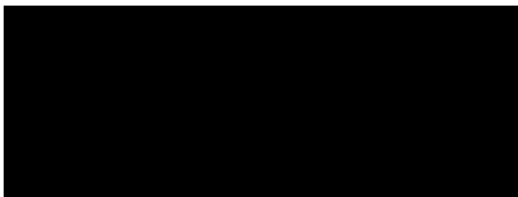




OCT 26 2005



(Name removed)

Dear  (Name removed)

Thank you for your letter dated August 10, 2005, to Secretary Elaine L. Chao, Assistant Secretary David G. Dye and me, on behalf of the MARG Diesel Coalition. In your letter, received August 16, 2005, you requested that the Mine Safety and Health Administration make corrections to the information relied on in developing the June 6, 2005 rule, "Diesel Particulate Matter [DPM] Exposure of Underground Metal and Nonmetal Miners" (70 Fed. Reg. 32868-32968) and the January 19, 2001 rule, "Diesel Particulate Matter Exposure of Underground Metal and Nonmetal Miners" (66 Fed. Reg. 5706-5755).

Due to the breadth of your request, we are unable to respond in the 60 days referred to in the Department of Labor's "Guidelines for Ensuring and Maximizing the Quality, Objectivity, Utility, and Integrity of Information Disseminated by the Department of Labor." In accordance with the Guidelines, I am writing to inform you that a decision on how to respond to your request is currently scheduled to be completed by November 25, 2005. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (202) 693-9753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Mattos", written over a circular stamp.

Jay Mattos
Deputy Director, Program Evaluation
and Information Resources