

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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Date: August 14, 2015

Dear: Advisory Committee Member Invitees

Subject: Article 10.1 Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment for Firefighters
Assembly Bill 2146

You are invited to attend the advisory committee meeting to discuss standards relating to firefighter personal protective equipment.

Date: October 22 and 23, 2015
Time: 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Location: Operating Engineers Local 3
Meeting Hall
3920 Lennane Drive
Sacramento, CA 95834

As directed by Assembly Bill 2146, the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board is convening a meeting to discuss and evaluate whether changes are needed to update Sections 3403 through 3411 of the General Industry Safety Orders with the applicable and most recently promulgated standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Additional meetings will be scheduled on as needed basis.

Please review the attached proposal which is based on the NFPA standards and addresses:

1. Risk assessment for the selection of equipment
2. Routine inspection and advance inspection of personal protective equipment (PPE)
3. Purchase of new PPE compliant with the latest edition of NFPA standards
4. Pertinent product information to the readers who will not purchase or do not have access to the NFPA standards.
5. Retirement of older self-contained breathing apparatus

Please come prepared to discuss the following:

1. Is it necessary to update the PPE standards and why?
2. Does your department have a risk assessment and inspection program?
3. What editions of the NFPA standard do your current firefighter protective ensemble comply with?
4. What year is your oldest equipment? How long is the service life?
5. At what age or number of duty cycles should equipment be retired?
6. Would complying with the proposal require your department to purchase new equipment otherwise not purchased?

7. What is the estimated cost for complying with the proposal?
8. What are your sources of funding for PPE? (federal grants, state general fund, etc)?

Your attendance is appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you at the advisory committee meeting. If you are not able to attend, it is suggested that you send an alternate. Please RSVP via e-mail by September 18, 2015, to ensure that we prepare sufficient seating and materials. 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
Assembly Bill 2146
Fact Sheet, California Fire Service Needs Assessment
Proposed Regulatory Text
DOSH Form 9

cc: (With Enclosures)
All Standards Board Members
Marley Hart, Executive Officer, OSHSB
Michael Manieri, Principal Engineer, OSHSB
Juliann Sum, Chief, DOSH
Eric Berg, Acting Principal Engineer and Acting Deputy Chief of Health, DOSH
David Shiraishi, Area Director, Region IX, Federal OSHA
Kevin Thompson, Cal/OSHA Reporter