or at [dkernazitskas@dir.ca.gov](mailto:dkernazitskas@dir.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

David Kernazitskas, MSPH, CIH, CSP  
Senior Engineer-Standards

Attachments:

Agenda  
Advisory Committee Roster  
Regulatory text (draft proposal)

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  
Eric Berg, Acting Principal Safety Engineer, DOSH Research & Standards Unit  
David Shiraishi, Area Director, Region IX, Federal OSHA  
Kevin Thompson, Cal/OSHA Reporter