

Miller, Diane M.

From: Gavin Horn [ghorn@fsi.uiuc.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2006 12:39 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office
Subject: Docket Number NIOSH-063

Good morning! The FFFIPP meeting on March 22nd was informative and well done. I appreciated the effort that you all put in to receiving feedback from the stakeholders in this important program. In response to the request at meetings end to provide 1-2 key points from the meeting, I submit the following:

My suggestion is that you maintain the investigations at the same level (at a minimum), but recommend increasing the breadth and depth of the investigations if at all possible. The information that you gather during these investigations will most likely not be available retrospectively, and will thus be lost if you do not have the opportunity to collect it. Research is most certainly important - and I believe the NIOSH team would do a great job with it - but including this charge with the limited amount of funding currently available would likely stretch the budget too thin. There are many investigators at government, academic, and research institutions that would enjoy the opportunity to sift through the data after it has been collected to research trends. Furthermore, many of these institutions may be able to provide funding from alternative sources for these issues. If current funding is transferred from investigation to research, less complete data would be available for either NIOSH or outside researchers to fully capture trends and understand the issues that are important.

Thank you once again for providing a location for our input. If there is anything that the Illinois Fire Service Institute or I may do to assist the program, please do not hesitate to let me know.

-Gavin

Gavin Horn, PhD
Research Program Coordinator
Illinois Fire Service Institute
The University of Illinois @ Urbana-Champaign
217.265.6563
ghorn@fsi.uiuc.edu

4/13/2006