

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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June 15, 2020

Re: Advisory Committee Minutes – General Industry Safety Orders, Section 3657 and New Section 3458.2, Date Palm Operations

Dear Advisory Committee Member:

I would like to thank those of you who were able to attend and participate in the review of the proposed amendments regarding elevated work platforms in date palm operations. Your attendance and contributions are appreciated.

Attached are copies of the following:

- The revised draft proposal reflecting comments from the advisory committee
- Minutes of the March 12, 2020 advisory committee meeting
- A combined post-committee roster (members and interested parties)

As identified in the meeting, there are several items which require additional follow-up. I will reach out via email to the committee members to obtain input before addressing them. The unresolved issues include:

- The need for standing on the platform railing to reach the tallest palm fronds
- Details of the lift capacity evaluation
- Minimum working space for platform occupants
- The remainder of the proposal that was not fully addressed during the committee meeting
 - Conditions necessary for the operator to leave the operating position
 - Conditions necessary for the operator to travel with personnel on the platform

Please also note that the Chair amended the proposed text developed during the advisory committee meeting in one instance to reflect what he feels best satisfies the intent of the committee discussion. The proposed change is identified on page 4 of the proposed text and page 5 of the minutes, highlighted in yellow. After addressing any concerns with the changes, the changes will become part of the minutes for the meeting.

After the unresolved issues are addressed by Board staff, a rulemaking proposal will likely be presented to the Standards Board for consideration at a future public hearing. When the rulemaking is noticed, you will be notified and will have an opportunity to provide written comments during a 45-day public comment period leading up to the public hearing. You will also have an opportunity to present oral comments at the hearing.

Advisory Committee Meeting (March 12, 2020) Minutes
General Industry Safety Orders, Section 3657 and New Section 3458.2
Date Palm Operations
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Please review the enclosed minutes and updated proposal. Please direct any comments you may have regarding the minutes or the proposal to my attention no later than Friday, July 10, 2020. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (916) 274-5730, or e-mail: dkernazitskas@dir.ca.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Kernazitskas, MSPH, CIH, CSP
Senior Safety Engineer

Attachments:

- Revised draft proposal
- Meeting minutes
- Post-committee meeting roster

cc: All Standards Board Members
Christina Shupe, Executive Officer, OSHSB
Michael Manieri, Principal Safety Engineer, OSHSB
Lara Paskins, Staff Services Manager I, OSHSB
Douglas Parker, Chief, DOSH
Eric Berg, Deputy Chief of Health, DOSH Research and Standards Unit
Amber Rose, Area Director, Region IX, Federal OSHA