

Allred, Phillip M. (Mike) (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH)

From: Allred, Phillip M. (Mike) (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH)
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2006 2:51 PM
To: Little, Joseph D. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB); Holler, James S. (Jim) (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB)
Subject: Re: Summary of bi-monthly formaldehyde conference call

Good writeup Joe. You were wise to include the reference to the weekly. I know they are a pain but they do document your involvement in the issue. Also appreciate the cc. We may have to answer some more questions at some point. Hopefully this will address the question at hand.

Mike

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Device

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

From: Little, Joseph D. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB) <jdl10@cdc.gov>
To: Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD) <haf6@cdc.gov>
CC: Sinks, Tom (ATSDR/OA/OD) <ths2@cdc.gov>; Allred, Phillip M. (Mike) (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH) <mia2@cdc.gov>; Wright, Scott V. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB) <svw3@cdc.gov>; Rodenbeck, Sven (ATSDR/DHAC/CAPEB) <svr1@cdc.gov>; Holler, James S. (Jim) (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB) <jsh2@cdc.gov>; Benken, Donald (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH) <dxb3@cdc.gov>; Perlman, Gary D. <Perlman.Gary@epa.gov>; De Rosa, Christopher (Chris) (ATSDR/DTEM/OD) <cyd0@cdc.gov>; Ayers, David H. (ATSDR/DTEM/OD) <dhal@cdc.gov>
Sent: Mon Dec 04 14:14:12 2006
Subject: RE: Summary of bi-monthly formaldehyde conference call

Dr. Frumkin,

Scott Wright and myself are currently awaiting to receive sampling data from FEMA concerning formaldehyde in temporary housing unit examples, similar to those utilized by Hurricane Katrina displaced persons. Rick Preston from FEMA's Office of General Council (OGC), indicated last Thursday (Nov. 30) that he would send, by fedex, a CD with the data to us. As of this moment, the data has not been received, but is expected some time today (Dec. 4). We indicated to FEMA that once the data is received, we would be able to provide a quick turn-around evaluation, as is standard protocol for evaluation of EPA data by the Emergency Response Program within the Division of Toxicology and Environmental Medicine. A time-frame of approximately 10 days or less was discussed for our evaluation. FEMA will use ATSDR's evaluation to effect their policy decision. The ATSDR Emergency Response Team's activities involving this issue have been described in the program's weekly activity reports.

Background:

June 19, 2006:

First conference call to discuss FEMA's concern of formaldehyde in temporary housing units used by Hurricane Katrina displaced persons. Participants on the call included, Don Benken (NCEH Katrina lead), Scott Wright (ATSDR ER), Joseph Little (ATSDR ER), Gary Perlman (ATSDR DRO), Sam Coleman (EPA 6), Rick Preston (FEMA OGC), and other FEMA, EPA, and ATSDR representatives. Concerns by FEMA about this issue are due to a pending lawsuit against FEMA concerning formaldehyde exposure from temporary housing units.

July 10, 2006:

Joseph Little (ATSDR ER) and Gary Perlman (ATSDR DRO) met with Sam Coleman (EPA 6) and Dana Tulis (EPA HQ) to discuss the formaldehyde issue while at the EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Training in Los Angeles, CA.

July 13, 2006:

conference call was conducted from the EPA OSC Training in Los Angeles. Participants on the call included Joseph Little (ATSDR ER), Gary Perlman (ATSDR DRO), Don Benken (NCEH), Ronnie Crossland (EPA 6), Sam Coleman (EPA 6), Dana Tulis (EPA HQ), Rick Preston (FEMA OGC), and other FEMA and EPA staff. Numerous concerns were expressed by ATSDR and EPA to FEMA regarding the difficulties associated with sampling for formaldehyde and interpreting

the data, due to the large number of other formaldehyde sources from other products in the home and individual lifestyle. The sampling project went forward at FEMA's request.

By-monthly conference calls have been conducted concerning the status of the sampling project. A total of 96 trailers (unoccupied from various manufacturers used by FEMA) were sampled. A sampling plan was provided by EPA, and ATSDR ER had the opportunity to review the plan. The sampling was completed over the Columbus Day weekend (Oct. 9). EPA provided their data report to FEMA in November and requested that FEMA provide the data directly to ATSDR/CDC for FEMA's requested evaluation.

If you have additional question please contact myself at 770-488-3339 or Scott Wright at 770-488 3343.

Joseph D. Little, MSPH
CDR US Public Health Service
Emergency Response Coordinator
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
(770) 488-3339
(770) 488-7100 24-Hour

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

From: Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD)
Sent: Saturday, December 02, 2006 7:39 AM
To: Little, Joseph D. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB); Wright, Scott V. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB); Rodenbeck, Sven (ATSDR/DHAC/CAPEB); Allred, Phillip M. (Mike) (CDC/CCEHIP/NCEH)
Cc: Sinks, Tom (ATSDR/OA/OD)
Subject: RE: Summary of bi-monthly formaldehyde conference call

Joseph, Scott:
I didn't know that this was happening. Can you let me know who at our end is handling it?
Thanks.
Towie

Howard Frumkin, M.D., Dr.P.H., Director
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1825 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30345

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

From: Coleman.Sam@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Coleman.Sam@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, December 01, 2006 6:20 PM
To: Little, Joseph D. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB); Wright, Scott V. (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB)
Cc: starfield.lawrence@epa.gov; coleman.sam@epa.gov; broyles.ragan@epa.gov;
Rauscher.Jon@epamail.epa.gov; Dinan.Janine@epamail.epa.gov; Tulis.Dana@epamail.epa.gov;
Crossland.Ronnie@epamail.epa.gov; Dunne, Tom; Frumkin, Howard (ATSDR/OA/OD)
Subject: Fw: Summary of bi-monthly formaldehyde conference call

Thanks for all of you work up to this point on this project. We at EPA are concerned that FEMA might not be properly interpreting the data. We urge CDC to complete its review as soon as possible to provide appropriate advice to FEMA. Should you need any assistance from EPA you can contact me, or Dana Tulis in HQ. Dana's number is 202.564.7938, or 202.253.8309.

Samuel Coleman, P.E.
Director, Superfund Division Region 6
214 665-6701
214 789-2016 (cell)
coleman.sam@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Sam Coleman/R6/USEPA/US on 12/01/2006 05:09 PM -----