

Rick
Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
02/19/2009 01:50 PM

To Tim Radtke
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: Asbestos Conversion Factor 320

FYI

Rick Cooper
Field Manager
Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
phone: (831) 630-5010

— Forwarded by Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI on 02/19/2009 01:49 PM —



Karl Ford/NOC/BLM/DOI
02/19/2009 07:22 AM

To Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, George
Hill/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Timothy
Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Sky
Murphy/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc

Subject Asbestos Conversion Factor 320

All,
Was to go from TEM to PCM (see below). EPA did not use it; state air pollution agencies use it. I have not found any other info on use of OEHHA cancer slope factor at Superfund sites.

Karl L. Ford, Ph.D.
Branch of Environmental Compliance
Division of Resource Services
National Operations Center - BLM
Phone: 303-236-6622
Fax: 303-236-3508

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— Forwarded by Karl Ford/NOC/BLM/DOI on 02/19/2009 08:16 AM —



Den.Arnold@epamail.epa.gov
v
02/17/2009 05:24 PM

To Karl_Ford@blm.gov
cc
Subject Re: Conversion Factor?

No, we were not enforcing the ATCM or using it for CCMA. Also, the actual data when you compare total

TEM fibers (and 3 to 1 aspect ratio) to PCME fibers is less than 10 to 1 ratio for our CCMA work. Again we used the PCME data directly with either the USEPA or CALEPA potency number. There is no science to suggest there is a set ratio of total fibers to PCM for industrial processes (there are two or three 1970/early80s references and the numbers vary greatly) let alone for NOA sites. Rather the science will show that the exposure distributions and risks vary per process even within the same industry .

Arnold

Arnold Den

Phone: 415 947 4191

Fax: 415 947 3583

Email: den.arnold@epa.gov

From: Karl_Ford@blm.gov
To: Arnold Den/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 02/17/2009 03:07 PM
Subject: Re: Conversion Factor?

So the recent risks provided (this month) to BLM did not incorporate this factor?

Karl L. Ford, Ph.D.
Branch of Environmental Compliance
Division of Resource Services
National Operations Center - BLM
Phone: 303-236-6622
Fax: 303-236-3508

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Den.Arnold@epamail.
epa.gov

02/17/2009 03:51
PM

Karl_Ford@blm.gov

To

Stralka.Daniel@epamail.epa.gov,
Johnson.Jere@epamail.epa.gov

cc

Subject

Re: Conversion Factor?

The factor is used when local air pollution control districts have to calculate risks associated with the CARB's asbestos air toxic control measure. The OEHHA cancer slope factor is in units of PCM fibers and the guidance they and CARB give out to the districts is to use the AHERA TEM method (but use 3 to 1 aspect ratio) and count total fibers, short and long. They translate the total TEM fibers to the PCM units by using a factor of 320. They got this number from a few old papers that compared TEM to PCM ratios in commercialized asbestos situations. However that factor has a very large uncertainty, few studies, commercial situations and when you eye ball CCMA, data total to PCME it is less than 10-1 and for our El Dorado amphibole data it was closer to 3 to 1 ratio. My view is there is no science to suggest every site particularly NOA sites has a set ratio.... but the APCDs and CARB use the 320 factor. We chose to follow WHO and use TEM to count PCME fibers and use the cancer slope factor directly.

Arnold

Arnold Den

Phone: 415 947 4191

Fax: 415 947 3583

Email: den.arnold@epa.gov

From: Karl_Ford@blm.gov
To: Arnold Den/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 02/17/2009 02:11 PM
Subject: Conversion Factor?

Hi Arnold,

Our folks in Hollister mentioned a factor using with the OEHHA slope factor, but weren't sure what it was, how it was used, etc. Can you fill me in? Feel free to call if it avoids a lengthy email. Thanks, KF

Karl L. Ford, Ph.D.
Branch of Environmental Compliance
Division of Resource Services
National Operations Center - BLM
Phone: 303-236-6622
Fax: 303-236-3508

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MAR. 11. 2009 2:55PM

MOORE SMITH BUXTON

NO. 3678 P. 1/6

MOORE SMITH BUXTON & TURCKE, CHARTERED

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

950 WEST BANNOCK, SUITE 520
BOISE, ID 83702
TELEPHONE: (208) 931-1800 FAX: (208) 331-1202

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

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	CY HOWLSTEP		
X	Return to Central File		

DATE: March 11, 2009 RECIPIENT'S FAX: (916) 978-4416

TO: Mr. Mike Pool CLIENT: 1124-59
State Director - CA BLM

RE: Critical Commentary on CCMA Closure

FROM: Paul A. Turcke/Cathy

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET: 6

- ORIGINAL WILL NOT BE SENT
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Please find enclosed report from Dr. E.B. Ilgren in the above matter.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cathy Minyard
Legal Assistant to Paul A. Turcke

***** IMPORTANT MESSAGE *****

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS ATTORNEY PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER IT TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY TELEPHONE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE THANK YOU.

MAR. 11. 2009 2:55PM

MOORE SMITH BUXTON

NO. 3678

P. 2/6

Dr. E. B. Ilgren, MA, MD, DPhil, FRCPath.
 Suite 503, 830 Montgomery Avenue,
 Bryn Mawr, Penna., USA 19010
 Tel: 610 525 5960 / Fax: 610 520 1156 / Cell: 484 431 9962
drellgren@aol.com

Mr. Mike Pool
 State Director
 Bureau of Land Management
 2800 Cottage Way, W-1928
 Sacramento, CA 95825
 916 978 4630

24 Feb 09

Re Critical Commentary on CCMA Closure.

Dear Mr. Pool,

On behalf of the BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) I am providing further expert opinion regarding the correctness of the closure of the CCMA. This additional report is prompted by several recent events, including the updating of my detailed study of possible asbestos-related disease in CCMA human populations, as well as statements made by Field Office Manager Rick Cooper to the RAC in late January apparently suggesting that BLM still lacks meaningful data on potential human health issues and continues to defer to EPA findings on this subject. I remind you that myself and several others have provided such information. See, e.g., Ilgren to Pogacnik, 16 Apr 08; Ilgren to BLM 20 June 08; Iddings & Fowkes, 2008; Amador to BLM Hollister 19 June 08; Turke to BLM Hollister 20 June 08; and various public scoping meeting documents. I wish to summarize and elaborate here, and trust that BLM will respond appropriately in your upcoming RMP / DEIS, which we understand is now slated for an April, 2009 release.

