

MOCK Q&A WITH CAMMER AND FORSCEY FOR APRIL 10 HEARING
April 4, 1991

- Q. Are any of your members tobacco companies?
A. No.
- Q. Do you take any money from tobacco interests?
A. No.
- Q. Are you aware of the health effects of ETS?
A. No.
- Q. Are you familiar with the health effects of other indoor air pollutants?
A. No. BCIA doesn't address the indoor air quality issue on a pollutant-specific basis.
- Q. Do you think that a large percentage of indoor air quality problems could be eliminated by eliminating ETS?
A. Again, BCIA doesn't believe that a source-specific approach to solving indoor air quality issues is effective from either the standpoint of cost or achieving significant improvements in indoor air quality. I do understand, however, that OSHA has already initiated rulemaking proceedings on ETS.
- Q. Does BCIA advocate a regulatory program that would take the building-systems approach to improving indoor air quality?
A. Yes. BCIA believes that a technology-based approach, such as was adopted under the Clean Air Act Amendments, is the most attainable, effective way of improving indoor air quality.
- Q. Would EPA or OSHA be the appropriate agency to administer such a program?
A. It's not within my area of expertise to say which federal agency should appropriately be granted jurisdiction, although we would of course want to study any proposal that was put forth.
- Q. You state that increasing the ventilation rate to meet ASHRAE Standard 62-1989 will increase energy costs for an average building by less than 4 percent. Doesn't this translate into substantial costs to the economy when applied on a national level?
A. There will of course be costs associated with upgrading the operation of HVAC systems on a broad scale. However, these costs need to be weighed in relation to the costs society bears

as a result of lower worker productivity in unhealthy buildings. Also, there is a lot that can be done at very little cost, such as improving the training of HVAC system operators.

Q. Do you think that public communication tools such as health advisories on the health effects of specific indoor air contaminants are useful?

A. In principle, health advisories can provide valuable information to the public, although I have concerns about the actual execution of such a program. Health advisories should be carefully crafted to communicate real risks to the public. Health advisories which fail to do that generally provoke sudden responses that may not ultimately be in the public's best interest. The overnight birth of the asbestos removal industry is instructive. Now we are finding that in some instances it is more harmful to remove asbestos from a building than to leave it.

Q. Does BCIA support a federal ventilation standard?

A. BCIA believes that widespread adoption of proper building ventilation and HVAC system maintenance will solve an overwhelming percentage of indoor air quality problems, and supports the adoption of uniform ventilation and maintenance standards. I cannot, however, speak to the approach that should be taken -- federal or otherwise -- to achieve uniform ventilation standards.

Q. Should OSHA initiate such program?

A. I understand that OSHA is already involved in this issue, and I expect their activities to be instructive for future policy discussion on indoor air quality.