

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

|  |
|--|
| <b>As of:</b> 3/8/19 4:27 PM<br><b>Received:</b> March 07, 2019<br><b>Status:</b> Posted<br><b>Posted:</b> March 08, 2019<br><b>Tracking No.</b> 1k3-98mu-rzne<br><b>Comments Due:</b> March 26, 2019<br><b>Submission Type:</b> Web |
|--|

**Docket:** MSHA-2014-0031  
 Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust

**Comment On:** MSHA-2014-0031-0176  
 Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust Request for Information; reopening of the rulemaking record for public comments.

**Document:** MSHA-2014-0031-0182  
 Comment from Amani Adams, NA

## Submitter Information

**Name:** Amani Adams  
**Organization:** NA

## General Comment

My name is Amani Adams. I am currently an Environmental Science and Management major with a focus in Energy and Climate at Humboldt State University. As someone who is passionate about clean air, the environment, and public health, I believe that every individual has a right to clean air. I am glad to know that many other individuals, directly and indirectly affected, and agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) also share this belief.

I support the Mine Safety and Health Administrations (MSHA) request for information (RFI) through public comment and proposal for stricter standards on the Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust and diesel particulate matter (DPM); Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust, 83 Fed. Reg. 58, 12905 (March 26, 2018). This reopened RFI takes into account information originally gathered and shared from NIOSH, NCI, and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) which shows a correlation to exposure to diesel exhaust, a classified human carcinogen, and negative impact on miners health (Exposure of Underground Miners to Diesel Exhaust, 81 Fed. Reg. 110, 36826-36827 (June 8, 2016). On page 36827, stakeholders, MSHA, and the Diesel Exhaust Health Effects Partnership (Partnership) decided that more research and complex questions needed to be gathered and answered before allowing miners to continue working in DPM in the air. Potential for new technology and stricter standards that are in compliance with EPA DPM standards. According to the California Air Resources Board, exposure to DPM has led to cancer risk and

AB86-COMM-122

3/8/2019

other non-cancer health effects such as cardiopulmonary death, cardiovascular hospitalization, respiratory hospitalization and Emergency Room visits, and increases in Asthma. Diesel exhaust also has negative impacts on the environment, increasing smog and decreasing air quality, and attributing to Climate Change.

The EPA's Clean Diesel Program includes grants, National and Tribal, and rebates funded under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) of 2017. The bill, DERA of 2017, amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005, sponsored and written by Senator Carper and Senator George Voinovich, and modified EPA abilities and allocations. Through DERA companies can improve their technologies, vehicles and equipment, which create a safer working environment for miners, and also help mitigate air pollution. With new information and goals for clean diesel provided by the EPA under DERA, MSHA might be able to increase and improve standards for DPM and miners health.