I will restate my primary conclusion once again - there is no health related basis for the CCMA closure. I say this on the basis of my discussions with you and your colleagues last April, my 20 year study of the CCMA and extensive publications of this area; my final evaluation of the health of the Coalinga chrysotile miner and millers now in press (20 Feb 09); my review of the EPA May 2008 report and the voluminous detailed data set underlying this report obtained through FOIA's to EPA IX provided in four CDs and a fifth CD related to the same data as well as additional related unreported CCMA studies done in 2007 and 2008; the original EPA 2004 - 2005 CCMA ABS studies and attendant correspondence regarding same; the two earlier ABS CCMA studies done by the University of California at Berkley group in between 1977 and 1983 [Cooper et al, 1979; Poppendorf and Wenk, 1984] and the BLM between 1988 and 1991 [PTI 1992]; a phase I geological and historical archaeology reconnaissance study of routes R1 and R2 within the CCMA and adjacent areas (20 June 08) by Iddings and Fowkes; a recent EPA IX document ("Framework for evaluating asbestos sites" - USEPA / OSWER Asbestos Technical Review Work group, Arnold, Den); an extensive literature review regarding the geological, mineralogical, industrial historical characteristics of the CCMA, I believe there is no health related basis for the CCMA closure. The individuals recreating on the CCMA are not at risk of attributable asbestos related

ILGREN REPORT ON CCMA - 1

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MOORE SMITH BUXTON

NO. 3678 P. 3/6

disease. There is no basis for the EPA's 'extreme concern' for such people or any others exposed to Coalinga asbestos on and / or near the CCMA. The salient points supporting this opinion include, though are not necessarily limited to, the following:

1. Over two million individuals have recreated on the CCMA over the last fifty years and there is no evidence of attributable asbestos disease particularly a mesothelioma excess due to such exposures.
2. Thousands of men have incurred occupational exposures to asbestos whilst working on the CCMA and there is no evidence of attributable asbestos disease particularly a mesothelioma excess due to such exposures - which would have been in many instances exponentially higher than those recreating on the CCMA.
3. There is no evidence of attributable asbestos disease in the families of such workers show particularly a mesothelioma excess due to such exposures.
4. There is no evidence of attributable asbestos disease particularly a mesothelioma excess in individuals residing in and thus potentially incurring 'environmental' exposures near the CCMA due to such exposures.
5. The 2008 EPA CCMA ABS cancer risk estimates regarding recreational activity on the CCMA are totally ludicrous positing up to 1/100 cancers when no attributable cases have been identified in any exposed groups.
6. There is no evidence of naturally occurring 'amphibole asbestos' i.e. asbestiform amphibole in the CCMA. Thus
 - a. Detailed review of the data set underlying the EPA May 2008 report, indicates the majority of the amphibole structures were nonasbestiform on the basis of aspect ratio distribution.
 - b. Detailed review of the data set underlying the EPA May 2008 report indicates problems related to misidentification of amphibole structures including though not limited to a lack of quality control
 - c. Detailed review of the data set underlying the EPA May 2008 report, in conjunction with the existing geological and mineralogical literature of the CCMA, indicates the sources of the naturally occurring nonasbestiform amphibole would have included though not necessarily be limited to
 1. Rock contact zones from Jurassic Franciscan inclusions, jadeite pods, and synenites of the type described by Coleman [1957, 1961, 1986], Yoder and Chesterman [1950], Cohan [1962], Fowkes [2004], Iddings and Fowkes [2008] and other works and as alluded to by Poppendorf and Wenk [1984] per metamorphic zones.
 2. Naturally occurring cross fiber chrysotile from old asbestos mines near the head of Clear Creek and / or from commercial chrysotile used in some of the historical industrial materials e.g. around retorts and kiln stoppings [see Iddings and Fowkes, 2008].
 3. Nonasbestiform tremolite washed down a Clear Creek tributary from the Victor Claim to Staging area 4.
 4. Sources outside the CCMA (Amador pers com, 2008).
 5. Damaged malfunctioning sampling equipment.
 6. Historical industrial amphibole c.g from '150 years' of industrial mine dust collecting along the R1-R2 sampling routes [Iddings & Fowkes, 2008]
 - d. Earlier EPA CCMA documentation e.g. 1989 - 1990 said the only type of asbestos found in the area is chrysotile (also see Ilgren, 1004)

MAR. 11. 2009 2:56PM

MOORE SMITH BUXTON

NO. 3678 P. 4/6

- e. EPA CCMA ABS 2004 - 2005 documents failed to mention finding amphibole.
 - f. Two earlier CCMA ABS studies (Univ. of Calif. Berkley [Cooper et al, 1979; Poppendorf and Wenk, 1984; the BLM [PTI 1992]) failed to identify amphibole asbestos in the CCMA air samples¹
 - g. Extensive analysis of the available geological and mineralogical investigations of the CCMA [e.g. Yoder and Chesterman, 1950; Coleman 1957, 1961, 1986; Van Balen 1995, 2004; Fowkes, 2004; Iddings and Fowkes, 2008; Eckels and Myers, 1946; and Cohan, 1962] failed to identify asbestiform amphibole.
 - h. Reanalysis of ore samples from the UCC Joe Pit [Pooley, 2008] failed to find amphibole [also see Ilgren, 2004].
 - i. The soil samples in the EPA 2008 report failed to identify amphibole at the limit of detection (1%) for PLM. Two samples were said to be 'positive' at <1%. One of the two samples was actually said to be negative by a second analyst (cf. file 05-034, "DSB" per "fifth" CD received from Sara Goldsmith, Esq., EPA labeled "CCMA, 10/7/08, 11 files provided responsive to EI's voice mail of 9/25/08").
 - j. No amphibole structures were found in two sets of soil samples taken after the EPA May 2008 report was issued (23 Feb 06 and 13 Dec 05).
 - k. Anomalously, the EPA 2008 report failed to list one single cleavage fragment in 169 tabular pages of direct transfer TEM data (in the "fifth" CD received from Sara Goldsmith, Esq., EPA labeled "CCMA, 10/7/08, 11 files provided responsive to EI's voice mail of 9/25/08"). The structural information needed to confirm the alleged asbestiform nature of the amphibole structures was not provided in the FOIA response materials. This information included the sketches of the structures. A few photos were provided but all of them were totally black. The EPA repeatedly refused to provide representative samples of the direct TEM transfer filters to confirm the habit of the amphibole structures even though the precise filter numbers were available to limit the size of the request.
 - l. Some types of amphiboles were simply labeled as "other amphibole", "nonregulated amphibole", "EPA2 like amphibole", "Libby amphibole" and "Libby like amphibole" but these were not defined further in the EPA FOIA response materials.
7. Coalinga type chrysotile fibers were extensively undercounted due to misidentification and / or arbitrary ('for client') modification of the standard ISO counting rules.
 8. Non-asbestos materials (NAM) e.g. cellulose and other non asbestos based fibrous materials were seen in up to 5% of some soil samples ("fifth" CD - "CCMA, 10/7/08, e.g. see 06-076: R116-01 - 013) but these were not identified in the air sampling data.
 9. The assumption that the 'air samples collected (by the EPA) ... are probably more representative of the CCMA mineral mix than soil samples collected from discrete locations or from CCMA mines" was totally unjustified (e.g. see Pooley, 2008 and

