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October 14, 2014

Marley Hart, Executive Director  
Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board  
2520 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833-4230

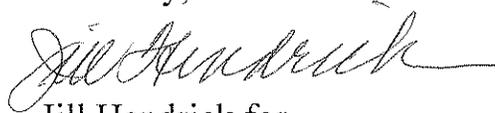
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OCT 15 2014  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH  
STANDARDS BOARD

RE: Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, LLC

Greetings:

Enclosed for filing of the original and 5 copies and return of an endorsed copy in the envelope provided is a Petition for Regulation Change regarding the above-entitled matter.

Sincerely,



Jill Hendrick for  
Robert D. Peterson

Enclosures

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Attorney for Applicant,  
Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, LLC

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OCT 15 2014

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH  
STANDARDS BOARD

**BEFORE THE**  
**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of a Petition for  
Regulation Change by:

OSHSB File No. *[Undocketed]*

Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, LLC,  
  
Applicant.

**PETITION FOR  
REGULATION CHANGE**

Labor Code § 142.2

TO THE CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH  
STANDARDS BOARD:

Applicant herein, Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, LLC (“Alpine Meadows”), hereby submits the following proposed regulation change of Title 8, California Code of Regulations (“CCR”) § 5357(b)(6) to the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board for its consideration and proposed adoption.

October 14, 2014

  
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Robert D. Peterson  
Attorney for Applicant

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**PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGE**

**TITLE 8, CCR § 5357(b)(6)**

This Petition involves the Snow Avalanche Control Blasting safety standard; that is, Title 8, CCR § 5357. This section was most recently amended by the Standards Board in 2007.

Alpine Meadows employs licensed blasters who regularly perform snow avalanche blasting. When engaged in such an operation, explosive charges are used which may be deployed (placed) by a number of different methods.

Title 8, CCR § 5357(a)(4) outlines the methods of deploying explosive charges as follows:

4) Charges shall be plated, thrown or propelled to the desired location from a safe position by one of the following methods:

(A) Hand deployed pursuant to subsection (b);

(B) Deployed from a ski lift or tram pursuant to subsection (c) if there is no safe approach to the desired location from the ground;

(C) Deployed from helicopters pursuant to subsection (d) if there is no safe approach to the desired location from the ground;

(D) Deployed from an avalauncher/launcher pursuant to subsection (e);

(E) Deployed from such remote control devices accepted by the Division as providing equivalent safety to the remote control devices allowed under subsection (e).

Title 8, CCR § 5357(b) details the sequence of events to occur when conducting snow avalanche blasting using hand deployed charges.

Title 8, CCR § 5357(b)(5) currently states:

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“When the blast areas and runout zone are clear, the igniter shall be attached to the safety fuse and immediately activated and the charge deployed within 20 seconds of attaching the igniter onto the fuse.”

This section requires that the charge is deployed within 20 seconds of attaching the igniter to the fuse and, presumably, after the charge has been successfully ignited. After the charge is ignited and deployed, the crewmembers must travel to a pre-selected position of safety.

Title 8, CCR § 5357(b)(6) currently states:

“Avalanche blasting crewmembers shall seek a position of safety behind a pre-selected terrain barrier or a position not less than 100 feet from the ignited charge.”

Clearly, when read in the context of how snow avalanche blasting is conducted in the field, these two sections anticipate the following sequence of events:

First, the blaster determines that the blast area and runout zone are clear;

Second, the blaster attaches the igniter to the safety fuse and the safety fuse will immediately activate the fuse;

Third, the charge with the ignited fuse is deployed within 20 seconds of attaching the igniter to the safety fuse; and

Fourth, blasting crewmembers shall travel to the pre-selected position of safety or a position not less than 100 feet from the ignited charge after it has been deployed.

The avalanche-blasting crewmembers are to select a place of safety before the deployed explosive charge is to be ignited and before the igniter is even attached to the safety fuse.

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The crewmember responsible for igniting a charge is to be in a position of safety either behind a terrain barrier or no less than 100 feet from where that charge has been deployed in order to avoid exposure to an explosion.

Alpine Meadows believes the current language of Title 8, CCR § 5357(b), read in context, clearly anticipates and requires the charge to be deployed by hand after the charge is ignited. However, to clarify the language and avoid any confusion, Alpine Meadows requests the following amendment to Title 8, CCR § 5357(b)(6):

(6) Avalanche blasting crewmembers shall seek a position of safety behind a pre-selected terrain barrier or a position not less than 100 fee from the ignited charge *after the charge has been deployed.* (Proposed amendment in italics.)

This proposed amendment would make a safer workplace and would clarify that the charge is to be deployed after it is ignited.

Respectfully submitted,

October 14, 2014



Robert D. Peterson, Attorney for  
Applicant, Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, LLC

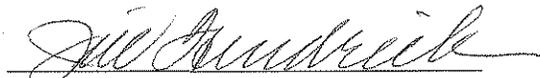
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**DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY MAIL**

I am a citizen of the United States and employed in Placer County, California. I am over the age of 18 years and am not a party to this action; my business address is 3300 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 110, Rocklin, California 95677. On October 14, 2014, I served a copy of the within Petition for Regulation Change by depositing the original and one copy of the above document in a box or other facility regularly maintained by United Parcel Service in an envelope or package designated by United Parcel Service (Airbill No. 1ZF734A41391624953) with delivery fees paid or provided for as follows:

Marley Hart, Executive Officer  
Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board  
2520 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833-4230

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.  
Executed at Rocklin, California, on October 14, 2014.

  
Jill Hendrick

*Courtesy Copies To:*

Mike Manieri  
Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board  
2520 Venture Oaks Way  
Sacramento, CA 95833-4230

Steve Hart, Regional Manager  
Mining & Tunneling Unit  
Division of Occupational Safety and Health  
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Eric Berg, Acting Principal Safety Engineer  
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