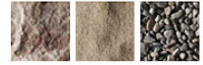


May 16, 2005

National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association



PMD members approve special assessment for ACGIH NIC response

In a conference call May 9, PMD approved a special assessment of \$650 per member company to help the association respond to a new threat to the industry. The problem at hand is an American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) proposal to

Mark your calendars . . .

PMD's 2005 Annual Meeting with take place at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, Oct. 11.

The meeting will be held in conjunction with NSSGA's Fall Legislative Conference, giving PMD members a great opportunity to take our industry's message to the Hill.

significantly lower ACGIH's recommended exposure limits for calcium carbonate. The proposed change, which is based on a highly questionable German study, is of major concern because ACGIH exposure limits are frequently incorporated by reference by OSHA, MSHA, and other agencies.

NSSGA has made the issue a top priority. PMD-NSSGA staff has been working closely in recent weeks with a coalition of groups, including the Industrial Minerals Association-North America (IMA-NA), the National Lime Association (NLA), the Portland Cement Association (PCA) and others, to coordinate a response.

Our coalition is retaining the services of a respected inhalation toxicologist to draft comments to ACGIH. The \$650 per company assessment will cover PMD's share of the \$18,000 cost of preparing those comments. Our

position: It's critical that we build a strong case against the proposal now in anticipation of the possibility of later having to take the issue to Congress, the courts, or the court of public opinion.

We can't spell survey without you!

As PMD gets more active on Capitol Hill, it's vital that we be able to provide members of Congress with basic information about our industry. Where are our facilities located? How many people (read: voters) do our members employ? What's our annual economic footprint? How will our members be affected by the pending energy bill?

PMD is currently conducting a member survey to get answers to those very questions. Unfortunately, we've only heard back from five of you: Columbia River, Huber, Greystone, Imerys, and Specialty Minerals. If you've "misplaced" your survey and need another copy, or if you have any concerns, send an e-mail to PMD facilitator Christian Klein at caklein@potomac-law.com. Individual survey responses will be kept confidential, but the participation of every PMD member is critical to the project's success. We look forward to hearing from you!

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