¹ Prior to the ABS conducted by the EPA for the 2008 report, the BLM had recently undertaken heavy construction along some parts of the sampling routes, scarifying the soil surface and thus potentially laying bare areas of contact potential uraniferous containing rock [Amador pers com 2008]

MAR. 11. 2009 2:56PM

MOORE SMITH-BUXTON

NO. 3678 P. 5/6

- the points listed above). In fact, the EPA sampling point nearest any of the CCMA mines (i.e. the UCC Joe pit) was more than 6 miles away.
10. The EPA air sampling data was confounded due to overload. Some of this appeared to be due to rainy weather i.e. many filters were clogged with mud and thus thrown out). Damaged and malfunctioning equipment were also potentially confounding.
 11. It is totally unclear why the EPA waited thirty years ago to insist on the closure of the CCMA since Cooper et al [1979] published a report in one of the most widely read scientific international journals three decades ago indicating that the asbestos levels generated on the CCMA by the same type of ABS recreational activities exceeded OSHA levels².
 12. The EPA has continued to insist on asbestos superfund 'cleanup' measures in the absence of compliance standards e.g. the EPA put three sites at the CCMA onto the NPL in 1990 for Superfund remediation and six years later took at least one of the Sites off the list on the grounds they had been 'cleaned-up' despite the absence of pre- and post-cleanup benchmarks.
 13. The EPA's Superfund contractors (WCC, 1989) concluded that the 'intensity of recreational use ... did not change the ranking position' in their risk matrix and 'primary ranking criteria' for asbestos superfund cleanup on the CCMA.
 14. The EPA's asbestos risk models have overestimated the risk of mesothelioma in other settings such as the Thetford chrysotile residential studies [Camus et al, 2002] leading the authors to conclude the EPA risk assessment methodology was seriously flawed.
 15. The EPA continues to rely on their base 1986 risk assessment document [EPA600/8-84-003F: Nicholson's "Airborne asbestos health update] even though the EPA sent it to Sir Richard Doll and Prof. Julian Peto for critical review and comment in 1985. Doll and Peto thus stated, amongst other things, that 'brief intense exposure to chrysotile has never been shown to cause either lung cancer or mesothelioma'
 16. The EPA's CCMA [2008] document said the risks could be overestimated if the asbestos from the CCMA did not biopersist. However, the EPA failed to acknowledge the fact that Coalinga chrysotile does not biopersist [Ilgren and Chatfield, 1998].
 17. The EPA's CCMA [2008] document said "the only fiber size which has been linked to asbestos disease (is) the longer ... PCME fibers". However, in the same document the EPA said most of the Coalinga chrysotile fiber was 'short' leading one to conclude that this is another source of risk estimation³.

² One would have thought the EPA would have acted on the basis of Cooper et al's [1979] findings since they said 'this is the first instance of which we are aware in which naturally airborne asbestos, not the result of mining, milling or other industrial activity has been shown to occur at levels comparable to those in the workplace. It reflects of course the extremely high chrysotile content of the New Idria Serpentine. The airborne fibers in the Clear Creek recreational area have diameters, lengths, and concentrations that could be hazardous to health if inhaled over long periods of time. ... sustained or frequently repetitive exposures to concentrations such as reported at Clear Creek especially by children, do not seem justifiable. The reported 'airborne concentrations approach the maximum that might be expected from natural sources in view of the unusually high concentrations of chrysotile in the rocks (approaching 100%) and soil, the dry terrain, and the dust generating activities that were taking place'. ... "The need for restrictions of use or other protective measures for the general population should be considered. Occupational health standards provide guidelines but they are not legally applicable or appropriate in view of the nature of the exposures and the population at risk. An industrial plant in which the observed concentrations prevailed even intermittently would be required to take action to meet OSHA regulations. Environmental Protection Agency standards that prohibit visible emissions containing asbestos presumably would be violated if an industrial site permitted such dust clouds. The Federal Government probably cannot ignore exposures in a recreational area under its control if its guiding principle is that there is no threshold level of carcinogenic effect for asbestos so that 'exposures must be reduced as low as feasible'" [Cooper et al, 1979].

³ The EPA CCMA [2008] document also said the dust clouds from crocidolite fiber tend to occur as very short fibers and that 'the majority of fibers detected in CCMA air samples ... present with a fiber size distribution similar to that recently published for commercial chrysotile'. Neither statement is true.

MAR. 11. 2009 2:56PM

MOORE SMITH BUXTON

18. The EPA's CCMA [2008] document claimed children are more susceptible than adults to asbestos exposure and mesothelioma development. There are no human data to support this proposal. In fact, children exposed from birth to the most potent mesothelioma inducing agent known, fibrous erionite, still develop mesotheliomas twenty or more years after first exposure in a manner similar to adults. In contrast, Selikoff suggested older workers at the amosite plant in Paterson NJ were more susceptible than younger ones for mesothelioma development [Seidman et al, 1986].
19. The EPA's CCMA [2008] claimed 'noncancerous' effects may be more important than cancer ones. However, the only significant noncancerous effect is asbestosis and this only occurs at occupational exposure levels of the kind that would never be found at the CCMA.
20. The EPA's CCMA [2008] document claimed the CCMA recreational exposure situation is somehow similar to the environmental exposure settings found in Turkey, Sicily, and New Caledonia. This is totally incorrect. The mesothelioma excess found in those locations is due to the use of a tremolitic asbestos whitewash (Turkey and New Caledonia) and the use of a rare amphibole called flouredenite (Sicily) as a building material.

In conclusion, I continue to see no reason whatsoever for the BLM to close the CCMA. The closure is not consistent with the science. There is no evidence of risk to those occupationally, paraoccupationally, and/or environmentally/recreationally exposed to the asbestos found on the CCMA or any materials viewed by others as having 'asbestos-like' properties namely amphibole cleavage fragments. Not one single case of attributable asbestos related disease has been identified out of the millions thus exposed over the last 50 years. If the form of asbestos presently of concern was as toxic as other types of asbestos, such disease would have been identified.

Yours most sincerely,

/s/ E.B. Ilgren

Ed Ilgren



Timothy
Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
03/13/2009 09:48 AM

To Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc
bcc

Subject ed Ilgren March fax

History:  This message has been replied to.

Based on my twenty years of working on the CCMA asbestos mining & risk assessments here are some corrections to Ed Ilgren's "Critical Commentary on CCMA Closure".

#3 BLM is aware of one KCAC worker who may have died due to a contribution of asbestos exposure . A second person CHP law enforcement official who "patrolled the roads in CCMA" contacted BLM due to his asbestos cancer, which he thought could be attributable to this exposure .

