

Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD)

From: De Rosa, Christopher (Chris) (ATSDR/DTEM/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2007 11:16 AM
To: McGeehin, Mike (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Falk, Henry (CDC/CCEHIP/OD); Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD); Sinks, Tom (ATSDR/OA/OD)
Cc: Rifenburg, James A. (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH)
Subject: Re: FEMA Announces Trailer Air Testing Plans

Thanks Mike. Your response is appreciated.

However, the sampling data I referred to was provided by FEMA late last year or early this year.

I am simply asking what is being done to properly inform the inhabitants about the health effects of formaldehyde. I am also asking that the actions being taken be shared w/ those involved.

For example, I have seen no mention of reproductive developmental hazards in the materials distributed to the residents.

If we are aware of gaps in communication of health information this should be brought to someone's attention so that it can be acted upon.

With respect to sampling, would EPA also be included?

If you wish to discuss any of this please give me a call.

Thanks
Chris

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

-----Original Message-----

From: McGeehin, Mike (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH)
To: De Rosa, Christopher (Chris) (ATSDR/DTEM/OD); Falk, Henry (CDC/CCEHIP/OD); Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD); Sinks, Tom (ATSDR/OA/OD)
CC: Rifenburg, James A. (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH)
Sent: Wed Jul 25 07:38:41 2007
Subject: Re: FEMA Announces Trailer Air Testing Plans

Chris,

Thanks for your comments. There is no one involved in this undertaking who does not understand the public health importance of what we are doing. We are going to provide scientifically valid data on the real-life air quality of these trailers and its possible association with health effects. We will supply that info as rapidly as possible to the risk managers, FEMA, for them to make an informed decision. As of now, the type of data on which to base a decision whether to uproot 66,000 families is lacking.

Everyone involved in this from CDC has moved rapidly and enthusiastically. The only delays we have faced was in waiting for FEMA's request and their answers to 2 pages of questions that we sent.

We want to supply data to FEMA that we can stand behind. If, during the course of our investigation, we discern trends of concern or alarming levels, we will notify FEMA immediately.

A decision to relocate 66,000 families should not be based on limited sampling of unoccupied units or on data from an environmental group. However, those data are driving us to move rapidly in writing the sampling strategies and protocols.

I'm on bberry, so there may be spelling or punctuation errors.

If you have further ideas or comments, a meeting or phone call would probably be more helpful than having to write all of this in an email. Emails can be interpreted so many ways by different readers inside and outside the agency.

Thanks,
Mike

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

-----Original Message-----

From: De Rosa, Christopher (Chris) (ATSDR/DTEM/OD)
To: McGeehin, Mike (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Armstrong, Katherine (Kitty) (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Falk, Henry (CDC/CCEHIP/OD); Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD); Sinks, Tom (ATSDR/OA/OD)
CC: Rifenburg, James A. (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Noonan, Gary (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Garbe, Paul (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Stock, Allison Lynn (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Reed, Larry (CDC/NIOSH/DSHEFS); Sussell, Aaron L. (CDC/NIOSH/DSHEFS); Cibulas, William (ATSDR/DHAC/OD); Orloff, Kenneth G. (ATSDR/DHAC/OD); Mortensen, Mary E. (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Thomas, Jerry (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH); Gressel, Michael G. (CDC/NIOSH/DART); Rodenbeck, Sven (ATSDR/DHAC/CAPEB)
Sent: Tue Jul 24 22:20:53 2007
Subject: Re: FEMA Announces Trailer Air Testing Plans

Colleagues,

While testing may be warranted, what immediate interventions are being pursued thru appropriate channels to interdict exposures?
Or to mitigate health impacts?

I am concerned that the reported clinical signs, are the harbinger of a impending public health disaster.

We know based on data provided to us that levels are up to 80 times higher than peak occupational limits and up to 300 times higher than our health guidance values.

I think we must be more proactive in protecting the people while assisting FEMA.

Chris

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device