



AUG 27 2007

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Mr. Patrick J. McConnon, M.P.H.  
Executive Director  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
2872 Woodcock Boulevard, Suite 303  
Atlanta, Georgia 30341-4015

Dear Mr. McConnon:

Thank you for your July 9, 2007, letter to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) concerning nanotechnology. Thank you also for enclosing a copy of your position statement entitled "Occupational and Environmental Risks of Nanotechnology."

Please be assured that OSHA is very interested in the issues regarding the potential health and safety concerns of nanotechnology. Several existing OSHA health standards are currently applicable to nanotechnology operations. These standards are: Hazard Communication, Respiratory Protection Program, Personal Protective Equipment, Laboratory Standard, and certain substance-specific standards and permissible exposure limits. These standards can be found in 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.

In addition, OSHA is currently collecting and evaluating information on nanotechnology work processes and health and safety concerns, participating in a Federal Government inter-agency working group addressing safety, health, and risk issues, and planning guidance development.

OSHA is also working with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as a partner in the NIOSH Nanotechnology Research Center Surveillance Working Group for Occupational Health Surveillance for Nanotechnology Workers and in an Interagency Agreement on research on the potential use of "control banding" as a strategy to address employee exposures in nanotechnology workplaces.

Thank you for your interest in occupational safety and health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwin G. Foulke, Jr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Edwin G. Foulke, Jr.