#6 BLM has many R.J..Lee TEM lab reports which document tremolite asbestos which were found in the CCMA by routine BLM OSHA assessment sampling .

#6 (c) (2) New Idria asbestos is not "cross fiber" it is massive sheared serpentite.(EPA 1990)

#6 (d) 1989-1990 air samples used PCM low magnification which cannot distinguish species of asbestos . Only recently did BLM document thru the use of TEM the presence of airborne tremolite fibers using R .J. Lee laboratory .



Karl Ford/NOC/BLM/DOI
03/18/2009 10:55 AM

To Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM

cc Tim Radtke/PHS/OS/DOI@DOI

bcc

Subject Ilgren

History:

✉ This message has been replied to.

Most of of his comments have to do with asbestos analytical methods used by EPA and mineralogy (amphibole or not) and their risk assessment. EPA should respond to these; are they?

Karl L. Ford, Toxicologist and Remediation Advisor
Branch of Environmental Compliance
Division of Resource Services
National Operations Center - BLM
Phone: 303-236-6622
Fax: 303-236-3508

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United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
www.ca.blm.gov/hollister

March 20, 2009

In Reply Refer To:
1610 (N)
CA-190.30

Steven Ross, P.E.
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95826

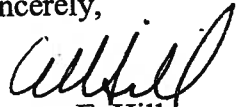
Dear Steven:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has enclosed an Administrative Draft of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for approximately 63,000 acres of public land in Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA), situated in southern San Benito and western Fresno counties. The enclosures also include the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the CCMA RMP, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The CCMA RMP, when adopted, will guide future management and actions in CCMA, as all activities on public lands must be consistent with the guiding RMP.

These are BLM public lands managed by the Hollister Field Office, and this notice is being provided in advance of the release of the document to the general public in order to improve coordination and consistency between Federal and State agencies with resources interests or jurisdiction in the CCMA planning area. Therefore, BLM requests that the information only be distributed among Agency personnel; and that information in the Administrative Draft CCMA RMP/EIS be considered incomplete, recognizing that several sections and Appendices need further development following interagency review and comments.

California Department of Toxic Substances Control has a number of resources and interests that could be of assistance to BLM during development of the RMPs and EIS. The BLM would like to invite California Department of Toxic Substances Control to review the Administrative Draft of the CCMA RMP/EIS and provide comments to BLM, as appropriate, so that BLM can make improvements to the document before it's released to the general public in May 2009. BLM will coordinate interagency meetings with interested state and federal agencies in March and April 2009 to further discuss issues associated with the development of the CCMA RMP/EIS. Please contact myself or the Field Manager, Rick Cooper at the address above or by phone: (831) 630-5000 for more information.

Sincerely,


George E. Hill
Associate Field Manager



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
www.ca.blm.gov/hollister

March 20, 2009

In Reply Refer To:
1610 (N)
CA-190.30

Jeanne Geselbracht
Federal Activities Office (CMD-2)
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Jeanne:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has enclosed an Administrative Draft of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for approximately 63,000 acres of public land in Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA), situated in southern San Benito and western Fresno counties. The enclosures also include the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the CCMA RMP, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The CCMA RMP, when adopted, will guide future management and actions in CCMA, as all activities on public lands must be consistent with the guiding RMP.

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EPA has a number of resources and interests that could be of assistance to BLM during development of the RMPs and EIS. The BLM would like to invite EPA to review the Administrative Draft of the CCMA RMP/EIS and provide comments to BLM, as appropriate, so that BLM can make improvements to the document before it's released to the general public in May 2009. BLM will coordinate interagency meetings with interested state and federal agencies in March and April 2009 to further discuss issues associated with the development of the CCMA RMP/EIS. Please contact myself or the Field Manager, Rick Cooper at the address above or by phone: (831) 630-5000 for more information.

Sincerely,

George E. Hill
Associate Field Manager



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
www.ca.blm.gov/hollister

March 20, 2009

In Reply Refer To:
1610 (N)
CA-190.30

Art Bliss, Engineer II
San Benito County Public Works
3220 Southside Road
Hollister, CA 95023

Dear Art:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has enclosed an Administrative Draft of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for approximately 63,000 acres of public land in Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA), situated in southern San Benito and western Fresno counties. The enclosures also include the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the CCMA RMP, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The CCMA RMP, when adopted, will guide future management and actions in CCMA, as all activities on public lands must be consistent with the guiding RMP.

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San Benito County Public Works has a number of resources and interests that could be of assistance to BLM during development of the RMPs and EIS. The BLM would like to invite San Benito County Public Works to review the Administrative Draft of the CCMA RMP/EIS and provide comments to BLM, as appropriate, so that BLM can make improvements to the document before it's released to the general public in May 2009. BLM will coordinate interagency meetings with interested state and federal agencies in March and April 2009 to further discuss issues associated with the development of the CCMA RMP/EIS. Please contact myself or the Field Manager, Rick Cooper at the address above or by phone: (831) 630-5000 for more information.

Sincerely,

George E. Hill
Associate Field Manager



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
www.ca.blm.gov/hollister

March 20, 2009

In Reply Refer To:
1610 (N)
CA-190.30

Art Henriques, Director
San Benito County Planning & Building Inspection Services
3224 Southside Road
Hollister, CA 95023

Dear Art:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has enclosed an Administrative Draft of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for approximately 63,000 acres of public land in Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA), situated in southern San Benito and western Fresno counties. The enclosures also include the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the CCMA RMP, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The CCMA RMP, when adopted, will guide future management and actions in CCMA, as all activities on public lands must be consistent with the guiding RMP.

These are BLM public lands managed by the Hollister Field Office, and this notice is being provided in advance of the release of the document to the general public in order to improve coordination and consistency between Federal and State agencies with resources interests or jurisdiction in the CCMA planning area. Therefore, BLM requests that the information only be distributed among Agency personnel; and that information in the Administrative Draft CCMA RMP/EIS be considered incomplete, recognizing that several sections and Appendices need further development following interagency review and comments.

San Benito County Planning has a number of resources and interests that could be of assistance to BLM during development of the RMPs and EIS. The BLM would like to invite San Benito County Planning to review the Administrative Draft of the CCMA RMP/EIS and provide comments to BLM, as appropriate, so that BLM can make improvements to the document before it's released to the general public in May 2009. BLM will coordinate interagency meetings with interested state and federal agencies in March and April 2009 to further discuss issues associated with the development of the CCMA RMP/EIS. Please contact myself or the Field Manager, Rick Cooper at the address above or by phone: (831) 630-5000 for more information.

