

U.S. Department of Labor
JUN 30 1995

Assistant Secretary for
Occupational Safety and Health
Washington, D.C. 20210

OSHA
DOCKET OFFICER
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Dr. Sidney M. Wolfe
Director
Public Citizen Health Research Group
2000 P Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Ex. 1D

Dear Dr. Wolfe:

This is in response to your May 22 letter on behalf of Public Citizen Health Research Group and the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union, regarding your request that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) provide a clear-cut timetable with firm dates for the publication of the proposed rules and a final rule for hexavalent chromium exposure in the workplace.

As you know, since initiating the rulemaking process, we have received several letters requesting that OSHA delay the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) until the Johns Hopkins University study of workers exposed to hexavalent chromium is completed (Exs. 14-5 through 14-7, Docket H-054a). As we stated in our letter to you dated March 2, we intend to include the results of the Johns Hopkins study in the NPRM.

We plan to publish the NPRM in the Federal Register in April 1996 based on the data available to OSHA at the time. Public hearings are expected to be held in July 1996. The final rule is expected to be published in the Federal Register within eighteen months after closure of the record of the hearing, in April 1998.

I hope this information is useful to you. After your review of this timetable, if you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Adam Finkel, Director, Directorate of Health Standards Programs, at 202-219-7075. Members of my staff and I would be pleased to meet with you to discuss further measures to expedite this rulemaking effort.

As OSHA continues the development of a proposed rule for occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium, we look forward to your active participation in the rulemaking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph A. Dear".

Joseph A. Dear
Assistant Secretary

cc: Robert Wages