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WHAT'S HAPPENING

OFFICE OF REGULATORY REINVENTION (ORR) ISSUES WORKPLACE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

On March 12, 2012, the Office of Regulatory Reinvention (ORR) released its report of the Workplace Safety Advisory Rules Committee. The report details changes to safety and health rules and makes other program recommendations. The News Release is [attached](#) and includes a link to the full report.

Rule Recommendations: In all, the ORR report recommends 624 changes to 334 separate Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) rules that exceed the federal standards. The recommendations contemplate the rescission of over 611 distinct MIOSHA requirements (this includes entire rules or parts of rules).

Additional Recommendations: The report also includes nine program recommendations in addition to the review of existing MIOSHA rules. The nine recommendations address the following:

1. Eliminate MIOSHA Standard setting commissions.
2. Add a definition of "Clear and Convincing need" to the MIOSH Act.
3. Update rules to comply with the OSHA Standards Improvement Project.
4. Eliminate rules regarding specific qualifications when a rule limits the use of equipment to a trained and qualified employee. Provides alternative to permits.
5. Work with the agricultural community to address confined space for agriculture rules that were inadvertently rescinded.
6. Pursue a review of state air contaminant rules once federal OSHA completes its review.
7. Withdraw rule requests that exceed federal standards.
8. Ensure all MIOSHA rule sets are included in the Michigan Administrative Code.
9. Review and potentially combine all diving standards into one rule that does not exceed federal OSHA.

The report, including the recommendations above, was reviewed by the Governor's Office. It was presented to the House Committee on Regulatory Reform on March 14th.

Two proposals in the report, Recommendation #1 on the MIOSHA Standards Commissions and Recommendation #2 which would add a definition of "clear and convincing need" to the MIOSH Act would require a legislative change to the MIOSH Act, P.A. 154 of 1974, as amended.

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OFFICE OF REGULATORY REINVENTION (ORR) ISSUES WORKPLACE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS – continued

Report Creation: The report was prepared by the Workplace Safety Advisory Rules Committee convened by ORR. It included representation from business, labor and government including MIOSHA. Former MIOSHA Director Doug Kalinowski was a member of the committee and a number of other staff participated and/or made recommendations to the committee. The report has been reviewed by the Governor and he has asked the ORR and MIOSHA to work toward implementing the recommendations.

2012 MICHIGAN SAFETY CONFERENCE

The Michigan Safety Conference is coming up – April 17 & 18, 2012 at the DeVos Place in Grand Rapids. Click [here](#) and then click on “Conference Brochure” to see the advanced flier.

WORK-RELATED BURNS IDENTIFIED

The Michigan Department of Community Health and Michigan State University issued a report on the new state burn surveillance system that identified 1461 work-related burns in 2009 from hospital and emergency department, state worker compensation and state poison control center records (Click on annual reports and then the burn report at www.oem.msu.edu). The official Bureau of Labor Statistics based on employer reports for the same year identified only 450 burns, 69% less. The Michigan surveillance program is used to target educational activities and enforcement investigations.

MEDIA

March 6, 2012 – [Huntsman Corporation's Auburn Hills Facility Receives CET Platinum Award for Outstanding Safety and Health Record](#)

March 12, 2012 – [Office of Regulatory Reinvention Issues Recommendations for Eliminating Obsolete Workplace Safety Rules](#)

All of the MIOSHA Press Releases can be viewed from our [website](#).

AGENCY INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED

February 24, 2012 – GISHD-COM-07-1R2 – [Abatement Assurance and Follow-up Inspection Procedures](#)

March 14, 2012 – GISHD-COM-06-2R2 – [Noise Inspections](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 11, 2012 – **Occupational Health Standards Commission Meeting @ 9:30 am** – State Secondary Complex, General Office Building, 7150 Harris Drive, Lansing – Conference Room B

April 17-18, 2012 – **Michigan Safety Conference** – DeVos Place, Grand Rapids

QUICK LINKS

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