Sincerely,

George E. Hill
Associate Field Manager



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
www.ca.blm.gov/hollister

March 26, 2009

In Reply Refer To:
1610 (P)
CA-190.00

Susan Thompson
San Benito County Administrative Supervisor
481-4th Street
Hollister, CA 95023

Dear Susan:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has enclosed an Administrative Draft of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for approximately 63,000 acres of public land in Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA), situated in southern San Benito and western Fresno counties. The enclosures also include the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) associated with the CCMA RMP, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The CCMA RMP, when adopted, will guide future management and actions in CCMA, as all activities on public lands must be consistent with the guiding RMP.

These are BLM public lands managed by the Hollister Field Office, and this notice is being provided in advance of the release of the document to the general public in order to improve coordination and consistency between Federal and State agencies with resources interests or jurisdiction in the CCMA planning area. Therefore, BLM requests that the information only be distributed among Agency personnel; and that information in the Administrative Draft CCMA RMP/EIS be considered incomplete, recognizing that several sections and Appendices need further development following interagency review and comments.

San Benito County has a number of resources and interests that could be of assistance to BLM during development of the RMPs and EIS. The BLM would like to invite San Benito County to review the Administrative Draft of the CCMA RMP/EIS and provide comments to BLM, as appropriate, so that BLM can make improvements to the document before it's released to the general public in May 2009. BLM will coordinate interagency meetings with interested state and federal agencies in March and April 2009 to further discuss issues associated with the development of the CCMA RMP/EIS. Please contact me at the address above or by phone: (831) 630-5000 for more information.

Sincerely,

Rick Cooper
Hollister Field Manager



Department of Toxic Substances Control



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Maziar Movassaghi
Acting Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Attn: Mr. Rick Cooper
Hollister Field Manager
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, California 95203-2535

ADMINISTRATIVE DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CLEAR CREEK MANAGEMENT AREA, SOUTHERN SAN BENITO AND WESTERN FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Dear Mr. Cooper:

Thank you for providing the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) an opportunity to participate in the March 26, 2009 meeting in Sacramento and to review the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Administrative Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Clear Creek Management Area (CCMA). The CCMA encompasses approximately 75,000 acres of which BLM manages 63,000 acres of public lands.

As you know, the CCMA is identified as a distinct geographical area in the United States Environmental Protection Agency Record of Decision for the Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund Site. DTSC review focused primarily on those aspects of the BLM land use alternatives that pertain to evaluating potential risk to human health from exposure to asbestos found within the CCMA and whether Atlas Mine Operable Unit is secured from potential trespass allowing for eventual delisting from the federal Superfund list after a final land use decision.

From review of the document, it was difficult to comprehend all management actions for each of the alternatives. Grouping all management actions for each alternative would be useful to the reader. From our understanding of the BLM preferred alternative, the following management actions **inside** the Serpentine Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) are intended to meet objectives of minimizing public exposure to asbestos:

1. Install gates at entrance points to manage motorized access.

2. Install, replace and maintain signs and boundary markers to maximize public safety and enjoyment of public lands.
3. Acquire lands from willing sellers with high value for special status species, other biological resources, and recreational opportunities and to augment the management efficiency.
4. No Off Highway Vehicle use.
5. No Camping allowed.
6. Terminate public right-of way on County roads and visitor use fee program.
7. Authorize access to private landowners, existing rights-of-ways and utility corridors.
8. Authorize access by permit only no more than five days/year for motorized activity limited to vehicle touring along 11-mile scenic route that follows T153 and Spanish Lake Road.
9. Authorize access by permit only no more than 12 days/year for non-motorized activity limited to pedestrian trail day use opportunities of unique scenic, natural or geologic features. These non-motorized recreational activities include hiking, hunting, target shooting, rock-hounding, mountain bike and equestrian use.
10. No mineral leasing or sales on public lands and withdrawal of 30,200 acre ACEC from locatable mineral entry under the 1872 Mining Law.
11. Authorize special recreation permits for hobby gem and mineral collection on a case by case basis.
12. Develop and maintain transportation facilities (i.e. pull-outs and parking areas) on portions of T153 and Spanish Lake Road (R11) and other destinations with unique biological, natural and geologic features.
13. Mitigation measures to reduce emissions at staging areas, existing recreational facilities and designated major route network through surface hardening or other dust suppression techniques (paving, base rock, chip seal, or applications of surfactants) to stabilize and solidify soils or aggregates and control erosion.
14. Restrictions on access and use during extreme weather conditions and enforce temporary closures. Establish remote automated weather station or apply the use of other available technologies to monitor soil moisture to determine need for closure based on extreme weather conditions.
15. Augment existing public health risk awareness through improved signing, hand-outs (maps and brochures), advisories, monitoring, public contact and education programs with best available information concerning asbestos health hazards.
16. Rehabilitate surface-disturbing areas through use of vegetative materials. Require an erosion control strategy and topsoil segregation/restoration plan for proposals involving surface disturbance on slopes of 20 to 40 percent.

17. Consider signed waivers of liability and enforcement of speed limits (15-25 mph) on major route network.
18. Continue proper handling of hazardous materials and wastes.
19. Continue to identify mine-related illegal dumps, private land hazards (eliminate or mitigate as soon as possible).
20. Continue to identify and resolve mining-related trespasses, especially public safety conflicts occurring with visitor use.

Attached as Exhibit A, you will find our toxicologists comments regarding the ACEC and proposed new recreation facilities outside the ACEC. Please address the comments identified in a revised RMP.

Regarding the Atlas Mine Operable Unit, DTSC requests the fence extend to secure the site from trespass near the northern boundary of Pond A. At the nearest distance, this area appears to be less than 4 miles from the proposed new recreational facilities in the Cantua Zone and two miles from the proposed scenic route. As you can see from Exhibit B, there is an approximate 2000 foot gap where trespass may occur along disturbed mine areas on BLM managed lands and the affected privately owned parcel. Please provide a satisfactory proposal so institutional controls in the form of enforceable land use covenants may be fully explored.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3694.

Sincerely,

Steven Ross
Hazardous Substances Engineer
Brownfields and Environmental Restoration Program

Attachments

EXHIBIT A
DTSC MEMORANDUM

EXHIBIT B
ATLAS SITE FEATURES

**Rick
Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI**
03/27/2009 06:43 AM

To sross@dtsc.ca.gov
cc [Sky Murphy/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM](mailto:Sky.Murphy/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM)
bcc
Subject **CCMA Meeting**

Steve,

Thanks again for hosting the meeting.

Sky and Daphne both mentioned the need for information on method that can applied to roads and trails to reduce asbestos emissions. Does DTSC have any data of that kind that would assist BLM in evaluating mitigation measures for roads and trails?

