

PUBLIC SMOKING / SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS
May 1993

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With some decline in the level of congressional activity prompted by the EPA's risk assessment of ETS, scientific affairs staff re-focused attention in May on OSHA projects and ETS publications.

Project and Activity Status

Federal Government Support Activities

- We continued to assist Federal Relations Division in coordinating strategy for mark-up of legislation in the House Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Grounds to ban smoking in federal facilities. We distributed and obtained comments on additional draft alternatives and coordinated several drafts of a letter from HBI explaining the bill's requirements for separate exhaust in smoking areas.
- We monitored and reported on a hearing on indoor air quality legislation in the Senate Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Regulation.
- We coordinated plans to attend and report on a meeting addressing "Environmental Tobacco Smoke: Implications for the Workplace," to be held in June by the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health.
- We met with representatives of the National Energy Management Institute (NEMI) and Covington & Burling to recommend revisions in the draft NEMI study of the relationship between indoor air quality and productivity. We requested a revised report on the study by next month.

State Support Activities

- We coordinated 10 requests by State Activities Division staff for witnesses and materials, including testimony by scientific, indoor air quality and legal consultants in Sacramento, California; Dallas, Texas; Franklin County, Ohio; Tuscon, Arizona; and Salem, Oregon. Also at State Activities Division request, legal consultant John Fox prepared an editorial for general use and a letter for the California Restaurant Association addressing liability concerns about workplace smoking.

- We compiled a listing of all state and local testimony to date in 1993 by TI scientific and indoor air quality consultants.

General Support Activities

- Publications/Responses to Publications
 - In its May issue, the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology published a letter by consultant Peter Lee addressing deficiencies in a study by Stanton Glantz on ETS and risk of heart disease. We approved development of a second letter addressing Glantz's rebuttal, which accompanied Lee's critique.
 - A letter by consultant Joseph Wu addressing the Zhu animal study on ETS and cardiovascular disease was accepted for publication in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.
 - We reviewed and finalized an analysis on workplace smoking epidemiology by consultant Alan Gross for presentation in August at the annual meeting of the American Statistical Association.
 - We reviewed and finalized a critique of the EPA ETS risk assessment by consultant Gio Gori for presentation in June at the annual meeting of the Society for Analytical Chemistry, and coordinated production of slides to accompany the written statement.
 - We approved a new project addressing the usefulness of CO2 as a marker for indoor air quality, to be presented by consultant Larry Holcomb at ASHRAE's IAQ '93 conference in November.
 - We approved development of a second letter by consultant Peter Lee addressing deficiencies in the Stockwell study on ETS and lung cancer. Lee's first letter appeared in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute last month along with Stockwell's response.
 - The journals Chance and Environmetrics rejected submissions by consultant Alan Gross critiquing EPA's risk assessment of ETS. The analyses will be resubmitted elsewhere.
 - We abandoned plans for publication of a critique of the ETS risk assessment by the Washington Legal Foundation. Consultant Alan Katzenstein, who was preparing the article at WLF's request, is seeking other avenues for publication.

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- Institute representatives attended and reported on the annual meeting of the American Industrial Hygiene Association and the annual meeting on "Measurement of Toxic and Related Air Pollutants" sponsored by the Air and Waste Management Association.
- ETS Video
 - Representatives of the scientific, legal and legislative communities were videotaped, and transcripts are now being reviewed.
 - We decided on a narrator, who will be available for videotaping in June.
 - We coordinated taping of restaurateurs for early June, and retaping of the legal representative.
 - We decided on an opening for the video focusing on the theme that "not everything is as it seems, when you don't have all the information you need."
- National Energy Management Institute (NEMI) Activities
 - We reviewed a first draft of articles for the summer issue of NEMI News.
 - We attended regular update meetings with NEMI staff and LMC consultants.
- Business Council on Indoor Air (BCIA) Activities
 - BCIA testified at a hearing in the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Regulation on Senator Mitchell's indoor air quality legislation, S.656.
 - BCIA continued work on a letter to ASHRAE explaining its position on the revision of ASHRAE Standard 62-89.
- We responded to requests for information about workplace smoking and the EPA risk assessment, including one from the legal department of Ford Motor Company.
- As the IAQ/workplace smoking kit for labor unions is reviewed to determine how the brochures should be updated, portions of the kit are being reprinted for use in LMC presentations this year.

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- We reviewed a draft of a brochure for the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) on the Family and Medical Leave Act. Regulations for the Act, due to be published in early June, will be reviewed to determine needed changes in the brochure copy. Activity on the brochure will continue after CLUW's new president is briefed on the project in June.
 - We conveyed ideas to the Washington Legal Foundation for topics of Legal Backgrounders dealing with Advocacy Institute activities.

Needs Attention Next Month

- Complete filming for ETS video and put together rough-cut.
- Finalize plans for Rose hearing on ETS risk assessment.

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