Subject:

MSHA RFI Respirable Silica (Quartz) Public Comment Extension Request

Begin forwarded message:

Date: October 1, 2019 at 6:14:59 PM EDT

To: "McConnell, Sheila A - MSHA" < McConnell. Sheila. A@DOL. GOV>

Subject: MSHA RFI Respirable Silica (Quartz) Public Comment Extension Request

Dear Ms. McConnell,

Please find attached the American Chemistry Council Crystalline Silica Panel's request for an extension to the public comment period for the Mine Safety and Health Administration's Request for Information for Respirable Silica (Quartz); 84 Fed. Reg. 168 (Aug. 29, 2019); Docket ID: MSHA–2016–0013.

If you have any questions my contact information is listed below.

Sincerely, Erin Dickison

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AB36-COMM-11



September 30, 2019

Submitted Via Electronic Mail

Sheila A. McConnell
Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances
Mine Safety and Health Administration
201 12th Street South, Ste. 4E401
Arlington, VA 22202
mcconnell.sheila.a@dol.gov

Re:

MSHA Respirable Silica (Quartz) Request for Information; 84 Fed. Reg. 168 (Aug. 29, 2010). Per let ID: MSHA 2016, 2017

2019); Docket ID: MSHA-2016-0013

Dear Ms. McConnell:

The American Chemistry Council Crystalline Silica Panel (Panel)¹ respectfully requests a 60-day extension of the public comment period for MSHA's Request for Information for Respirable Silica (Quartz). The requested information and any resulting proposed changes to the existing MSHA standard limiting miners' exposures to quartz in respirable dust may have significant implications for the crystalline silica industry operations affected by associated crystalline silica content and therefore it is critical that interested stakeholders have sufficient time to appropriately respond to MSHA.

The current 61-day comment period is insufficient for stakeholders to collect that information and respond adequately to the request for information.

It is imperative that sufficient time be allowed for stakeholders to review available data, identify appropriate resources, collect relevant supporting documentation, and formulate comments. We appreciate your attention to our request and once again encourage you to extend the comment period an additional 60 days to allow for a thorough response to the proposal. If you have any questions, please contact me at erin_dickison@americanchemistry.com or 202-249-6740.

Sincerely,

Erin Dickison

Manager, Crystalline Silica Panel

Our members include American Petroleum Institute, International Diatomite Producers Association, Lehigh Hanson, National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association, U.S. Silica Company and Vulcan Materials Company.

