

NIOSH Docket Office
Robert A. Taft Laboratories,
MS-C34, 4676
Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio
45226

Dear Dr. John Howard,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the draft of the proposed carcinogen policy.

First, the target goal for workplace cancer risk is too high. One extra cancer per 1000 exposed workers is not an acceptable risk for developing cancer from toxic exposures in the workplace. I expect my government health agency to be proactive in trying to reduce exposure to carcinogens and eliminate carcinogens from our economy. As a goal, worker exposure to carcinogens should be zero, or as low as achievable.

Second, I support NIOSH using all available information to develop a list of workplace carcinogens. The agency should also try to specify potential tumor sites for carcinogens, with more attention paid to chemicals linked to breast cancer. With current national breast cancer rates showing 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed in her lifetime, workers deserve to know whether the chemicals they are exposed to on a daily basis are linked with increased breast cancer risk.

By making clear public health-protective guidelines for carcinogens, NIOSH can encourage innovation and introduction of safer alternatives. Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts on this important matter.

Sincerely,