Rick Cooper
Field Manager
Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
phone: (831) 630-5010

Rick
Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
03/31/2009 04:01 PM

To Sky Murphy/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: ClearCreek

FYI

Rick Cooper
Field Manager
Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
phone: (831) 630-5010

----- Forwarded by Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI on 03/31/2009 04:01 PM -----



Johnson .Jere@epamail.epa.
gov

03/31/2009 11:03 AM

To Nick Vleisides <nvlleisides@yahoo.com>
cc Lane.Jackie@epamail.epa.gov, youstin@cdc.gov,
Rick_Cooper@ca.blm.gov
Subject Re: ClearCreek

Mr. Vleisides - I know that your frustration over the closure of Clear Creek is shared by many others in the off-highway vehicle community. Unfortunately, one of the attributes that made Clear Creek such a great place to ride - the open areas with little vegetation - was the result of the fact that Clear Creek exists on the largest contiguous asbestos deposit in the United States.

EPA conducted the exposure and risk assessment by measuring asbestos levels in the breathing zone of people engaged in typical CCMA recreational activities - motorcycle riding, ATV riding, SUV driving on the access roads, hiking, camping, and fence building. We did the sampling on five separate occasions (September '04, November '04, February '05 (two events) and September '05) spanning nine sampling days. Two of the sampling events were considered to be conducted under "dry" conditions, one was conducted when the soil was "moist" and two were conducted under "wet" conditions when it was raining.

What we found was that activities which disturbed the soil at CCMA, particularly motorcycle and ATV riding and SUV driving, put asbestos into the breathing zone at truly significant levels. For ATV and SUV activities, the levels we measured were actually higher during the "moist" soil event than during the "dry" events. Levels only declined when it was actively raining.

In some cases, the asbestos levels we measured exceeded the OSHA 30-minute excursion limit for asbestos. The OSHA limit was established for healthy adult workers at the level which the agency thought employers could reliably measure. It is not a particularly health-protective level and the fact that the level was exceeded during a two hour riding event was of particular concern to us.

We were also disturbed by the fact that the levels measured for children were generally higher than those measured for adults during the same activities. Children are closer to the ground and also tend to be trailing riders. Because asbestos disease has a 20 year or more latency period, childhood exposures can result in the development of disease at a relatively young age.

Asbestos is one of a short list of materials known to cause cancer in humans . It also causes debilitating and fatal non-cancer diseases like asbestosis . We don't know how much or how little asbestos exposure is required to produce disease. For that reason, risk assessment cannot produce exact numbers for health outcomes. That is why our risk assessment includes a discussion of the uncertainty related to our risk numbers. The reference to uncertainty is a reflection of the nature of risk assessment , not a reflection of any uncertainty that asbestos is a very dangerous mineral .

For a variety of reasons, it is very difficult to do a valid epidemiological study of the health outcomes from either occupational or recreational exposures at CCMA . The consensus among the health and medical communities is that chrysotile and amphibole asbestos , the two types of asbestos which EPA found in the air samples at CCMA, cause cancer and other disease. This view is shared by U.S. EPA, California EPA, the Centers for Disease Control, OSHA, the World Health Organization, and many other national and international agencies. Over 30 countries have banned the use of asbestos because of its effect on human health.

EPA conducted the exposure and risk assessment at CCMA to provide information to the Bureau of Land Management, the agency which administers Clear Creek. Based on the results of our assessment, BLM decided to close Clear Creek pending revision of the Resource Management Plan for the area . I am sending a copy of this e-mail to Rick Cooper at the BLM Hollister Field Office so he will be aware of your concerns.

If you have any questions, or want to discuss the risk assessment, please do not hesitate to e-mail me or call me at the number below.

Jere Johnson
Remedial Project Manager (SFD 7-2)
EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-972-3094
415-947-3526 (fax)


From: Nick Vleisides <nvlleisides@yahoo.com>
To: Jere Johnson/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, youutin@cdc.gov, Jackie Lane/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 03/30/2009 10:27 PM
Subject: ClearCreek

Greetings. I am a local citizen who has been riding motorcycles at Clear Creek for over 20 years. I'm a 52 year old father of three and we all (use to) enjoy riding at Clear Creek 2-3 times a year. We always go when the weather is cool and when the conditions are best, i.e., little dust. Most people like to visit Clear Creek in those conditions. I finally took time to read over some of the risk assessment documents and I must say I was very surprised that Clear Creek was closed based on such methodology. Granted, I'm not a

scientist but there was certainly a methodology described that begs the question, "You closed Clear Creek because of September 15?" It is hard to believe tests were done on only one particular day, a day at the end of the very dry, hot and dusty season. I was amazed at how often the word "uncertain" was used and how even the document mentioned over and over more testing is required to be certain about anything. Look, I realize that no one in good conscience would condone the use of a high risk environment. All environments pose some level of risk. As a citizen who has enjoyed many years of recreation in a place so far removed from any populated area, I am completely dismayed at the EPA knee jerk reaction. Please re-open this area. Scores of people have been riding in this area for 50 years. My good friend owns a 15,000 acre ranch since the 30's at the entrance to CC. Find some tangible link that riders have shown health problems related to their riding at CC. Not one single case over the past 50 years has been linked to any health hazard related to visiting this area. Perhaps....maybe not one case. The greater risk is the riding itself....which we all take in so many ways by just living on the planet and doing most of the things we do on a daily basis....drive a car....walk across the street...breath city air....eat the crud. Reverse this please.

Nick Vleisides

Rick
Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
04/01/2009 10:39 AM

To Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
cc
bcc
Subject Re: 

Steve,

With respect to the changes in time for risk calculations ;

Based on public scoping and based on BLM developing a range of alternatives , exposures times to the OHV riders was reduced for each of the alternatives. This time reduction was intended to more accurately reflect actual use by the people recreating in the ACEC. The EPA assessment had some long days of riding (6 hours in the ACEC). We had EPA run numbers for the alternatives at 4 hours first day and 3 hours second day for a weekend, as opposed to 6 hours first day and 4 hours second day..

EPA merely took the time exposure numbers we provided for the alternatives and ran those through the model to arrive at the risk numbers for each activity for each alternative . The risks went down somewhat but we still experienced significant risk for most of the vehicle use .

As to the science being flawed . I believe the EPA risk calculations and sampling to be accurate . This is based my discussions with BLM toxicologists and DOI industrial hygentists .

The recurring statement from the OHV community has been that chrysotile asbestos is not harmful .

However, asbestos is one of a short list of materials known to cause cancer in humans . It also causes debilitating and fatal non-cancer diseases like asbestosis . We don't know how much or how little asbestos exposure is required to produce disease. For that reason, the risk assessment cannot produce exact numbers for health outcomes.

For a variety of reasons, it is very difficult to do a valid epidemiological study of the health outcomes from either occupational or recreational exposures at CCMA. The consensus among the health and medical communities is that chrysotile and amphibole asbestos, the two types of asbestos which EPA found in the air samples at CCMA, cause cancer and other disease. This view is shared by U.S. EPA, California EPA, the Centers for Disease Control, OSHA, the World Health Organization, and many other national and international agencies. Over 30 countries have banned the use of asbestos because of its effect on human health.

