



STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Flame Retardant Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

July 24th, 2024, Meeting Minutes, 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)

Office of the State Fire Marshal

The Natural Resources Building

715 P Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room 2-310, Sacramento, CA 95814

Hybrid Zoom Meeting Conference Call

Meeting ID: 843 4475 2064

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shannon Sanders, Huntington Beach Fire Department

Almeda Hall, Fort Irwin Fire Department

Beth McDowell, Sacramento City Fire Department

Kathleen Newman, Fire Tech

Ellen Atkins, Delta Pacific Technologies, Inc.

Jonathan Ramos, Disney Live Entertainment

Bobby Brown, SGS North America, Inc.

John Kardos, Advanced Textiles Association

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Ohirko, Impact Images

Christopher Lovato, Flamecheck

Brian Dement, Diversified Testing Laboratories

Duraisamy Ravichandran (Ravi), Intertek

OSFM STAFF

Patricia Setter, Committee Chairperson, OSFM

Andrew Henning, OSFM

Greg Andersen, OSFM

Michael Hill, OSFM

Adam Stewart, OSFM

Chris Dale, OSFM

Wanda Albritten, OSFM
Thomas Setnan, OSFM

PUBLIC GUESTS

None

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome and Logistics Briefing

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Patricia Setter, at 9:20 A.M. PDT on July 24th, 2024.

Attendees were informed of meeting logistics and etiquette.

B. Roll Call/Determine Quorum

Roll call was conducted by Adam Stewart, and it was determined that a quorum (8 of 12) of members were present.

C. Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

D. Approval of Previous Minutes

Chairperson Patricia Setter asked for approval of the minutes for the January 24th, 2024, meeting. It was moved by Member Bobby Brown to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Member Beth McDowell. Chairperson Patricia Setter asked for approval of the minutes for the May 30th, 2024, meeting. It was moved by Member Bobby Brown to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Member Almeda Hall. Motion was carried with a unanimous vote in favor of approval of the January & May meeting minutes as presented.

E. Announcements

Chief Greg Andersen wanted to thank everyone for joining in on the meeting today and for their patience with the technical issues earlier. Chief Andersen introduced Michael Hill to the committee as a new manager for Fire Engineering & Investigation. He will be working in partnership with Cortney Walker for the division. Chief Andersen also mentioned that Yevonne Costa has retired.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Workgroup regulation update, CCR Title 19, Chapter 8 Section (Information Only).

Chief Greg Andersen announced to the committee that he pulled this topic because he felt that the package was not ready. Chief Andersen wanted to see a regulation package that was clean, approved upon and ready to

move forward from the committee workgroup as a recommendation to present to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Chief Andersen mentioned that, after we present a complete package, the committee can discuss any changes or amendments that would need to happen. He did not want changes or amendments done section by section but to reserve those when the whole package is complete.

Chairperson Patricia Setter stated that she is going to put together what the workgroup has already discussed and agreed upon as a group, with the ISOR, so the committee can view it as completed package. Chairperson Setter mentioned the committee can discuss any changes to the package after it is distributed. Chairperson Setter stated that she is going to move forward with presenting the entire regulation package with ISOR and text for all the members to view and then hold a workgroup for any changes needed.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Ban for the processing and distribution of certain PIP (3:1)-containing articles and the PIP (3:1) used to make those articles, until October 31st, 2024. (Attachment 1, Information Only).

Chairperson Patricia Setter stated that a ban on PIP chemicals, phenol isopropylated phosphates, which goes into effect October 31st, 2024. Chairperson Setter stated that the ban applies to manufacturing (including imports), process distribution and any use of these products in the State of California. Chairperson Setter mentioned that member John Kardos has done extensive research on this and will inform the committee.

Member John Kardos mentioned a question in the last Flame Retardant Advisory Committee meeting about tents being regulated regarding this ban. Member Kardos in summary stated that any tents resold or given are not bound by this ban.

Chairperson Patricia Setter clarified with Member John Kardos that existing tents, that do contain the PIP chemical are, okay?

Member John Kardos answered that was correct.

Chief Greg Andersen asked why PIP chemicals were banned?

Member John Kardos stated that the chemical was added to the EPA in 2021 as a toxic substance. Member Kardos also mentioned that the EPA was concerned for the people producing it and having more exposure to the chemical. He also stated that the disposal of the chemical was not regulated as well.

Member Kathy Newman asked if the chemical was mostly used for tents or other things as well?

Member John Kardos stated that the chemical is a flame-retardant plasticizer that goes primarily into tents but also into other PVC applications.

Chairperson Patricia Setter mentioned that there is a wide range of products that fall into this action, especially plastic articles that are components of electronics and electronic articles. This can range from musical instruments, plastics, appliances, motor vehicles, building materials, and more. There are some use categories that are exempt, such as recyclable aerospace, marine sealants, adhesives (sealants and adhesives only until January 6th, 2025) and some military applications.

Chairperson Patricia Setter asked Member John Kardos if the chemical is used as an adhesive in PVC vinyl?

Member John Kardos stated that was correct.

Chairperson Patricia Setter stated that several fabric companies have discontinued using these adhesives and were contacted by the EPA. Chairperson Setter wanted to clarify that it was not OSFM's responsibility to notify companies but the governing agency that is banning the product.

Member Bobby Brown asked Member John Kardos, because this is happening at the Federal Level, will they be taking the lead on this?

Member John Kardos stated that was correct.

Member Bobby Brown mentioned that there appears to be a leeching issue with the chemical, especially in tents. The concern would be leeching pools created, especially in landfills. Member Brown wanted to have more clarification if that was the main concern or not.

Member John Kardos stated that he believes it was not focused on leeching of the chemical but more of a concern about the manufacturing side. Member Kardos mentioned the concern for the employees being exposed to the chemical while making these products.

IV. Roundtable

Chairperson Patricia Setter opened the floor for a roundtable.

There was no roundtable discussion.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Patricia Setter opened the floor for public comment.

There was no public comment.

VI. Upcoming Meeting Dates for 2024

The next Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 23rd, 2024.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Patricia Setter thanked everyone for their participation and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

It was moved by Member Kathleen Newman to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Member Almeda Hall; all in favor of adjournment. Chairperson Patricia Setter adjourned the meeting at 09:50 A.M. PDT.