

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

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FAX (916) 274-5743
Website address www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb



Date: October 13, 2014

Dear: Advisory Committee Member

Subject: Petition No. 537 Regarding Proposed Standards Addressing the Hazards
Associated with Reinforcing Steel and Concrete Construction, and Post-Tensioning
Operations.

You are invited to participate in an advisory committee to be convened by the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (Board) staff. The Petition, dated September 11, 2013, was submitted to the Board by Mr. Walter Wise, General President of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers.

The Petitioner states that the current provisions in the Construction Safety Orders (CSO) Section 1712 "Reinforcing Steel and Other Similar Projections" contain limited references pertaining to reinforcing steel construction activities and post-tensioning operations. The Petitioner states there is a correlation related to the hazards and injuries to workers involved in concrete reinforcing steel and post-tensioning activities and the lack of specific regulations addressing the associated hazards of these activities. The Petitioner projects that the use of steel reinforced and post-tensioned poured in-place concrete is expected to double by the year 2015 from its 1990 level and may comprise a majority of commercial and industrial construction activities.

The adoption of standards is recommended for placement into Section 1712 in order to address provisions for Site Access and Layout, Written Notifications Prior to Commencement of Reinforcing Steel Activities, Stability for Reinforcing Assemblies, Impalement Protection and Custody of Impalement Protection, Hoisting and Rigging Reinforcement Assemblies, Post Tensioning Activities, Fall Protection, Formwork and Falsework Stability and Training. The Petitioner's proposal would also place certain responsibilities on controlling contractors.

The Petitioner's recommendations, including regulatory language and the Board's Petition Decision, dated February 20, 2014, recommending that an Advisory Committee review the petition for possible rulemaking may be accessed at the following link on the Board's website: http://www.dir.ca.gov/oshsb/petition_537.html.

The advisory committee will be held:

**Monday, October 27, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and
Tuesday, October 28, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (or until adjournment)**

**California Highway Patrol Building
601A North 7th Street, Training Room #1
Sacramento, California 95811**

This is a CHP facility so you will need photo identification such as your driver's license to be admitted into the building.

Additional documents include the advisory committee roster, agenda as well as a draft proposal that includes edits and additions to the Petitioner's proposal for committee review.

Please be prepared to discuss the issues outlined in the agenda and those presented in the Board's Decision regarding Petition No. 537. Also, please consider whether any rulemaking action would result in costs or economic impact to employers or affected industries. If you cannot attend the meeting, please send an alternate, if possible, or you may submit your written comments by October 21, 2014 so that the committee can consider them.

Your assistance is appreciated, and we look forward to seeing you at the advisory committee meeting. Also, if you have any questions or would like to discuss any items prior to the meeting, please contact me at (916) 274-5724, or at: ghauptman@dir.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

George Hauptman, Senior Engineer-Standards

Attachments:

Agenda

Advisory Committee Roster

Regulatory text (Draft Proposal with Comments and Questions for the Committee)

Petition No. 537 and the Board's Petition Decision are available at the above listed website.

cc: All Standards Board Members

Marley Hart, Executive Officer, OSHSB

Michael Manieri, Principal Engineer, OSHSB

Juliann Sum, Acting Chief, DOSH

Eric Berg, Acting Principal Engineer, DOSH

David Shiraishi, Area Director, Region IX, Federal OSHA

Kevin Thompson, Cal/OSHA Reporter