BLM employees :

BLM has since the late 1980's used OSHA guidance and our BLM Health and Safety Plan for employee working protocols. We medically monitor any employee that works over 10 days in the area. Employees take air samples while working in the area to help us determine what type of conditions cause the greatest risk. BLM will continue to follow OSHA guidance and risk thresholds for its employees (not the EPA assessment). BLM will however continue to refine how and when we have employees working in the area based on new data like the EPA Assessment.

Rick Cooper
Field Manager
Hollister Field Office
20 Hamilton Court
Hollister, CA 95023
phone: (831) 630-5010



"Steve Ross"
<Sross@dtsc.ca.gov>
04/16/2009 03:16 PM

To <Rick_Cooper@ca.blm.gov>
cc <Sky_Murphy@ca.blm.gov>
bcc

Subject CCMA

History:  This message has been replied to.

Hi Rick,

Okay for us to get you comments on Monday? Near completion but have to get my supervisor to review and he's out until then. Thanks.



Timothy
Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
04/17/2009 09:38 AM

To Christine Sloand/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, George
Hill/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: Asbestiform soils

Could one of you sent out these documents?

I am not sure where they are electronically.

— Forwarded by Timothy Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI on 04/17/2009 09:37 AM —



"Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE"
<mike.pearson@lin.usda.gov
>
04/16/2009 05:09 AM

To <Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov>
cc
Subject FW: Asbestiform soils

I am still interested to have a look at these if it's at all possible.

Mike

From: Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 10:01 AM
To: 'Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov'
Subject: RE: Asbestiform soils

Would you be willing to share these safety/health plans with us? Or might they be available on-line via the BLM's national website?

From: Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov [mailto:Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 12:53 PM
To: Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE
Cc: Reinsch, Thomas - Lincoln, NE
Subject: RE: Asbestiform soils

Yes, you can rent these air samplers, if you are performing field work for BLM in the CCMA, perhaps something can be arranged. We also have a Respirator Plans, Health & Safety Plan and a Medical Monitoring Plan for our employees.

Gloves usually are not required, but latex would work just fine, if you don't want cross-contamination.

"Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE" <mike.pearson@lin.usda.gov>

03/30/2009 10:42 AM

To <Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov>
cc "Reinsch, Thomas - Lincoln, NE"
<thomas.reinsch@lin.usda.gov>
Subje RE: Asbestiform soils
ct

These air-sampling instruments, what are they? Can they be rented? If so, from whom and at what cost? Do you have access to any of these?

A concern I would have using them is that asbestos bound with soil (as in dust) might underestimate the amount of asbestos respirated if these instruments are designed to measure asbestos fibers *only* (not those bound-up/masked in soil). Once in the lung any fibers encapsulated with soil would then become free (dispersed/separated-from the soil) to do their damage.

Procurring personal protective equipment is not a problem with us. We just want to make sure we have what is necessary.

Half-mask respirators do not have an unreasonable cost - ~\$25 per, replaceable filters @ <\$10. (See <http://www.envirosafetyproducts.com/product/3M-7500-Series-Half-Facepiece-Asbestos-Abatement-Respirator-Assembly.html> or <http://store.pksafety.net/noname3.html>)

I was wondering though, everyone else I've talked to seems to believe that our type of sampling work could be done without half-masks; masks seeming to be more the order if one were doing long-term digging on some big construction project. Keeping the soil moist and unable to create dust apparently is the one recommendation everyone *does* agree on. As such, we are going to purchase a number of 48 oz., pressure hand-pump, bottles for individuals to carry as they poke and probe the soils. **Question: Do you know if/what-type-of gloves are best/necessary when working with asbestiform soils?**

If respirators *are* needed on the job, I believe OSHA or NIOSH requires there be a formal, documented plan in place and that whatever masks are to be used recieve prior approval by them, especially in regards to fit, which also must have a formal program for anyone using said respirators.

This seems like a lot of work, but it is legally required. Do you have a formal plan you have previously drawn up? If so, could you share this document with us? If you have nothing formal for yourself or your people, I will call on one of the USDA industrial hygienists to help me with this.

Anyway, thanks much.

Yours,
Mike Pearson

From: Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov [mailto:Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 11:37 AM

To: Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE
Subject: RE: Asbestiform soils

The OSHA threshold is 0.10 fibers per cubic centimeter in the air, you need to measure this with air sampling instruments.

"Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE" <mike.pearson@lin.usda.gov>

03/30/2009 09:10 AM

To <Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov>
cc
Subject RE: Asbestiform soils

Thanks.
But I'm not even sure what the OSHA threshold limit is.

From: Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov [mailto:Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2009 10:58 AM
To: Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE
Subject: Re: Asbestiform soils

Air sampling can quantify the amount of airborne asbestos exposure, but you need the equipment. If you are sampling in our area (Clear Creek- San Benito & Fresno county) I might be able to provide you some air sampling information. Also respirators (1/2 face mask) could also be required if asbestos concentrations exceed the OSHA threshold.

This would apply to both lab analysis and field work.

"Pearson, Mike - Lincoln, NE" <mike.pearson@lin.usda.gov>

03/24/2009 09:01 AM

To <Timothy_Moore@ca.blm.gov>
cc
Subject Asbestiform soils



Jorgenson/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Karen
Montgomery/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, James
Keeler/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Michael
Ayers/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, David
Lawler/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc Tom Pogachnik/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM

Subject clear creek RMP review!

\\Blm\dfs\calso\pub\Resources_PUB\NEPA-PLANNING-Public\Hollister\Admin_draft_pdf_CCMA_RMP\Ad
min_draft_Word_CCMA_RMP

You all have been specifically requested by Hollister to lend your valued opinion and insight to the admin
draft of the Clear Creek RMP. Originally, the requested date for review was 4/17, but it has been
extended to 4/24. Please send your comments to me for consolidation before I send them to Hollister. I
don't have a hard copy, so please go to the link above. There are word docs by chapter and a pdf of the
entire document. Call with any questions!

Sandra

Sandra McGinnis
BLM California Planning and Environmental Coordinator
916.978.4427 (phone)
916.978.4657 (fax)

Hello.

I'm Mike Pearson and am with the National Soil Survey Center (USDA-NRCS-NSSC) in Lincoln, Nebraska. I work in the Soil Survey Laboratory as a Physical Science Technician and also serve as co-chair of our Safety Committee.

Recently, one of our soil scientists (Tom Reinsch) asked me for information on personal protective equipment and safety precautions regarding asbestiform soils which he was going to be sampling on an upcoming trip. A check of my files revealed little and our on-staff expert on these (Warren Lynn) was unavailable due to recent retirement. A search of the internet yielded limited results as well. Most advice consisted of simply keeping the soils wet to prevent fibers from becoming airborne; wearing Tyvek suits and respirators as conditions warrant. That, and monitoring air quality, but that was mostly for large construction-type projects.

I've e-mailed several persons whom I thought might have info regarding this. One, Phil Camp (MLRA Region 8 Leader/State Soil Scientist), is now looking into this as there have been numerous mappings in his area with this type of soil, apparently with little guidance as to safety & health precautions. An exchange of e-mails with an EPA On-scene Coordinator in Denver offered similar advice: most sites don't require personal protective equipment as the conditions are such that fibers won't become airborne...but...Tyvek, respirators, and keeping the soil wet are recommended for soils where airborne particles are probable/possible. How does one tell if this is likely to occur? Better to play safe than sorry?

Tom suggested I write to you as you are familiar with HazMat procedures and these soils.

I would appreciate greatly any advice you might be able to provide when in contact with this type of soil. Not only for our field work, but also in handling them in the lab. Our current procedure has us using only latex gloves and simple dust masks (3M 8500 Comfort Mask; DuraMask 1895N - 42CFR84 Approved), which are probably inadequate for the risk this material poses.

Also, as long as I have your attention, do you know if there happen to be any special precautions needed for dealing with andic (glass) soils?

Thanks much.

Yours,
Mike Pearson

Mike Pearson
Physical Science Technician



Timothy
Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
05/01/2009 01:24 PM

To Marc Springer/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Steve
Kupferman/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM

bcc

Subject Clear Creek EIS & mining claims

Hey guys -

As you probably know our office is getting ready to release the draft Clear Creek EIS in June 2009.

I will be in Sacto next week on some Union business & want to see if any of you will be around to talk @ mining claims & 3809 regs.

Specifically, we have 4 or so existing mining claims that are active under "casual use" located in the 30,000 acre Hazard Asbestos ACEC.

Here are some of the mining issues; this type narrative discussion needs to be added to the draft Clear Creek EIS:

1 - If BLM decides to eliminate the vehicle access to these existing valid claims , then do the claimants have to submit a POO & bond if we decide to allow "mechanized equipment" i.e. motorized vehicles to these mining claim?

2 -What would be the chances of having both CSO & WO supporting a mineral withdrawal for the 30,000 acre ACEC?

3 - They were economic reserves of chromite that have been mined in the past , since this listed as a strategic mineral, would this affect the Congressional approval for mineral withdrawal ?

4 - Do either of you have any examples in an EIS where mining has been withdrawn or highly restricted , as we are proposing in the EIS?

I'll be up there Monday thru Friday morning , perhaps we could meet during that timeframe.

thanks!



Marc
Springer/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
05/01/2009 02:31 PM

To Timothy Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Steve
Kupferman/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Leroy
Mohorich/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM

bcc

Subject Re: Clear Creek EIS & mining claims

Tim, et al-

I will be happy to discuss these issues with you. I will be in next week except for Tuesday. Steve is out (on detail with NTC) for the next three weeks.

Marc P. Springer
Geologist CA-920
BLM California State Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
Ph#: (916) 978-4369
Fax#: (916)978-4389

"Some things are still a mystery to me...
while others are much too clear" -Buffett
Timothy Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI

Timothy
Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
05/01/2009 01:24 PM

To Marc Springer/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Steve
Kupferman/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc Rick Cooper/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM

Subject Clear Creek EIS & mining claims

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Specifically, we have 4 or so existing mining claims that are active under "casual use" located in the 30,000 acre Hazard Asbestos ACEC.

Here are some of the mining issues; this type narrative discussion needs to be added to the draft Clear Creek EIS:

1 - If BLM decides to eliminate the vehicle access to these existing valid claims, then do the claimants have to submit a POO & bond if we decide to allow "mechanized equipment" i.e. motorized vehicles to these mining claim?

2 -What would be the chances of having both CSO & WO supporting a mineral withdrawal for the 30,000

acre ACEC?

3 - They were economic reserves of chromite that have been mined in the past, since this listed as a strategic mineral, would this affect the Congressional approval for mineral withdrawal?

4 - Do either of you have any examples in an EIS where mining has been withdrawn or highly restricted, as we are proposing in the EIS?

I'll be up there Monday thru Friday morning, perhaps we could meet during that timeframe.

thanks!



John Key /CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
05/12/2009 10:03 AM

To Richard Grabowski/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI, Leroy Mohorich/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI
cc Robert Nauert/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Steven_J_Borchard@blm.gov@BLM, Hector Villalobos/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI,
bcc
Subject Fw: CHF Funds Distribution Memo

FYI - 2009 Central HazMat Fund (2641) distribution by the Department - includes both Atlas Asbestos NPL site (CA-190) and Rand Historic Mining District Complex (CA-650). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

John Key
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----- Forwarded by John Key/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI on 05/12/2009 09:54 AM -----



Kris Doebbler /NOC/BLM/DOI
05/12/2009 09:41 AM

To John Key/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
cc Richard Forester/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM, Timothy Moore/CASO/CA/BLM/DOI@BLM
Subject Fw: CHF Funds Distribution Memo

FYI

----- Forwarded by Kris Doebbler/NOC/BLM/DOI on 05/12/2009 10:39 AM -----



William B
Lodder/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI
05/12/2009 07:02 AM

To Amy L Horner/HQ/SOL/DOI@SOL, Andrea McLaughlin/ARL/R9/FWS/DOI@FWS, Brian Yost/POB/OS/DOI@DOI, Carl Wang/WASO/NPS@NPS, Eldine Stevens/DC/BIA/DOI@BIA, Emily Joseph/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI, Esther Eng/APS/USGS/DOI@USGS, Greg Nottingham/DENVER/NPS@NPS, HKaplan@do.usbr.gov, Jan_H_Smith@ios.doi.gov, Joanna Day/HQ/SOL/DOI@SOL, JOHN SEYMOUR/HQ/SOL/DOI@SOL, Keith Tyler/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Kris Doebbler/NOC/BLM/DOI@BLM, Mary Josie Blanchard/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI, Melissa B Derwart/HQ/SOL/DOI@SOL, Miyoshi W Stith/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Nathalie Smith/HQ/SOL/DOI@SOL, Pamela Innis/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI, Robert M Wilson/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI, Willie Taylor/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI, CASEY PADGETT/DNV/SOL/DOI@SOL, Robert B Jolley/WO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Shawn Mulligan/DENVER/NPS@NPS
cc Lajuan Randolph/PEP/OS/DOI@DOI
Subject CHF Funds Distribution Memo



Good Morning All,

As mentioned in the TRC meeting, I've attached the signed funds distribution memo for your records. The memo is going to Budget (POB) today for processing. I anticipate that POB will load the funds this week depending on their workload. If you have any questions please let me know.

Bill
William B. Lodder Jr.
Environmental Cleanup and Liability Team
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
U.S. Department of the Interior

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FY09 3rd Distribution.pdf